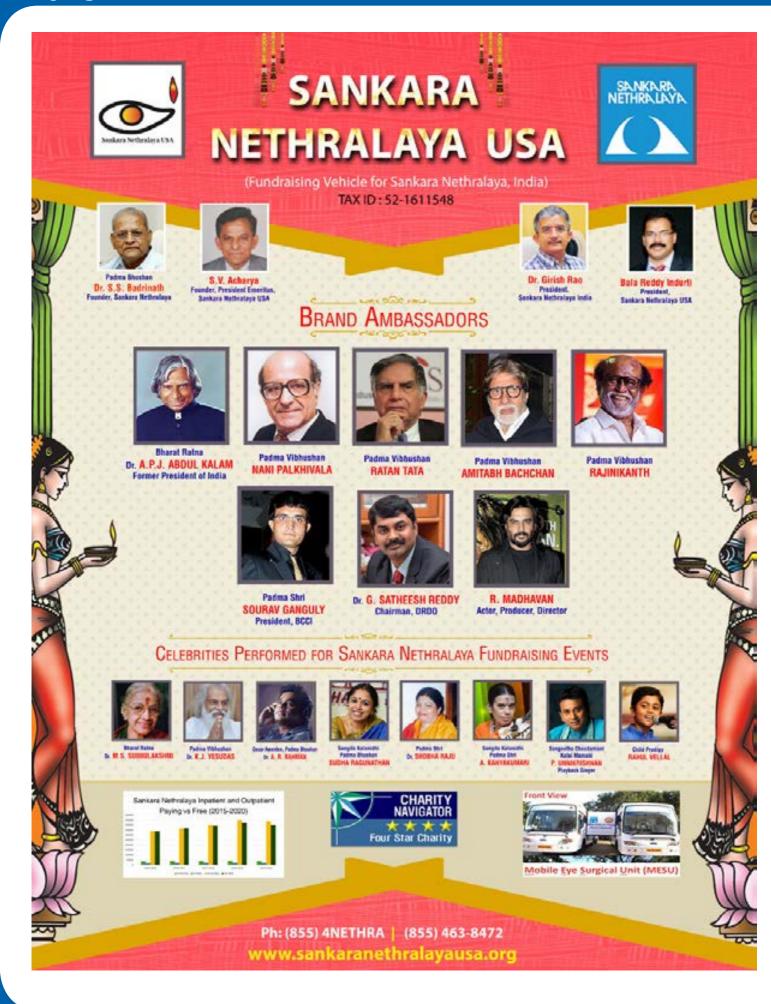
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Sankara Nethralaya's new centre at R. A. Puram

eyelights August 2021



Sankara Nethralaya Fundraiser – A Grand Success



Sankara Nethralaya (SN) is a non-profit charity organization providing ophthalmic (eye) care throughout India. For the last four decades, SN has treated millions of patients.

Sankara Nethralaya USA (SN USA) was formed in the USA thirty years ago so NRIs could contribute to help mission of SN. SN USA, based in the USA, has received the highest rating of four stars by Charity Navigator for maintaining financial accountability and fiscal transparency for funds donated by donors and how they are utilized towards the stated cause.

Every year, Sankara Nethralaya USA organizes Indian classical dance and music programs in various cities to raise awareness and raise funds. Because of the pandemic, all programs have been conducted virtually.

As part of our mid-year campaign, Kalaratna Vidwan Flute Nagaraju Talluri gave a devotional flute music concert on July 25th, 2021. He performed the following songs:

- Maha Ganapateem Lord Ganesh
- Adivo Alladivo Annamayya
- Janani Janani Tamil song by Ilayaraja
- Shyam Teri Bansi-Hindi-Lata Mangeshkar
- Bhagyada Laxmi Baaramma-Kannada
- Tandanaanaa Hare Annamayya
- Payoji Maine Raam Ratan Dhan Payo Hindi Meera bhajan
- Harivaraasanam a popular Malayalam song for Ayyappa Swami first sung by Shri K. J. Yesudas
- Shankara Nada Sharirapara SPB Sankarabharanam
- Sathyam Shivam Sundaram Hindi Lata Mangeshkar

Sankara Nethralaya executive committee members - President Emeritus S V Acharya, President Bala Reddy Indurti, Vice President Moorthy Rekapalli, Secretary Srinivas Ganagoni, Treasurer Banumati Ramkrishnan, Joint Secretary Sowmiya Narayanan, Joint Treasurer Raja Krishnamurti, and Past President Leela Krishnamurthy appealed the audience through TV channels to support the cause and help indigent blind patients in India.

Virtual music concert was broadcasted in the following major channels:

ManaTV: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g52jaxiPe1I

TVAsia Telugu: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVEzgUI8nmk

Saakshi TV: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWKhCEjTOVo

TV5: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtHjP2nthGQ

GNN: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxXoGUQzCVk

Viewers thoroughly enjoyed the concert and Sankara Nethralaya midyear campaign raised significant amount to restore the vision to many indigent blind patients in India. Kudos to the fundraising team, philanthropists, and the community for their unconditional support.

President Bala Reddy Indurti, President Emeritus S V Acharya thanked all the Trustees and Volunteers who are working selflessly to restore vision for indigent patients. Vice President Moorthy Rekapalli thanked the efforts of Sankara Nethralaya USA and the service of NRIs. President of Sankara Nethralaya India, Dr. Girish Rao elaborated various services provided by Nethralaya to the needy people during pandemic.

Special thanks to Shyam Appali, Prameela Gopu, Suresh Kumar, Theagarajan, and Sunita Doss for their assistance in organizing this program and taking care of technical aspects to present the content in different channels.

Thanks are due to K.G. Venkatraman, Krishnaraj Bhat, Dr. Raj Modi, Dr. Reddy Urimindi, Srini Vangimalla, Shankar Setty, Jagannath Vedula, Narayan Indurthi, Upendra Rachupally, Rajasekhar Aila, Ravi Maraka, and Prasad Rani for promoting the event in social media, and TV channels.

Thanks, are also due to media partners ManaTV, TVAsia Telugu, SakshiTV, TV5, GNN, US1, and Tori for promoting Sankara Nethralaya activities.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach our committee members at the following link:

https://www.sankaranethralayausa.org/committee-members.html

Special Discussion with Sri S. V. Acharya, President Emeritus, SN USA on Mana TV International HD



The Founder of Sankara Nethralaya USA, Mr. S. V. Acharya and his wife Mrs. Nirmala Acharya were interviewed by Mana TV and the interview was broadcasted by ManaTV on July 23rd, 2021. Mr. & Mrs. Acharya spoke about their meeting with SN Founder Living Legend, Padma Bhushan Dr. S. S. Badrinath, their involvement with SN and the growth of Sankara Nethralaya USA during past 33 years.

Please click here

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0788I0UDVpA to view the interview.

We thank Leela Krishnamurthy and Narayan Reddy Indurthi for coordinating musical concerts and the walkathon event in Houston TX.

For more information and to donate please visit us at https://www.sankaranethralayausa.org

If you like to donate using PayPal please click the following link: https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1769240

Record Breaking Fundraiser by Kannan Family For Deserving Patients

Five years ago, a then-12-year old Jay Kannan and his family held their first fundraiser, by hosting a charity talent night, for Sankara Nethralaya Ophthalmic Mission Trust, USA (SNUSA). Jay had seen a video at an event a few months prior about Sankara Nethralaya, which described the organization and their goals. The video impacted Jay deeply, the activities of Sankara Nethralaya inspired him and he wanted to do something to help the needy patients. His parents, Amuthan and Vidya, encouraged him in this noble endeavor.

Because of his own love for music, Jay thought of the idea of doing a charity talent night. He started out by asking his friends in the local community if they would be willing to perform. As more and more of his friends got on board, Jay's talent night started to become more of a reality. The Kannans' first concert was held in the basement of their home. With help from their friends, they put on their first, successful benefit concert and collected about \$2,500.

In the next two years, they raised around \$3,000 each year. In the summer of 2020, they held the talent night virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with virtual performances from over 20 kids. Since it was virtual, kids from other parts of the country were also able to participate and contribute. They ended up raising over \$4,000 in 2020, helping provide free surgeries and restore eyesight for about 65 people. Recently, on June 19th 2021 Jay organized an in-person concert with some



virtual elements added to it to accommodate those still affected by the pandemic. This year, an outdoor concert with live performances was arranged, which included virtual performances from those that were not able to attend in-person. The Kannans beat their old records and collected a new high of over \$6,000.

Jay and his family enjoy putting this event together every year, as it helps deserving patients who benefit from the free surgeries. These fundraising events also allow the families and their children in the community to be actively involved in philanthropic works and understand the power we all have to make a difference.

Sankara Nethralaya USA's Walkathon for Indigent Patients

The Houston Chapter of the SN Ophthalmic Mission Trust (SNUSA) headed by Sri Narayan Reddy Indurthi, and Srimati Leela Krishnamurthy, Past President, organized a month-long walkathon event to increase awareness about the Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai and SN USA among the Houston Community. The walkathon challenge, which started on 1st June and ended on 30th June, 2021, was received in a very positive light by the Houston community. Fifty-five participants registered for the SN Walkathon on the Pacer App.

The daily target was the completion of 10,000 steps each day for every participant and the monthly target was 300,000 steps for each participant. The participation was enthusiastic and a fun way to involve the close-knit Houston Community. The top five participants will receive surprise gifts for completing their goals with enthusiasm. The walkathon raised awareness of the mission to bring vision to indigent patients and the ability to bring hope to a deserving patient's life.

The event promoted many people to ask about ways to contribute to SN Chennai and other ways to become involved in the community services. Events like these help us spread the awareness of Sankara Nethralaya's charitable services in their communities. We thank Sri Narayan Reddy Indurthi, Head of Huston chapter and Srimati Leela Krishnamurthy, Past President, for their untiring commitment to spreading awareness of SN's mission to fight against preventable blindness.

Sri A Jagannathan Memorial Concert Series Completes 300 concerts



The Sri A Jagannathan Memorial Concert series organized by Sankara Nethralaya USA's Joint Secretary & Trustee Mr. Sowmiyanarayan in memory of his father, Sri A Jagannathan completes 300 concerts. Over the one-year period, Sri Sowmiyanarayan organized 300 concerts and gave opportunities for more than 450 artists from the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the UK.

The fundraising concert series was created by Sri Sowmiyanarayan to honor his father's memory. His son, Sanjith Narayanan, and his violin teacher, Sri Kamalkiran Vinjamuri helped arrange the concerts. Initially scheduled only for ten days, the virtual concert series proved to be so popular it was extended multiple times and became an ongoing music concert series.

The extremely talented great-granddaughters of the unforgettable Bharat Ratna Smt. M. S. Subbulakshmi and Sangeetha Ratnakara Dr. Radha Vishwanathan:- S. Aishwarya and S. Saundarya, performed for our grand landmark of reaching 150 concerts. Young and talented artists from Australia, Canada, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, UAE, UK, USA, Singapore, and

Sweden have come forward to perform for this good cause and showcase their unique talents. Your enthusiastic support and contributions have enabled Sankara Nethralaya to perform eye surgeries for over 2000 poor indigent patients over the past year. We thank you all for the tremendous support that you have given to Sankara Nethralaya and this festival.

Sri Sowmiyanarayan thanks Sri Vibhu Rao (Mani Krishnaswami Academy), Sri Ramesh Sooryanarayanan (Sai Rocks Studio), Chi. Sai Bharath (Sai Rocks Studio) and respected gurus.

Sankara Nethralaya Expands its Oncology Services by Collaborating with Apollo Hospitals Chennai



Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai is happy to announce its expansion of services in the field of eye cancers. Delivering quality care at affordable rates has ever been the policy of Sankara Nethralaya (SN) since its inception. Following the footsteps of its founder Dr. S. S. Badrinath and to strive for excellence in the field of ocular oncology, Sankara Nethralaya joined hands with Apollo Proton Cancer Centre (APCC), Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. This collaboration with Apollo Proton Cancer Centre will open the doors for a wide range of facilities to be made accessible to patients suffering from

primary eye cancers or cancers involving other tissues with metastatic spread to the eye. Ocular oncology team of Sankara Nethralaya and oncology team of Apollo hospitals will work together to offer a holistic approach for ocular conditions requiring a multidisciplinary approach and vice versa.

This historic moment began with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding by Dr. Girish S. Rao, President of Medical Research Foundation on 1st July, 2021 with Mrs Preetha Reddy, the Executive Vice Chairperson of the Apollo Hospitals Group in the presence of Dr. T. S. Surendran, Vice Chairman, Director of Paediatric Ophthalmology, Dr. Ronnie George, President, Director of Research, Director of Glaucoma Services, Dr. Ambika S., Director of Neuro – Ophthalmology, Dr. Suganeswari Ganesan, Senior Consultant, Vitreoretina and oncology services, Mr Harshad Reddy, Director Apollo home care and Mr. Suresh Kumar P, General Manager (SN).

The Ocular Oncology Service of Sankara Nethralaya caters to both common and rare cancers. With availability of cutting-edge imaging and treatment modalities, exploring newest treatment or techniques in advanced eye cancers will soon be a reality.

Special highlight of this MOU would be facilitation of multidisciplinary tumor board meetings. Services offered to patients of Sankara Nethralaya would be at nominal rates and would cover PET CT, neurosurgical procedures, intra-arterial chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

Apart from external beam radiation therapy, other novel radiation therapy called proton therapy is a specialised treatment, which tends to deliver focused radiation to the tumor itself with less radiation to surrounding healthy tissue. This is a useful modality in the management of pediatric solid tumors with the least side effects.

Ocular oncologists from Sankara Nethralaya will also work with radiologists, radiation oncologists and neurosurgeons in a constant effort to save more human lives, preserve vision and globe salvage.

Dear Sankara Nethralaya patrons:

As we approach mid-year, Dr. Girish Rao, Mr. S V Acharya and Mr. Bala Reddy Indurti join me in seeking your support for providing free ophthalmic services to the poorest of the poor in the Indian sub-continent. First of all, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support for the past four decades.

Past one and half years have been the most challenging period for the whole universe, and certainly for Sankara Nethralaya. While we felt we were over the pandemic hump, we experienced the second wave, severely affecting our patient services as well revenue.

On an average, Nethralaya treats 2,500 outpatients and performs 250 surgeries/day almost half of them free on poor patients. Our two Mobile Surgical Units (operation theatres on wheels – only one of its kind in Asia) have so far screened 96778 patients and performed 17903 surgeries in the remote villages of India.

For the second year in a row, Newsweek magazine has named Sankara Nethralaya as one of the best 100 hospitals in the world. Our fund-raising arm in US, Sankara Nethralaya USA was given the highest rating of four stars for the third year in a row by Charity Navigator.

Satadina Swararchana (100 days of classical concerts) organized by our Los Angeles trustee Mr. Prasad Rani concluded in on April 16, 2021. 100 days of Kuchipudi dance program organized by Smt. Neelima Gaddamanagu from Atlanta successfully concluded on February 10, 2021. Sri A Jagannathan series of Carnatic music concerts organized by our EC member and trustee Mr. Sowmiya Narayan from Metro DC has completed one successful year on July 4, 2021. Due to pandemic, all these events were held virtually with great success.

Our Past President Smt. Leela Krishnamoorthy and Mr. Narayana Reddy Indurthi, trustee from Houston organized a live comedy drama by Meenakshi Theatres on May 8, 2021 in Houston.

We are grateful to Great Andhra, Mana TV, TV Asia, Sakshi TV, TV5 and Tori for giving publicity through their media.

As part of our midyear campaign, we are organizing virtual Solo Flute Concert by Kalaratna, Vidwan Mr. Nagaraju Tilluri on July 25, 2021 (flyer on the next page). Please enjoy this concert.

While we appreciate your support for the past four decades, we seek your continued support. You may donate your tax-deductible contributions by credit card or by check (details on the next page page).

With warm regards, BE SAFE.

With warm regards and best wishes **Dr. S. S. Badrinath** Founder & Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya



Seeking Sri Maha Periyava's Blessings with a Ganapathi Homam Performed at Sankara Nethralaya's new centre at R. A. Puram



Seeking His Holiness Jagadguru Maha Periyava's' blessings, a Ganapathi Homam was conducted at Sankara Nethralaya's newest centre in R. A. Puram early on 12th July, 2021 between 4:30 am to 6:00am.

Mr Rajesh Bassi and Dr.Shikha Bassi, In Charge, Sankara Nethralaya R.A.Puram branch, and Deputy Director Neuro-Ophthalmology department took Sankalpam and performed the puja on behalf of Sankara Nethralaya family.

The puja was attended by Dr. Girish S. Rao, the President of Medical Research Foundation, Sankara Nethralaya, Dr. T. S. Surendran, Vice Chairman and Director of Paediatric Ophthalmology, Dr. Sripriya Krishnamurthy, Director, Department of General Ophthalmology, Dr.

Suganeswari Ganesan, Senior Consultant, Vitreoretina and Oncology services, Dr. V. V. Jaichandran, Anaesthetist, Dr. Sharanya Sarah Abraham, Associate Consultant, Department of Uvea, and Dr. Srivalli Kaza, Senior Consultant, Department of General Ophthalmology.

Mr. and Mrs. V. Sriram, who came forward to offer their house for SN's mission, were also present. We are grateful to the kind-hearted, service-oriented couple who are helping us to continue serving the community.

Spread out over 6,000 sqft, the new branch has a 'state of art' operation theatre (OT) equipped for advanced technology cataract surgery, and an Outpatient setup equipped with a Humphrey Visual Field Analyser, YAG laser, orthoptics ,Contact lens department, optical outlet, Pharmacy and Laboratory service. Comprehensive eye care, with other speciality services like Glaucoma, Uvea, Squint and Paediatric ophthalmology, Oculoplasty, Neuro-ophthalmology and Medical Retina are offered at R.A Puram SN.The branch is an ambulatory care facility offering the same quality of service as our apex facility in a cosy setting to our patients closer to their homes.

Due to the prevailing pandemic situation, the Homam had only a small physical gathering while many joined on the Zoom platform.



How to donate in the United States of America...



Sankara Nethralaya USA

9710 Traville Gateway Drive, No. 392, Rockville, MD 20850, Phone : (301) 529 7377 www.supportsankaranethralaya.org

Tax Exempt ID No. 52-1611548

For additional details, feel free to contact S. V. Acharya at (301) 529-7377; acharya@snomtrust.org Bala Reddy Indurti at (770) 851-4765; indurti@snomtrust.org

Donating online at Omtrust.org - All your donations are securely routed through www.groundspring.org.

United Way - Mention the above information on your authorization form. Local chapters will remit your contributions to the SN OM Trust Inc.

Combined Federal Campaign - If you are a US federal employee, make your donations to Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust Inc.CFC No. 68803.

Employer Matching Program - A number of US employers match *dollar for dollar* to employees' contributions. You may be able to double your contributions to SN OM Trust.

Appreciated Stocks - You may donate appreciated stocks to SN OM Trust Inc.and avail of a tax deduction. For additional information, please contact the Trust at the aforementioned phone number.

Contributions by check - Simply make your check payable to SN OM Trust Inc. and mail to the above address.



Payroll Deductions - Please check with your HR office if they are programmed to withhold from payroll and remit to a nonprofit organization. A number of organizations provide this as a public service.

Draft from Checking Account - Download from our website www.omtrust.org, the direct debit authorization form and forward your authorization with a 'void check' to the above address. We will draft the funds on the 15th of every month. You can stop your authorization any time by a simple notification to us.

Donate on Special Occasions, as a tribute Festivals, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, in memory of a loved one and provide support in the form of a bequest.

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Charles Schwab Foundation

All donations to SN OM Trust are 100% IRS Tax Exempted in US, IRS Registered 501 (c) (3)

How can you help us?

Sankara Nethralaya OM Trust owes its existence and success to its commited volunteers. To realize our mission of 20/20 by 2020, we need many more volunteers. You can be one of our volunteers and can help us by :

- Spreading the word about Sankara Nethralaya.
- Supporting Teleophthalmology & Glass dispensing vans.
- Conducting events for fundraising.
- Helping with accounting, web management.
- Arranging for American students to undertake summer projects at Sankara Nethralaya.
- Personally making small donations

The following employers have supported us through GIFT MATCHING or PAYROLL DEDUCTION programs!

- Microsoft
- Deutsche Bank
- American Express
- Merrill Lynch
- J P Morgan Chase
- GE Foundation
- The Bank of New York Mellon
- Google
- eBay Foundation
- Combined Federal Campaign' (CFC) by the US government

We seek your continued support as we progress in our battle against blindness

Donation Schemes	
\$65- 1 cataract surgery	\$ 290- Rural Tele-ophthalmology camp - 1 day
\$250- 1 major surgery	\$300 - Rural school screening camp - 1 day
\$ 700- 1 Perpetual cataract surgery 12 years	\$ 2,600- approximately 40 surgeries per day
\$ 2,200- 1 Perpetual major surgery 12 years	\$ 25,000- Naming a room
General Corpus fund for community outreach programs : Any Amount	

To Donate Online : www.sankaranethralayausa.org Checks to be made on: SN OM Trust Inc, Send checks to: 9710 Traville Gateway Drive No.392, Rockville, MD20850 All donations to SN OM Trust are tax exempt in US