



Christian Medical College Vellore

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For Private Circulation Only

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

The Vellore Christian Medical College (CMC) Foundation hosted its 5th Annual Gala



9 April 2026 | New York

The Vellore Christian Medical College (CMC) Foundation hosted its 5th Annual Gala, 'Bridges of Compassion - A Celebration of Global Giving for Children's Health', on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at the Current Ballroom at Chelsea Piers in New York City. This Spring Gala was an extraordinary evening focused on raising awareness and support for the new Paediatric Specialty Centre under construction on CMC Vellore's Ranipet campus, scheduled to open in early October this year.

125 Years of CMC Vellore 1900-2025



Dr LBM Joseph was the longest serving Indian Director of CMC Vellore (1974 to 1987) and was the only administrator to be the Director of CMC Vellore and CMC Ludhiana.

Nearly 200 guests gathered that evening, a distinguished group of friends, partners and leaders, in support of CMC Vellore’s commitment to deliver healthcare with its hallmark of excellence and compassion. The guests included the Mayor of Edison New Jersey, Mr. Sam Joshi; the Deputy Consul General of India in New York, Mr. Vishal Harsh; and Mr. Jeffery Sine, former board chair of American public broadcasting organization, National Public Radio (NPR). The evenings programme started off with a brief invocation by Rev. J.P. Samuel, lead pastor at the Spectrum Church from San Jose California. Dr. Raj Narayan, Chairman of the Board of the Vellore CMC Foundation gave a welcome address which was followed by a beautiful ensemble performance by the Brooklyn Youth Chorus, whose musical selections reflected themes of hope, compassion, and joy for the future.



An alumnus of CMC Vellore’s MBBS class of 1969, Dr. Narayan, spoke about how CMC has grown from a one-bed dispensary in 1900 to be a renowned medical institution that has today close to 4000 beds. CMC is at an inflexion point in its growth, he said, with its new campuses and the new Paediatric Specialty Centre. Mr. John Riehl, President & CEO of the Vellore CMC Foundation, noted that this was a milestone that reflects CMC’s commitment to seeing what others overlook and responding with excellence, innovation and hope. The role of the Foundation, he said was to ensure that CMC has the resources, partnerships and global support required to meet challenges with the same courage that defined Ida Scudders life. A defining moment of the evening came when Nancy Block, a relative of CMC Vellore founder and missionary Dr. Ida S. Scudder, shared personal reflections on her Aunt Ida. Ms. Block recounted being at Dr. Scudder’s bedside on the day she passed away, offering a meaningful connection to the institution’s origins.



During the evening, Dr. Dheepak Selvaraj, Associate Director of CMC Vellore’s Ranipet campus, was honoured with the Ida S. Scudder Excellence in Paediatric Leadership Award, for his role in helping bring the vision of the Paediatric Specialty Centre to reality. Dr. Selvaraj spoke passionately about how CMC Vellore has remained committed to its core principles of integrity, compassion and excellence through the past 125 years. Even as it has become the largest hospital in the country treating over 3.4 million patients annually, CMC does not distinguish in the quality of care, he said.

“CMC stands apart because it practices equality. There is no difference between the rich and the poor. Anybody can walk through the portals of this institution.”

Dr. Selvaraj traced the fascinating evolution and milestones of CMC's paediatric department over the past 100 years, pointing out that the paediatric block established at CMC in 1908 was among the first in the country. The new paediatric hospital with 14 specialties including neurology, oncology, nephrology and gastroenterology, he said, will play a critical role in serving the ever-increasing number of patients coming to CMC. "This paediatric hospital will make a huge difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of children and their families in the years to come", said Foundation board member, Mr. George Varughese, as he described how his chance meeting with Gala honoree, Mr. Ajit Isaac in New York nearly 10 years back, kickstarted this dream project.



Mr. Isaac is the Founder and Executive Chairman of Qess Corp, which along with Fairfax Financial has supported CMC Vellore with over \$60 million to build the Paediatric Specialty Centre. While receiving the Ida S. Scudder Global Philanthropy Leadership Award, Mr. Isaac quoted Albert Einstein's meaningful line, "Only a life lived for others, is a life worthwhile." "I cannot think of many institutions that embody this idea as consistently as CMC Vellore," he said. In an inspiring speech, Mr. Isaac described India's dramatic growth over the past three decades which has placed it amongst the top nations in the world. Despite the progress, one of the key challenges for the country is the uneven access to healthcare to a large part of the population, particularly the most vulnerable.

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Mr. Isaac ended his speech with a powerful guideline for the audience for their philanthropic goals, "Those of you who have the ability to give, also have the responsibility to do so." The Gala audience rose to the occasion. The auction at the end of the evening raised nearly \$135,000, which with the Foundation's Power-of-Three campaign shall help CMC purchase a state-of-the-art C-Arm Fluoroscopy Machine at the Paediatric Specialty Centre. In recognition of this collective achievement, a commemorative plaque honoring the 2026 Gala Attendees will be placed at the hospital, serving as a lasting tribute to their generosity and impact.

Heat Related Illness Awareness, 2026

20th & 21st April, 2026 | Town Campus

A public health campaign on heat-related illness awareness was organised on 20th and 21st April, 2026, at Town Campus; inaugurated by Dr.P. Prathap Kumar, City Health Officer, Vellore City Corporation. He highlighted the importance of prevention as a primary strategy to reduce heat-related illness. He appreciated the idea of task force in prevention, preparedness and implementation of strategies to heat-related illness and that similar efforts could be replicated in government hospitals including primary health centers. He expressed gratitude to CMC in partnering with the corporation in providing green net shades near the traffic signals last year.

The administrative officers including Dr. Benny Paul Wilson (Deputy Director), Dr I. Rajesh (Medical Superintendent), Mrs Alice Sony (Nursing Superintendent), Mrs Sonia P. Abraham (Deputy Nursing Superintendent) and Mr. Reni Charles (General Superintendent) offered their felicitations in this inaugural session and extended their support towards efforts taken to beat the heat especially with the hospital premises. Several staff participated in poster, slogan and video competitions organised by Mrs. Sonia Valas (Deputy General Superintendent) and received prizes.

The awareness programme aimed to reach out to patients, caregivers, staff and public through various methods including multilingual pamphlets, posters, puppet shows and games to provide knowledge regarding, what is good to eat and drink (fruits, juices, plenty of water, and ORS), attire (light coloured cotton clothes), use of umbrella or hat, staying hydrated and avoiding sun between 11 am to 3 pm, and games to reiterate preventive measures. The HRI task force was initiated by Dr. Rajesh I, two years ago in Christian Medical College Vellore, spearheaded by Dr. Jenifer Jeba.S (Head MRD and Palliative Medicine) along with Mr. Anand Samuel (Associate General superintendent) and Dr. Hema Paul (Senior HICC Officer). The task force is committed to ensure that appropriate measures are taken to prevent HRI among the patients, visitors, staff and security personnel.



Report on the 10th Short Course on Hospital Infection Prevention and Control for Nurses



13th to 18th April 2026.

The Office of the Nursing Superintendent, in collaboration with the Hospital Infection Control Committee (HICC), successfully organised the 10th Short Course on Hospital Infection Prevention and Control for Nurses from 13th to 18th April 2026. This comprehensive programme was meticulously designed to enhance and update the participants' knowledge and competencies in infection prevention and control (IPC) practices within healthcare settings. A total of 39 delegates enrolled in the course, representing eight states across India. Notably, 24 participants were from Tamil Nadu, covering 11 different districts, thereby reflecting a diverse and wide-reaching representation.

The inaugural session commenced with a devotional address led by Chaplain Jisha Susan Sabu, followed by a prayer song rendered by the Infection Control team. The gathering was formally welcomed by Mrs. Anne Jarone, Associate Nursing Superintendent. An overview of the workshop was presented by Mrs. Sonia P. Abraham, Deputy Nursing Superintendent and Additional Joint Secretary, HICC. The programme was felicitated by Dr. I. Rajesh, Medical Superintendent and Chairman, HICC, who highlighted the growing importance of infection prevention practices in ensuring safe and high-quality healthcare, and the session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Sharon Dilip, HIC Officer, CMC Ranipet Campus.



The academic sessions commenced with foundational topics on patient safety, history and trends in infection control, and transmission dynamics in healthcare settings, providing participants with a strong conceptual understanding of infection prevention. Emphasis was placed on standard precautions, transmission-based precautions, and hand hygiene leadership, reinforcing their critical role in breaking the chain of infection. Sessions also focused on establishing infection control programmes, workplace safety, and quality improvement initiatives, including strategies to reduce central line-associated bloodstream infections.

Comprehensive teaching was provided on healthcare-associated infections such as ventilator-associated pneumonia, central line-associated bloodstream infections, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, and surgical site infections. Faculty members delivered detailed insights into epidemiology, risk factors, diagnostic approaches, and evidence-based prevention bundles. The importance of healthcare-associated infection surveillance, including systematic data collection, analysis, and interpretation, was also emphasised.

As part of experiential learning, participants were taken on guided visits to key hospital units such as the Central Sterile Services Department (CSSD), laundry services, biomedical waste management facilities especially ken bio links, and intensive care units (ICUs). Demonstrations were conducted on environmental surveillance techniques and the detection of antimicrobial resistance in the microbiology laboratory. A significant component of the programme was the skill-based training, where participants engaged in structured skill stations. These sessions focused on hand hygiene practices, biomedical waste segregation, and the correct procedures for donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), application of IPC practices. Additional hands-on training included techniques for handling and dressing central lines, as well as blood sample collection using vacutainer systems. Central line dressing procedures were demonstrated by the specialised nursing team, ensuring adherence to best practices.

The valedictory programme was held on 18th April 2026 at Jacob Chandy Hall. The session began with a prayer song by the HICC team, followed by a welcome address by Dr. Sarah Graceia, HIC Officer. The report of the short course was presented by Mrs. Sonia P. Abraham, Deputy Nursing Superintendent and Additional Joint Secretary, HICC, summarising the key activities and outcomes of the programme. Participants shared their feedback, expressing appreciation for the comprehensive and practical nature of the course. Mrs. Alice Sony, Nursing Superintendent, felicitated the participants and distributed certificates. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms. Gerlyn Priya, Infection Control Nurse, HICC, followed by a closing prayer by Mrs. Jisha Susan Sabu, Chaplain. The programme significantly enhanced participants' competence and confidence in implementing infection prevention strategies in their respective institutions. It reinforced the critical role of nurses in promoting patient safety, preventing healthcare-associated infections, and ensuring adherence to quality standards. The course stands as a valuable initiative in strengthening infection prevention systems and advancing safe healthcare practices.



National Fire Service Week Observation Report



14th to 20th April 2026

National Fire Service Week was observed across India from 14th to 20th April 2026 to honour the brave firefighters who risk their lives to protect people and property from fire accidents. This observance commemorates the sacrifices made by firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty and emphasises the importance of fire safety awareness. The theme for this year was “Safe School, Safe Hospital & Fire Safety Aware Society – Together for Fire Prevention.” The focus was on educating staff, students, and the public about fire safety measures and highlighting the essential services provided by the Fire Department. During the week, the Fire Department conducted various fire safety awareness programmes including training sessions for the engineering team, security, housekeeping personnel, and other support staff. Activities such as an online quiz competition and a fire safety poster competition were also organised to promote awareness and participation.

On the valedictory day, the CMC Fire Team conducted live demonstrations, including rope rescue drills, hydrant firefighting drills, and evacuation procedures for patients from critical care areas. The valedictory programme was held on 20th April 2026 at CMC Vellore. Mr. Vadivelu, DFO attended as the Guest of Honour. The programme commenced with a prayer led by Rev. Raja. Mr Niranjana Kumar delivered the welcome address and presented an overview of the services rendered by the Fire Department.

Mr. Vadivelu, DFO attended as the Guest of Honour. The programme commenced with a prayer led by Rev. Raja. Mr Niranjan Kumar delivered the welcome address and presented an overview of the services rendered by the Fire Department at CMC Vellore. Felicitation addresses were delivered by Dr. Lallu Joseph, Fire Safety Convener, along with DGS Mr. Arul Prakesh and DGS Mr. Dinesh, CSO Mr. Vijayakmar. Prizes were distributed to the winners of the poster and quiz competitions by the Chief Guest, who also appreciated the participants for their active involvement. Mr Vadivelu DFO inaugurated the blood donation camp as part of the valedictory event. Around 20 fire guards voluntarily donated blood to mark the occasion. The Chief Guest appreciated this noble initiative and encouraged continued participation in such humanitarian activities



National Workshop on ‘Fostering Child Development at Workplaces and in Homes Survival to Thriving – Nurses as Silent Architects of Child Development’

The Department of Developmental Paediatrics and Paediatric Nursing, along with the Continuing Professional Advancement & Blended Learning Cell, College of Nursing, Christian Medical College, Vellore, organised a National-level workshop on ‘Fostering Child Development at Workplaces and in Homes Survival to thriving – Nurses as silent architects of Child development, on April 25, 2026. The workshop was organised in a hybrid mode, with 50 delegates on-site and 141 via Zoom from across the country. Faculty from the Department of Developmental Paediatrics and Paediatric Nursing facilitated the sessions, namely: Fostering early childhood: First 1000 days; Play is power: Understanding the potential of play; Developmental surveillance made easy for community and OPD; Autism enigma; Screen smart parenting; and living beyond the rush hours. There was an interactive panel discussion on the topic - Addressing self care concerns in children. The afternoon skill stations were designed to translate knowledge into action through small-group discussions and presentations. The delegates expressed high satisfaction with the workshop and verbalised that they were confident in caring for children with developmental issues. The workshop concluded with feedback and a post-test.



Summer Tennis Camp 2026

The Annual Summer Tennis Coaching Camp was successfully conducted by the CMC Tennis club in collaboration with the Net Masters Tennis Academy in both CMC Hospital campus as well the Kagithapattraï campus between 1st - 30th April, 2026. The camp witnessed an enthusiastic response, with nearly 100 participants, including both children and adults, actively taking part. Coaching sessions were offered with flexible options of 3 days and 6 days per week. A large number of new members joined the camp as absolute beginners, demonstrating the rising interest and enthusiasm for tennis within the CMC community. The camp concluded with an exciting tournament that was held from the 26th-30th of April for all participants, featuring spirited and closely contested matches. The prize distribution and felicitation ceremony was graced by the Chief Guest, Dr. Rohit Amritanand , Senior Professor, Department of Spine Surgery , CMC Vellore, who is also a tennis enthusiast. Staff members and their dependents who are interested in joining the regular year-long monthly tennis coaching program at CMC Hospital campus or Kagithapattraï Campus may contact

Mr. Amir: Head Coach; Net Masters Tennis Academy: 7980028310

Dr. Rajiv Karthik; Incharge Staff Tennis Club : 6384044936

Category	Winner	Runner Up
Red Ball Juniors	Sriyaan Sooraj	Ethan George
Red Ball Boys	Ezra Philip	Juda Rian
Red Ball Girls	Joanna Speedie	Joanna Hadassah
Beginner Boys	Samuel Mathew Kota	Nael Rubin Sharief
Beginner Girls	Mudita Atul	Nathania Sharon
Intermediate Boys	Jayden Shalom	Ethan Vanjare
Intermediate Girls	Sharon Melbin	Joanna Mariam
Senior Boys	Kristen Jone	Kevin Speedie
Senior Girls	Nainika V Rao	Iona Mary John
Intermediate Doubles	Anil George Ethan Vanjare	Jayden Shalom Yohan Ninan
Senior Doubles	Nainika V Rao Iona Mary John	Yadhu Nandhan Jeremiah Sudarsan
Womens Singles	Dr Hallel Reba	Ms Taranum Taskeen
Mens Singles	Mr Sajeev Kumar	Dr Anoop George
Womens Doubles	Dr Tulasi Geevar Ms Taranum Taskeen	Dr Hallel Reba Dr Jina Kester
Mens Doubles	Dr Anoop George Dr Mohan Kamath	Mr Sajeev Kumar Dr Surya Dhilipan



Special Prayers: - May 3 - 9, 2026

Computerised Hospital Information

Processing Service (CHIPS): Mr. Ebinezer Sundarraj and Staff

United Methodist Church of America, USA

Voluntary Health Association of India

Council Member : Mr. Alok Mukhopadhyay

Vellore CMC Foundation Inc.

Council Members : Dr. Raj Narayan and Mr. John A. Riehl

Welcome

Mr. Lakshmikanthan, Sr. Programmer 1, CHIPS, on his return from sabbatical leave

Laurels & Recognitions

- **Dr. Lallu Joseph, Institutional Quality Manager & Assoc. General Superintendent** has been appointed as the President of Consortium of Accredited Healthcare Organizations (CAHO), for a period of 2 years (2026-2028). CAHO is a not-for-profit society that works towards the patient safety, quality and accreditation of hospitals across the country and the region.
- **Dr. Elizabeth Vinod**, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology has been awarded the ICRS Sachdev Translational Innovation Fellowship 2026 by the International Cartilage Regeneration & Joint Preservation Society (ICRS).
- The following DM Critical Care Trainee and Faculty won prizes at the quiz in Critical Care Olympiad held during Criticare Conclave 2026 @ Kokilaben Hospital, Mumbai.
Dr. Noorul Ameen won the 1st prize and **Dr. Srikanth E R** won the 3rd prize.

Retirement

Mrs. Hilda David, Sr. Gr. Charge Nurse, Schell Hospital, retired on 30th March, 2026 after completing 32 years of dedicated service at our institution. She completed her General Nursing and Midwifery at the School of Nursing, Scudder Memorial Hospital, Ranipet, in February 1988. She began her career with us in February 1994 as a Staff Nurse. She worked in the Emergency Department and later in 'O' Block. She completed her P.B.B.Sc. Nursing in May 2000 at the College of Nursing, CMC Vellore, was promoted as Ward Sister in February 2001, and was transferred to Schell Hospital in January 2005, where she continued her service until retirement.



She was a calm, poised, and balanced person whose integrity was deeply admired. She demonstrated strong managerial skills and maintained excellent interpersonal relationships with her team members. She was highly knowledgeable in ophthalmological procedures, including emergency management, and effectively assigned responsibilities based on staff potential.

In the absence of the Nurse Manager, she managed the unit efficiently, guided staff members, and provided counselling and spiritual support. She also actively contributed to quality improvement projects, fundraising initiatives for NL and TNAI, and school health education programmes conducted during World Sight Day celebrations.

Her husband, Mr. David Deva Paramanandam, is an former CMC staff member from the Accounts Department. Her elder son, Mr. Moses Deva Anand, completed his Bachelor of Physiotherapy in CMC and his Master's degree at a university in Scotland, UK. He is currently working in the UK and is married to Ms. Vinny Sharon, who is working as a Nutritionist in the UK. Her younger son, Mr. Solomon Devakumar, completed B.Sc. Radiology in CMC and is currently working as a Radiographer in Muscat. The institution gratefully acknowledges her long and dedicated service and wishes her a peaceful and fulfilling retired life.

Obituaries

- **Mr. Sundar Raj**, husband of Mrs. K. Stella Mary, Staff Nurse, (OPD, Town Campus), passed away on 28th April, 2026. Let us uphold his wife Mrs. K. Stella Mary, daughters Ms. Niketha Shirly Paul, Ms. Varshitha and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.
- **Mrs. Rajalakshmi**, mother of Mrs. Selvakumari, (Sr. Gr. Office Facilitator II, P.M. Office, Relief Pool, CMC Vellore), passed away on 28th April, 2026. Let us uphold her daughter Mrs. Selvakumari, granddaughter Ms. Harini (MBBS batch of 2016) and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.
- **Mr. Samuel Sukumar**, retired staff (Audio Visual Technician in Curriculum Office, CMC Vellore), passed away on 28th April, 2026. Let us uphold his daughter Mrs. Gladys, son Gladson Ebenezer and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.