

April Spike
2021

BMC Covid relief Fund – Oxygen for India

THE RIGHT TO OXYGEN IS A UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHT
ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO OXYGEN WITHOUT BORDERS



BMC Class of 1992

April Spike 2021

Contents

Background	2
Mission.....	2
Who we are.....	2
Where we are from.....	2
BMC Class of 1992 Leadership Team	2
Additional volunteers.....	3
The beneficiaries of this campaign	3
Partners and Alliances.....	3
List of Organizations we are working with.....	3
How the funds will be used.....	4
How we withdraw the money and how we plan to send the supplies to the beneficiaries	5
How you can help.....	5
Donate to the campaign	5
Share the message with your community	5
Employer match donations.....	6
Peer Organization (NGO) contribution match/donations	6
Who should I Donate to?	6

Background

BMC 1992 Covid Relief Fundraiser – Oxygen for India

This initiative is launched by the alumni of Bangalore Medical College, Class of 1992 in order to ensure health equity and equitable access to oxygen for marginalized patient communities in and around Bangalore, Karnataka. Delivering life-saving oxygen therapy equipment to patients in need and to save the living is the goal of this fundraiser. Many rural areas and patients relying on public health infrastructure are kept waiting due to distribution challenges. So we started this campaign to fund a dedicated supply chain to bring Oxygen to our beneficiaries

Mission

Our mission is to eliminate health disparities amongst patients and ensure equitable access to oxygen during Covid across Karnataka. Be it in a hospital, home or a parking lot.

Who we are

We are a team of 150 Physicians of Indian origin, alumni of BMC (Bangalore Medical College, Class of 1992, Bangalore, India <https://www.bmcalumni.com/#>) spearheading a fundraising campaign to purchase and deliver Covid relief oxygen therapy supplies to hospitals and health Centers in Karnataka for immediate need. The individual leading the campaign and handling disbursement of funds is Dr Sujatha Pentakota, MD, Anesthesia, Brigham and Women's Hospital (<https://connects.catalyst.harvard.edu/Profiles/display/Person/90720>). This fundraiser is aligned with CAREinc.info (<https://www.careinc.info/team.html>) led by the larger BMC alumni group (<https://www.bmcalumni.com/#>).

<https://www.careinc.info/team.html> is an NGO that was created specifically to provide Covid relief for India since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020. Contact person at CARE inc would be Dr Swami Padmanabhan (swami.padmanabhan@gmail.com)

Where we are from

Lead organizer for the campaign and disbursement of funds is Dr Sujatha Pentakota, MD, Anesthesia, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston (<https://connects.catalyst.harvard.edu/Profiles/display/Person/90720>). The team also consists of other individuals volunteering for the cause

BMC Class of 1992 Leadership Team

- Dr Seema kengeri (<https://www.franciscanhealth.org/find-a-doctor/seema-shankar-kengeri-srikantiah-1922443274>)
- Dr Rajani Prabhakaran (<https://www.dellchildrens.net/specially-for-children/providers/bio/rajani-prabhakaran>)
- Dr Vishal Gupta (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/drvishalg/>)

- Dr Swami Padmanabhan Iyer - for CAREinc (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/swaminathan-padmanabhan-iyer-ab03729/>)
- Dr Sai Gundlapalli President at Advanced Pain Center, Midland County TX (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sai-gundlapalli-76b80511/>)
- Dr Mayura Suryanarayan (<https://mydoctor.kaiserpermanente.org/ncal/providers/mayurasuryanarayan>)
- Dr Deepa Sirsi – (<https://www.doximity.com/pub/deepa-sirsi-md>)
- Dr Madhu Gowda (<https://www.vcuhealth.org/find-a-provider/find-a-provider/madhu-gowda>)
- Dr Prathibha G (<https://mydoctor.kaiserpermanente.org/ncal/providers/pgubbiravishankar>)
- Dr Vasu

Additional volunteers

- Aruna Prabhakaran – Campaign Manager - (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/panchamukhi/>) aruna.prabhakaran@gmail.com

There are additional alumni contacts actively involved in outreach, but only limited list is given above

The beneficiaries of this campaign

Hospitals in Bangalore Victoria, Bowring, Lady Curzon where BMC alumni are currently working on the frontline of the covid crisis

Partners and Alliances

List of Organizations we are working with



Project Smile Trust - Receipt of Donations within Bangalore

Address: No 75/2, South End Circle, RV road, Jayanagar, 2nd Block, east, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560011.

Contact Persons receiving on behalf of Project Smile Trust: Doctors

Mohammed Ummer /Yashaswini/ Vasu.



Mercy Mission - The organization that helps distribute non-monetary (material) donations locally. A coalition of NGO'S based in Bangalore city, who has come together to help the needy and homeless during the national health emergency.

27/1, Vedantha Mandir Rd, 2nd Block, Jaya Nagar East, Jayanagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560011, India Bangalore



CARE Inc is an NGO <https://www.careinc.info> that is currently working with Victoria, Lady Curzon and Bowring Hospitals in Bangalore. Procurement is need based and focused on patients in Karnataka Urban and rural areas. Government (public)

hospitals in Bangalore are critical to managing the underserved population relying on public health infrastructure.

Care: Collaborative Action for SARS-COV2-ERADICATION Inc is Texas-registered non-profit with an address at 4611 Lake Knoll Ct, Sugar Land, Texas 77479. This is a 501C3 registered organization. Application for Sales tax exemption is being processed and the status is expected to be confirmed pending formal approval by US based government organizations.

In order to let donors, avail themselves of the tax benefits of donations, we are routing payments through CAREinc.info which has an NGO status filed in April 2020.



USICOC US India Chamber of Commerce DFW, a Dallas-Fort Worth based 501(c)(6) organization whose mission is to support professional, business and economic development throughout North Texas and facilitate bi-lateral trade with India. (<https://usicoc.biz/>). This organization helps facilitate purchase and dispatch of NGO consignments in a compliant manner

How the funds will be used

This is a directed donation which will reach its destination (Bangalore, Karnataka hospitals and primary health centers) most effectively. This fundraiser has been carved out separately from the larger BMC group effort via CARE as Karnataka has been in the top 3 states leading death counts and covid infection rates. Despite which they are not getting sufficient supplies from other ongoing campaigns by the international expat India community.

The centralized point of distribution in the foreign aid supply chain manifests in marginalization of rural communities in Karnataka – **a natural manifestation of the highly populated democracy that India is, which results in unequal representations between rural and urban areas.** Based on data from Bangalore based physician community such as Dr Mohammed Ummer /Yashaswini/ Vasu from the frontline of government hospitals, we have setup a supply chain that ensures **direct delivery to the right distribution channels.** We are coordinating with Dr Swami Padmanabhan and CAREinc.info to align our resources for campaign management, vendor management and shipper/carrier relationships

Despite being the 3rd leading state in covid infection rates and death count, (<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>), **Karnataka - Bangalore in specific with a population of over 12 Million+ - continues to fall behind in access to oxygen therapy supplies**

Areas of impact of our combined initiatives:

- Oxygen concentrators
- Oximeters
- Masks
- Oxygen Cylinders (varying capacities)
- Other PPE
- NRBH
- LMWH
- Triage (Patient registration -> Bed -> Consultation -> diagnosis)
- Tele-consulting
- Tocilizumab/Baricitinib.

How we withdraw the money and how we plan to send the supplies to the beneficiaries

We procure supplies from global vendors ([Example: Sunrai in USA, GBG in Germany](#)) and have them shipped to India directly to Project Smile Trust that is instrumental in delivering them to the beneficiaries (Patients). We rely on Bangalore based NGOs and BMC alumni network to route and distribute resources to marginalized communities in rural areas. Unused funds if any will be used for additional Covid relief work such as food and medication delivery for quarantined patients and senior citizens, in consultation with CAREinc and the larger BMC alumni group. **Our Mission first and foremost is to ensure lifesaving oxygen to patients led by a data driven approach**

How you can help

Donate to the campaign

Pay on the GoFundmePage – There is an option to include TIP (automatically calculated, but allows you to edit and add/reduce). Also an option to donate on a monthly recurring basis. Just FYI, there is a transaction fee to the donor. For free payment channels please see below

Venmo Send to Bank account under the name of Sujatha Pentakota In Bank of America.

To the Venmo account @Sujatha_Pentakota

Zelle

And Zelle BoA to Sujatha Pentakota drsujathaparv@gmail.com

And Zelle BoA to Aruna Prabhakaran at aruna.prabhakaran@gmail.com

Share the message with your community

We understand that you may have already donated to ongoing initiatives for this cause and are deeply grateful for such and ongoing contributions. Compassion knows no borders! So please

share this message with your friends and family in order to reach more donors. Sharing is as important as giving.

Employer match donations

We welcome employer match contributions from employers in North America and Europe. If you are aware of companies looking to donate and participate in such programs, we can work with them. Please send introductions to

Aruna Prabhakaran aruna.prabhakaran@gmail.com

Sujatha Pentakota drsujathaparv@gmail.com

Sai Gundlapalli - drsaig@yahoo.com

Peer Organization (NGO) contribution match/donations

If you are aware of NGOs and other institutions looking to match donations, we will also work with them. **No amount is too small or too big**

Who should I Donate to?

Donors are being contacted by multiple campaigns targeting Covid relief for India. The best way to decide is to consider the Goal of the Campaign. Is it what you care about most? Do you see transparency in flow of funds/supplies to the intended beneficiary? Does backing by a large organization matter? Or would you prefer to donate to smaller initiatives where you can engage with the team and are able to get some insights into how they work?

Ultimately all Fundraisers achieve their larger goal of providing Covid Relief to India. And directed donation campaigns like ours focus on specific marginalized communities for targeted outcomes. We urge you to engage with your Campaign Manager to make your decisions.