

Royal College Old Boys' East Coast Foundation

Dr. Hasitha Attanayake – Director

May 8, 2020

Executive Committee 2019/2020 Infectious Deceases Hospital Mandavila Rd, Kotikawatta, Sri Lanka.

President

Suku Nagendran, MD (973) 998 – 7461

Dear Dr. Attanayake:

President Elect

Dasun Sameera (718) 664 – 0511

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Committee Members

Ranjit Sirisena (917) 432 – 4217 Lasitha Gunasinghe (732) 500 – 1856 Dilshad Ahmed (646) 484 – 0141 Gamini Karunaratne (917) 376 – 4987 Lalith Rajakaruna PE, LS (718) 979 – 3466 Rushdhun Ramzy (518) 522-1574 Kanna Sriskanthan (347) 461-0976

Donation of Furnished 16 Room/32 Bed Nurses' Quarters to IDH Colombo

On behalf of the Royal College Old Boys' East Coast Foundation (RCOBECF) in the United States of America, it is our privilege on this holy day of Vesak, to donate this much-needed fully furnished facility to the Infectious Diseases Hospital (IDH). While we "New York Royalists" have left Sri Lanka for higher education and career advancement, our hearts are still with the motherland. We attribute our success abroad to our years of rigorous and free education in Sri Lanka, where we were taught the value of integrity, teamwork, tenacity, and unconditional service for the betterment of humanity. Although I am unable to attend personally due to travel restrictions, we are represented by former RCOBECF President Rukshan Perera, Royal College Principal, Royal College Union Secretary, Royal College Physicians, and family members Lasantha & Mahesha De Silva, and Neesha "Rocky" Rockwood.

Since the formation of our Alumni Association in 1993, more than 27 years ago, we have been involved in charitable activities in both Sri Lanka and the United States. These include improving educational opportunities for students not only at Royal College, but also at many less-privileged schools in the country. Additionally, we have funded flood-relief and drinking-water projects, constructed libraries and sanitary facilities, supplied medical equipment, and more, all with the goal of improving lives of those less fortunate.

Covid 19 has pushed the global healthcare system to its limits. Sri Lanka's rapid and thorough response has led to an impressive containment effort. The service of the doctors and nurses at IDH plays an important role within this multifaceted effort. Hence, the request to build this wing to house hospital staff was considered a critical need by our Alumni Foundation. We are happy to have worked with the dedicated team from the Sri Lanka Air Force, and the Ports Authority, who worked tirelessly day and night to make this a reality today. The encouragement and support of the Principal Royal College and the Royal College Union (RCU) are also acknowledged.

Finally, to the doctors, nurses and healthcare workers of IDH, you are true heroes, and we salute you for putting your lives on the line to treat the vulnerable without any expectations! It is said that those who follow this principle are the happiest people, as is truly evident today.

Although separated by oceans and continents, we are always here to help Sri Lanka and its people achieve greatness and become a safe and just society for all.

Sincerely, Suku Nagendran, M.D (President)

RCOBEC Foundation is a 501(c) 3 Approved Public Non-profit Organization.