

**JULY 2012** 

### CHIRAAG EVENT 2012



The 21st Chiraag Endowment Fundraising Dinner held on May 19, 2012 at Landerhaven was a great success. More than 300 attended the event and \$ 15,000.00 was donated to the American Heart Association. David Bronson, M.D. President of American College of Physicians, and President and CEO of Cleveland Clinic Regional Hospitals, the key note speaker, applauded the contributions of AIPNO to the local, national and international organizations. He also thanked Indian Physicians for their great contributions to the American College of Physicians. The event was greatly supported by the local health care systems, business community and physicians. There were many new supporters including Lake Health System, Heather Hill Communities, a large number of private physicians and Cleveland Clinic physicians affiliated with Hillcrest Hospital, who made generous contributions and expressed interest in continuing participation in the future. An excellent CME program which featured educational lectures from Vinit Makkar, MD, Rakesh Chawla, MD, Satnam Sandhu, MD, and Raja Shekar, MD, was well received by AIPNO members. Dinner program featured dance performances, "A Perfect Harmony" by Seysha Mehta and friends, choreographed by Sangita Mehta, MD, and "Romancing the Stone" by Mayura Umapathy and friends, choreographed by Shivankari Sanjeevan and Ahalya Ramanathan. Guests enjoyed a hearty meal by Saffron Patch, Interactive line dancing with Mary Harwood. DJ was Bharat Kumar of Pujanand **Entertainment.** 

The event was made possible by the dedicated efforts by the Endowment Committee, Executive

Committee and The Board of Trustees. Binnie Eiger, our Executive Assistant contributed greatly for the success of the event. Cleveland Clinic was the Major Sponsor of the event and Hillcrest Hospital provided complimentary facilities for the CME.

Thanks to everyone who made this event a great success and helped to contribute to the Endowment Fund of AIPNO.

Beejadi Mukunda, M.D.

President Elect, Chairman, Endowment Committee, AIPNO















## SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF OHIO (SABA OHIO)

SABA OHIO CONGRATULATES SRI SRINIVASAN FOR NOMINATION TO THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

THE SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF OHIO (SABA OHIO) CONGRATULATES PRINCIPAL DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL SRI SRINIVASAN ON HIS NOMINATION TO THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT.

The South Asian Bar Association of Ohio congratulates Srikanth (Sri) Srinivasan on his nomination to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Mr. Srinivasan currently serves as Principal Deputy Solicitor General of the United States, having assumed the Office in August, 2011.

Mr. Srinivasan is the first South Asian American to be nominated to a seat on a federal circuit court. He is also the first person of Asian descent to be nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Srinivasan earned his undergraduate degree from Stanford University in 1989. He later earned his JD and MBA from Stanford in 1995. After law school, Mr. Srinivasan served as a law clerk with the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and with the United States Supreme Court. He later worked in private practice before returning to the office of the United States Solicitor General.

While the South Asian community comprises over 2.8 million people in the United States, there are currently only two South Asian Americans who serve as Article III judges in the entire nation. SABA Ohio President Neelam Gill and board of directors Sanjeev Bhasker, Krishna Grandhi, Richik Sarkar, Ruby Singh, and Annal Vyas applaud President Obama's efforts to appoint more South Asian Americans onto the federal bench. SABA Ohio is pleased that President Obama has recognized this critical need and strongly supports the nomination of Sri Srinivasan to the DC Circuit.

SABA Ohio and its Board urge Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman to endorse and approve this nomination and request the opportunity to meet with Senators Brown and Portman to discuss this important appointment.

SABA Ohio encourages other South Asian community and professional organizations to support this nomination and request meetings with their respective Senators to help ensure that Mr. Srinivasan is appointed to the bench.

SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF OHIO FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: NEELAM GILL, J.D., PRESIDENT



From the Desk of Donna Fousek Mohan Durve, MD 6681 Ridge Rd #305 Parma, OH 44129

April 19, 2012

Dear BINNIE

Dr. Mohan Durve has been selected as a Top Allergist/Immunologist in Cleveland, OH by the International Association of Healthcare Professionals (IAHCP). His 2012 status will be spotlighted in the renowned publication The Leading Physicians of the World

Also, Dr. Mohan Durve was Included in 2012 Edition of National Registry of Who's Who.

Please print this in your next hospital newsletter. Thank you in advance.

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Sincerely, Dønna Fousek

Office manager

Dear Fellow Physicians,

I wanted to share with you a transformational experience that I had while on a recent trip home to India While in Delhi, I had an opportunity to do some volunteer home visits with an extraordinary group of people, for patients with advanced cancer. A doctor, nurse and social worker did their rounds in the Gurgaon area, visiting people in their homes. As a geriatric and palliative medicine physician here, I was very impressed by the quality of the supportive care they were providing to people with enormous medical and psychosocial needs. I have attached a flyer of the organization that they work for.

It is called CANSUPPORT (www.cansupport.org)

In addition to the flyer itself, please take a few moments to look at the article on the website, which is in Readers Digest India, story about the groups founder, Harmala Gupta. It is inspiring.

They have been in existence for 15 years, and have several such teams providing much needed palliative /hospice care WITHOUT any support from officialdom, OR mainstream medicine. In the past

Now, their efforts have been acknowledged to some extent.

They work in collaboration with local area hospitals, including the primary public cancer hospital at All India Institute of Medical sciences, in Delhi. The medical care they are able to deliver in Delhi and surrounding areas includes the ability to dispense Morphine. India has sadly lagged behind in terms of opiate prescribing regulations, for legitimate needs in advanced cancer. The result has been agony and suffering for people with cancer pain , irrespective of their means. Only now, individual states are beginning to pass legislation allowing opiate prescribing by certified and trained doctors in palliative care. Delhi is one of the fortunate few

All their funding though comes from private philanthropy, which is limited

There is a stigma attached to having cancer back home. That is why the article in Readers Digest India talks about people with cancer being the new ' untouchables''. They deserve to be supported so this kind of care can be sustainable.

Yours truly

Sanjeev Bhavnani MD Palliative Medicine lead / Geriatrics and rehab physician Ohio Permanente Medical Group



# CanSupport

Background Information: CanSupport is a registered (1996) not-for profit society that grew out of the personal experience of its Founder-President, Harmala Gupta, a survivor of Hodgkin's lymphoma. CanSupport has a spectrum of services to care for people who are at different stages of their journey with cancer. All services are free as they are aimed at the most needy.

Our mission is to enable people with advanced cancer and their families to make informed choices and decisions and to receive appropriate physical, emotional, social and spiritual support.

Our vision is of a caring and supportive society where people with cancer and their families live with dignity, hope and comfort. n India, 80% cancer patients come with advanced illness. Conventional medicine pays little heed to their plight as doctors are concerned only with those with a chance of cure. These are terminally ill patients beyond medical help, carrying significant burdens of suffering. They have no access to help with relief from physical and emotional pains, distressing symptoms or crushing financial uncertainties. In effect, they are the disease's untouchables, condemned to spend their last days in pain and despair. Overwhelming physical and emotional burdens result in the poorest quality of life of patients followed by an agonizing death as well as socioeconomic stresses in the family with appalling bereavement adjustments.

# ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

#### (a) Home Based Palliative Care Program:

CanSupport's home based palliative care program is the pioneering model in North India directed at patients suffering from advanced and terminal cancer. Professional Home Care teams of doctors, nurses and counselors visit patients registered with them at least once a week in their homes and are available on phone 24x7. The goals of care are extremely concrete: skilled control of pain & other distressing symptoms, supportive nursing, psychological & spiritual care, and a support system to sustain the individual's family.



All this is aimed at enabling the person to live until he/she dies, at his/her own maximum potential, performing to the limit of his physical activity & mental capacity, with control and independence wherever possible. The team also prepares family for what lies ahead, empowers them in skills to be in control and helps them cope with the illness of their loved one. The support also extends to bereavement counseling.

CanSupport remains the largest free standing Home Based Palliative Care program in the country and the only one providing such crucial services in National Capital Region, free of charge, 13 teams of highly trained professionals

through 8 satellite centers in Delhi and surrounding towns provide care to about 950 patients at any given time. We work in close collaboration with the Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AllMS).









Friends,

We are working on giving the AIPNO PULSE a new face. Please send us articles in word format about interesting medical cases, pictures for quiz(guess the diagnosis!), new scientific material produced/published by AIPNO members. Any achievements, awards, events, stories, anecdotes, poems are welcome too. If you want to advertise through AIPNO please send us your advertisement in pdf format.

Thanks

Milind and Anupa Deogaonkar Editorial team