

# Vellore News

CMCH Vellore Web site:  
Australian FOV web site:  
SA FOV email:

<http://www.cmch-vellore.edu>  
<http://www.australianfov.net.au>  
[safriendsofvellore@gmail.com](mailto:safriendsofvellore@gmail.com)

## SA Friends of Vellore AGM

**7pm Friday 5th November, 2021**  
Rosefield Uniting Church  
2 Carlton St, Highgate



**Speaker: Dr J. V. Peter, Director of CMC - by Zoom!**

Hear from the Director how CMC has managed their response to COVID over the last 2 years.



Supper provided - supporters and friends of CMC Vellore are all invited!

*This meeting is subject to the SA COVID restrictions in place at the time and may revert to an online-only meeting in the event that COVID restrictions prohibit gatherings in person.*

Oct 2021

SA FOV AGM

Vaccinate  
Vellore  
Campaign

Australian FOV  
Funds to CMC

## Vaccinate Vellore! Campaign

*"Reach the Unreached"- Enabling communities to remain safe during the COVID-19 Pandemic*

Vaccination for COVID-19, in the first phase, began in CMC on the 20th January 2021, free of cost from the Government for health care workers. In Phase 2, the Government made the vaccine available on a subsidised basis for the vulnerable population of 60 years and above and those above 45 years with co-morbidities. In all, we had together given more than 25,000 doses of Covishield™ (the Oxford- AstraZeneca vaccine, manufactured in India) and Covaxin™ (Indigenously developed vaccine manufactured in India) with no major adverse events recorded from January to April 2021. Once the processes for direct purchase was notified, we purchased vaccines from M/s Serum Institute of India.

## Departments and Units involved in community work:

The rural service run by the Department of Community Health (Community Health & Development - CHAD) extends over two blocks (Kaniyambadi and Anaicut) and provides primary and secondary healthcare as well as preventive and curative health services. They also offer healthcare in the Jawadhu hills that straddles the neighbouring Tiruvannamalai district.

The Department of Rural Unit of Health and Social Affairs (RUHSA), works farther afield, located in rural KV Kuppam block, providing community upliftment measures, besides healthcare.

The College of Nursing Community Health (CONCH) provides nurse run services in the urban slums as well as in rural communities in the Kannigapuram area.

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## Upcoming Events At A Glance

**7pm, Fri 5th Nov 2021**  
SA FOV AGM  
Rosefield Uniting Church

## South Australian Friends of Vellore Committee

President: Dr Renjy Nelson, Vice President: Kumar Arpudaswamy

Secretary: Luisa Mozzi, Treasurer: Tijo Thomas, Editor: Gary Fielke, [safriendsofvellore@gmail.com](mailto:safriendsofvellore@gmail.com)

In Vellore, teams from the Department of Family Medicine and the Low cost-effective care unit (LCECU) provide services to the urban slums and disadvantaged population living in the city.

### Phase 3 Roll out:

As a commitment to the local community around us, CMC set apart some of the initial supply to provide vaccines to the rural and vulnerable population, targeting those who have difficulty in accessing the urban centres. Vaccines were provided free of cost through the four departments that work in the community.

During conversations with members of the community in the time preceding Phase 3, we perceived a significant amount of hesitancy and apprehension. Some communities stated that they would be inclined to take the vaccine directly from us if we were to administer it. Given this situation, the four departments began by sensitising the community and creating awareness to overcome their fears and to answer queries that they had.



RUHSA Vaccination Camp

In most areas, the Departments worked with community volunteers who have been associated with healthcare in their respective areas. Through education programs, they were motivated to take the vaccine and subsequently these volunteers helped to create awareness in their respective villages and enable roll out of the vaccine.

All the vaccination centres had teams with nursing, medical and social workers who were trained by the Emergency Department for resuscitation. Each centre was provided with cold chain equipment, ancillary medical equipment such as monitors and defibrillators, to manage any untoward reaction in recipients. An ambulance was stationed exclusively for facilitation of patient movement in an emergency.



CHAD Hospital Awareness Session

RUHSA started the community roll out on 14th June 2021, followed shortly by CHAD, LCECU and CONCH on 23rd June, 2021. While RUHSA has been working in the villages around KV Kuppam, CHAD has begun to offer the service in the areas surrounding CHAD hospital (semi-urban and rural) as well as in their villages. CONCH has been providing vaccination to the labourers at CMC's new campus development site at Kannigapuram, as well as the surrounding villages and LCECU has been targeting the urban poor in their service area within the city. Together, the four units have delivered more than 4800 doses until 09th July 2021.

July 19, 2021 CMC Newslines



Tax deductible donations to CMCH can be made online at: <http://australianfov.net.au/donations/>

Simply and easily make a donation to the work of the Christian Medical College and Hospital, Vellore.

## Australian Friends of Vellore Contribution to COVID Emergency Fund

Thanks to Dr Stephen Aseervatham for providing these figures showing the amazing response by Australian Friends of Vellore to CMC's COVID response.

Thank you to all SA Friends of Vellore who contributed!

If you haven't been able to contribute but would like to, please see the flyer below.

### Allocation of Funds towards COVID

#### 2nd Wave COVID

<b>COVID Emergency Fund</b>	<b>\$237,060.00</b>
<b>Vaccinate Vellore Campaign</b>	<b>\$133,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$370,060.00</b>

#### COVID Preparedness / 1st Wave

<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$141,408.00</b>
<b>Grant - ICU Equipment</b>	<b>\$250,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$391,408.00</b>

<b>Sum Total of Contribution</b>	<b>\$761,468.00</b>
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## Australian Friends of Vellore



### Christian Medical College and Hospital,

Founded in 1900, CMC has been serving the nation for 120 years is a 3,000-bed charitable teaching hospital providing healthcare to 3 million patients each year, known for compassionate, cost-effective health care, high quality education, cutting-edge scientific research and community outreach.

**India is in a desperate situation with cases of COVID-19 peaking above 400,000 each day and recorded deaths above 4,000 each day.**

CMC has been trying to rapidly scale down non-COVID work and upscale COVID work. It has accepted the challenge of providing **1,500 of its 3,000 beds for the care of COVID patients**, at CMC's expense, scaling up the COVID beds including intensive care beds by 100 to 150 beds each week.

CMC urgently needs **life-saving equipment** including that to provide oxygen, ventilators, drugs, and personal protective equipment (PPE). It is also purchasing vaccines and establishing a vaccination clinic.

Thank you,  
Renjy Nelson  
President, Friends of Vellore (SA)

The Friends of Vellore SA have decided not to hold its Annual Dinner this year as funds are urgently needed now. We therefore urge our loyal supporters who would have purchased a \$70 dinner ticket to donate at least that amount now, as well as others who may wish to show support for the CMC's fight against COVID.

We need your help to procure the funds needed for this fight. To support CMC's COVID effort in India please visit the following website:

<http://australianfov.net.au/donations/how-to-donate/>

To simplify the donation process, please donate to the **Australian Board of Vellore CMCH Support Fund** using the following options in order of preference - the **direct debit option** or the **PayPal option** or by **Cheques** (please mail to Stephen Aseervatham or Richard Caitens)

**All donations are tax deductible.** Please include your address and email to ensure you receive a receipt for tax deductibility and that your donation is for COVID.

We are sincerely grateful for your support over the years and give thanks for your response to this overwhelming need at CMC.