



Christian Medical College

Vellore, South India

Seeking to be a witness to the healing ministry of Christ, through excellence in education, service and research.



The Vellore story

The Christian Medical College Vellore is located in Vellore in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It is an independent, not-for-profit, minority educational institution. Today, its network of primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary care teaching hospitals are spread across in a number of campuses in and around Vellore and also in the neighbouring state of Andhra Pradesh. How did this remarkable institution come into existence?

CMC Vellore was founded by Dr Ida Sophia Scudder, daughter of an American missionary couple working in India. While staying with her parents during a vacation, she was shocked to learn about the loss of lives of three young pregnant women and their babies for lack of a female doctor. Ida Scudder resolved to dedicate her life to serving the people of India. After completing her medical studies, she returned and in 1900 opened a one-bed clinic in Vellore. She immediately started training nurses and in 1918 opened India's first Medical School for Women. A 267-bed hospital was opened in Vellore in 1924.

In 1940 the College became co-educational and the course was upgraded to a full MBBS degree. 'Aunt Ida,' as she is fondly known, passed away in 1960 but her mission and shining example lives on through the service of CMC Vellore.

The Australian Friends of Vellore (FOV)

The FOV supports the work at CMC Vellore. There are branches in various states of Australia—New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia. All fund raising and promotional activities of the FOV are organised at the state level. The Australian Vellore Board (AVB) is the national body which coordinates the activities of these FOV groups.

It has the status of a registered charity and donations made to it are tax-exempt in Australia. The financial support raised by the activities of the state branches is channelled via the Board to various projects in CMC, particularly those that cater for the poor and marginalised.

CMC – A unique institution

Christian principles,
Alternative healthcare
model, Compassionate
care for all, No patient
turned away

Faith-based
motivation,
Professional
excellence

Healing
ministry
of Christ



Subsidy
for charity,
A\$40.5 mil
per year

Vellore today

Today, after a spectacular expansion in recent years, CMC Vellore is a multi-speciality medical institution of international fame with nearly 3000 beds.

The Vellore Hospital campus in the middle of the city is the parent node of CMC. It offers a broad range of medical specialties, including advanced diagnostic and therapeutic services, alongside primary and secondary level care for local communities. It now includes the Paul Brand Block, an Orthopaedic facility.

The Ranipet Campus, a Level 1 trauma care centre and multi-speciality hospital, is the latest and the biggest extension of CMC. The campus began functioning on 17 August 2022, following its inauguration on 25 June 2022. It was used in 2021 to provide emergency services during the COVID-19 crisis. A state-of-the-art Paediatric centre is also being planned. Phase 1 will be completed in 2024.

The Chittoor Campus, on the southern border of Andhra Pradesh, 25 km from Vellore, has been offering medical services since 2011. The campus is now a rapidly expanding broad-speciality hospital which will soon have its own medical school.

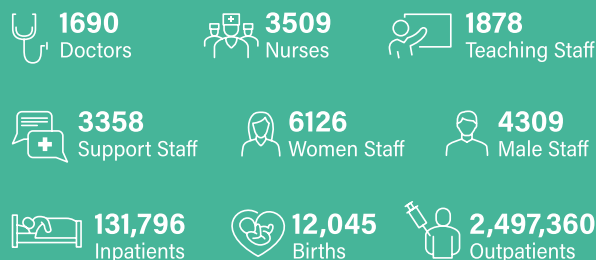
Other centres in the CMC hospital network are:

- The Rural Unit for Health and Social Affairs (RUHSA). Located 23 km from Vellore, it has become a model-training centre for rural health care.
- The Community Health and Development programme (CHAD). The epicentre of CMC's community health programme. Situated next door to the College campus, it provides related training for medical and allied health students and PG trainees.
- The Low-Cost Effective Care Unit (LCECU). Caters to the marginalised patients of Vellore and surrounding area. It provides the best medical care at the lowest cost possible for both outpatients and inpatients.
- The Schell Eye Hospital
- The Mental Health Centre
- Rehab Institute Nabikkai Nilayam, catering to children with intellectual disability.

Education



Clinical Services



* All figures from 2023 (patient numbers per annum)

+ Donations

Your donations are tax deductible (Registered as Vellore CMCH Support Fund ABN 65 125 097 974). Some donors designate their contributions towards specific projects which are approved by the CMC administration. Here are some examples of projects the FOV has supported:

- **Person to Person (PTP).** Donations go towards the care of one patient and are used for the cost of bed and nursing (A\$27 per bed per day up to ten days). Cost of medications, investigations and procedures are subsidised by CMC.
- **Emergency Fund for Patients needing Urgent Care.** Available for all needy patients from any part of the country, especially those who are short of funds to pay for unexpected costs after admission.
- **Outreach programmes.** We have been supporting work done among the tribal people in Jawadhi Hills area, and we have also funded the purchase of a mobile eye clinic.
- **Scholarships.** Supporting disadvantaged Nursing and Allied Health students by funding the cost associated with their education. These are approximately A\$1300 per student per year. The need for this support is great.

During the height of COVID pandemic in India, the Board received very generous donations from people around the country, many of them not our regular donors. CMC very much appreciated our contribution at that time when they were overwhelmed by the numbers.

+ How can I help?

1. Uphold CMC in your prayers
2. Visit Vellore and witness this inspiring institution.
3. Speak with your friends and family about our work.
4. Support your local state branch through donations and participation in their fund-raising activities.

+ How can I donate?

1. Via your State Branch of the FOV
2. Direct Bank Debit - for details email cmcavb@gmail.com
3. Online australianfov.net.au



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