



Sri Lanka Medical Association of North America Western Region, Inc.

SLMANA-WR

(A California Nonprofit Corporation) EIN: 20-0616241

May 20th, 2021

Dear All,

Executive Officers:

President:
Dineshi L.M. Liyanage, M.D.

Vice President:
Mahesh De Silva M.D.

Treasurer:
Michael Perera, M.D.

Secretary:
Daphne Torrijos, R.N.

Membership Coordinator:

Ranujie Wickramaratna, R.N.

Board of Directors:

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Chairman

Methinda Jayawardena
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Sarath Gunatilake M.D.

Deepthi Jayasekera, M.D.

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Dr. Dineshi L.M. Liyanage
President SLMANA WR

The Sri Lanka Medical Association of North America Western Region Inc (SLMANA-WR) is committed to helping address the critical needs of Sri Lanka in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus far, we have raised \$32,400 and directed \$26,120 in aid to the Infectious Disease Hospital, Angoda, \$2,780 to build the partition at the Homagama Base Hospital for Covid patients and \$3,500 to the Los Angeles Mayors Covid 19 Emergency Fund for PPE.

We are presently working collaboratively with agencies in Sri Lanka and in the USA to coordinate Covid relief in Sri Lanka. Our mission is to assist Sri Lanka with much needed supplies during this pandemic, to raise awareness of the healthcare needs of Sri Lanka and to advocate for vaccine access. We are reaching out to you our friends, families, colleagues, legislators, and the medical community of Sri Lankans here in the US to enlist your support and raise funds.

Our current initiatives include raising funds for the Kalubowila Hospital in Colombo to help equip a new High-Dependency Unit (HDU) to treat severely ill Covid patients. The hospital is a designated intermediate hospital, that currently is in need of expanded capacity and equipment as transfer to impacted tertiary centers is limited. The Hospital's 6-bed ICU is at capacity and is in grave need of another HDU with equipment such as HFNC oxygen systems, BIPAP machines, and an ABG machine. We have held Executive Committee and Board meetings expeditiously and with due process to vet the project and are now raising funds to purchase the much-needed equipment.

SLMANA-WR's efforts extend to COVID-19 vaccine access and petitioning legislators to expedite vaccine release from the stockpile to help Sri Lanka. We feel that we all have a voice which can be utilized to that end. To supplement our efforts, we are establishing a petition on [Change.org](https://www.change.org).

We are also diligently exploring avenues to purchase oxygen concentrators through the WHO or the UN for distribution island-wide via Sri Lanka's central command for Covid relief. By enlisting the latter, we believe we can obtain a waiver of the VAT which will make your hard-earned dollars stretch further. Per the State Ministry production, supply and regulation of pharmaceuticals the equipment that is required at present by Government hospitals include 50 ICU beds, 5 oxygen concentrators, 50 high flow oxygen therapies, 1000 jumbo oxygen cylinders, 100 pulse oximeters, 200 mini oxygen concentrators. We will have more information forthcoming.

We are reaching out to you to partner with us in raising funds and advocating for vaccines during this critical time for our beautiful motherland, Sri Lanka.

Please join hands with us to reach our starting goal of \$25,000 to purchase much-needed equipment for the High Dependency Unit at Kalubowila Hospital. As further funds are collected, more purchases will be made to help meet the immediate health-care needs and to save as many lives as possible.

To make a tax-deductible donation: All donations can be made via

- **Zelle** through slmanawest@gmail.com
- **Our website:** www.slmanawest.org and go to the donation page
- **Mailing a Check** made out to SLMANA West c/o M. Jayawardena, 2308 Schader Dr, 301, Santa Monica, CA 90404

Thank you for your kind support and generosity.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dineshi L.M. Liyanage, President SLMANA WR
slmanawest@gmail.com

