

# Christian Medical Association of India

## Annual Report 2018-2019

---

### INTRODUCTION

Christian Medical Association (CMAI) serves as a network of Christian hospitals and healthcare professionals promoting healthcare, especially to the poor and marginalized communities through its member institutions, health professionals through continuous capacity enhancement, fellowship meetings, policy advocacy engagement and creating model public health interventions.

CMAI is also the health arm of the National Council of Churches in India. Our goals are - Helping the Church, Training, Consultancy, Education, Advocacy and Fellowship. Our activities are categorized under four approaches:

1. Church Relations
2. Membership Strengthening
3. Capacity Enhancement
4. Policy Engagement

As of March 2019, we have approximately 10000 members and 272 institutions.

Through the 5 sections of CMAI, namely, Doctors Section, Nurses League, Allied Health Professionals Section, Administrators Section and Chaplains Section, and the departments of Community Health and Communication as well as the support systems of General Secretary's Section, Administration, Finance, Resource Mobilisation Unit and Membership desk, the following are the activities that have been conducted in the past financial year of 2018-19.

### CHURCH RELATIONS

CMAI is the health arm of National Council of Churches in India (NCCI), a member of the World Council of Churches (WCC), Dioceses, and Congregations. We provide Technical expertise in health after engaging with them, visiting them, introducing CMAI activities and understanding their felt need. Healing ministry week celebration is part of the togetherness in Christian ministry. We propose a theme annually to concentrate and meditate on. We also bring other Church based organizations together - CBCI, CHAI etc.

#### **HEALING MINISTRY WEEK 2019**

The theme for Healing Ministry Week 2019 is "Who Touched Me?" taken from Luke 8: 44-46. Healing Ministry Sunday was celebrated on the 10th and/or 17th of February, and CMAI Day of Prayer was held on the 13th of February to thank God for Healing Ministry. The Week was celebrated in partnership with the National Council of Churches in India, the Catholic Health Association of India, and the Commission for Healthcare Apostolate of the Catholic Bishops' Conference. Materials were disseminated throughout all 13 regions, amongst all the member institutions of CMAI, as well as to mainline and independent churches, and individual members who were interested in celebrating Healing Ministry amongst their own fellowship groups.

The contribution received so far is Rs. 2,19,277/- Direct payments to hospitals by the churches are also reported.

### **The Church for Social Action**

CMAI is partnering with NCCI and the different church networks of mainline churches in their structured social action programmes and making a difference together. CMAI has completed its first phase of training congregations and in the next phase the diocese of the church and the synod will be involved.

### **Engage Disability Workshops**

Engage Disability Network (EDN) is an ecumenical movement to strengthen the reporting on online forms which are accessible to all those who are interested as well as through a monthly group Skype call. A WhatsApp group also shares information between the RFs as well as the sectional secretaries. CMAI conducted a half-day workshop on Engage Disability at the Grace Church, Yadagirigutta, in Nalgonda Dist of Telangana state on September 29th.

### **Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) Congress**

The Congress was held from 21-26 August 2018 in Hyderabad. Dr. S. Venkatesh, Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India inaugurated the event. The theme was "In the Footsteps of The Great Servant Healer", the focus being to "Reflect-Repent-Renew". It was inspired by the verse "A covenant to the people, A light to the nations" Isaiah 42:6. The Congress offered Bible expositions, devotions, and plenaries, and a wide range of workshops / sessions over the six days on 88 topics with 81 facilitators who were experts in their areas of work/mission. Their inspiring talks challenged and encouraged the participants to respond to God's call in their profession of health and healing. More than 840 delegates representing 86 countries attended the Congress. CMAI and EMFI partnered in conducting the programme.

### **The Dr. Shane Sam Mathew Memorial ICMDA Endowment Fund**

This Fund has been launched at the General Assembly of the ICMDA during the World Congress in Hyderabad on 23 August 2018. The first award was conferred on Dr. Alexander (posthumously) for demonstrating a sense of God's calling and responding joyfully and sacrificially for the cause of mission in the developing world.

Ms. Elizabeth Mathew's book 'Firefly' published by CMAI was released on September 8th by Ms. Ann Mary George IFS, Indian Embassy, Paris, France. Dr. K.S Sebastian, Director M&E, International Justice Mission reviewed the book in the presence of a good audience at the National YMCA auditorium, New Delhi. To order copies of the book please write to [ivin@cmai.org](mailto:ivin@cmai.org). Price: Rs. 300/- (postage extra)

## **MEMBERSHIP STRENGTHENING**

### **Organisation Development (OD) process**

Our Community Health Department is taking the lead on encouraging our member institutions to undergo an Organisation Development (OD) process which can lead to them improving on their service delivery and healthcare systems.

### **Appointment of Regional Facilitators - a game changer**

CMAI has 13 regions. A secretary for each region is elected biennially. The Regional Secretary, in consultation with the CMAI General Secretary, organises the work, growth

and development of the association in the region for which s/he has been elected. The Regional Secretary is the chairperson and convenor of the Regional Committee which shall consist of the regional secretaries of the doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, administrators and chaplains section. To strengthen CMAI services to the network of member institutions, 11 regional facilitators were recruited in April 2018.

### **National (Sectional) Conferences 2018-19**

CMAI conducted the national conferences of the five sections during FY 18-19. It was an opportunity to meet together and share your joy and learn from one another.

#### **DOCTORS SECTION**

The CMAI Doctors Section conducted its Annual Conference on 23 and 24 November 2018, at Vishranti Nilayam in Bangalore. Participants were a mix of those who had been in missions and associated with one another for years and those who had just heard of the CMAI fellowship and came to experience it. The keynote speaker, Dr Vinod Shah beautifully described the Christian understanding of "Hope" through various real life examples.

#### **NURSES LEAGUE**

70th National Conference of the Nurse's League of CMAI was from October 22nd to 24th at CMC, Vellore. The CMAI theme for the year "Hope in Distress" will be the theme of this conference. The speech by Dr Satyajit Ghosh, senior professor at VIT University on Climate Change: Global Perspectives and Engineering Solutions was something very enlightening for the nurses to find their role in providing a healthy environment to patients in order to prevent infections. The programme was on October 22nd to 24th at the Scudder Auditorium, CMC Vellore.

#### **ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**

Dr. Jose Antao, Senior Psychiatrist and Physician in Goa inaugurated the 17th Allied Health Professionals (AHP) Conference at St Joseph Vaz Renewal Centre, Old Goa on October 11-12, 2018. There were 105 allied health professionals from across India. We observed 50% participation was from the youth and students.

The Students' Empowering and Enriching Directive (SEED), a new initiative of CMAI happened subsequently on 5th and 6th January, 2019 at Kanyakumari. This was launched to develop leaders among the youth who are pursuing a career in Allied Health Sciences. 103 students in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu.

#### **ADMINISTRATORS SECTION**

The 16th National Conference for Administrators was held at the Salvation Army Conference & Retreat Centre, Coonoor from 1 to 3 November 2018 the conference was attended by 56 participants.

#### **CHAPLAINS SECTION**

The Chaplains Section National Conference was at the United Biblical Seminary, Pune on 9 and 10 January 2019. Rev. Dr. Limatula Longkumer, Dean, Research/SATHRI, Senate of Serampore, said in her inaugural speech: "Need is the only criteria, not value or worth or status for healing ministry. The call for an inclusive healing ministry that crosses boundaries and cultures, he said. Referring to this year's theme "Who Touched Me?" she said "deep compassion, understanding and the power of loving touch as in the story of the

haemorrhaging woman in the Bible are the most powerful medicines in the holistic healing of a person.”

The conference also discussed three Ps: Provision (People with expectations), Position and Politics. These three Ps can hamper the proper functioning of Christ’s call and vision for the ministry of Christian ministers. Hence, resist it through God’s grace.

### **Publications of CMAI**

*Christian Medical Journal of India* (CMJI) is CMAI’s official publication, which has a good readership in India as well as abroad. The soft copy is available on our website and [issuu.com/cmairportal](http://issuu.com/cmairportal).

*Life For All* (LFA) the quarterly newsletter of CMAI with news, reports from the field and important announcements. It is a summary of the activities, highlights of events, interviews with leaders and a notice board of future activities.

*CMAI Website* ([www.cmair.org](http://www.cmair.org)) and Facebook; The CMAI website [cmair.org](http://cmair.org) is a public platform of CMAI’s history, structure, news and its publications. CMAI Facebook page is also very active. Our Facebook has more than 4000 followers.

*Webinar Series:* We conduct webinars via Adobe Connect Pro software which has the capacity to reach 100 classrooms. We have conducted 10 webinars during this period.

## **CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT**

### **DOCTORS SECTION**

An interactive meeting with young medical Graduates was held on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019, to understand the challenges while preparing for FMGE and PG NEET and identified the areas where CMAI can engage to help them.

### **NURSES LEAGUE**

CMAI introduced Ward Managers’ Training, a capacity building programme for nurse leadership at ward level to improve patient care. Three batches from 30+mission hospitals have attended the course so far.

### **ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS SECTION**

The Central Education Board (CEB) Convenors of various courses met in Vellore on 29 and 30 June 2018. The committee discussed streamlining the administration of 27 different courses under 12 convenors. These courses are run by 60 different institutions and more than 700 students are currently undergoing various paramedical training under the CEB banner of CMAI.

**A English Book** compiled by Dr Grace Moses is now ready for purchase for the students undergoing AHP courses

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** is a government initiative to certify the skilled workforce those who are already working and do not have any govt certification. So far we conducted 13 batches of RPL assessments in 11 different centres pan India for a total of 1807 candidates and distributed certificates.

**Health Sector Skill Courses:** We have submitted for 16 centres for affiliation with HSSC, in that 5 centres have started different HSSC short term courses. 2 new centres are submitted their documents for HSSC.

#### **ADMINISTRATORS SECTION**

##### **Management Development Programme**

The 32nd workshop on health care Management Development Programme was conducted at Vidyadeep, Bangalore from the 4th to 15th February 2019 in cooperation with the Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI) and TATA Institute of Social Sciences (TISS). The workshop was for those (doctors, nurses, administrators and Allied health professionals) holding senior or middle management positions in hospitals or health care services.

##### **Diploma in Laws on Hospital Administration**

Preparations are complete for the two-year distance education course on Laws on Hospital Administration. The one-year Certificate course has been highly successful during the last 5 years.

##### **Diploma in Hospital Administration**

CMAI in collaboration with Christian Medical College Vellore (CMC) has introduced a one-year diploma course in Hospital Administration (DHA) as a distance learning programme.

#### **CHAPLAINS SECTION**

**CMAI's 32nd Course on Pastoral Care** for the Sick and Suffering was conducted in Dimapur, Nagaland from 11 to 22 September 2018. Development Association of Nagaland Training Centre, near Dimapur was the venue. This was an intensive full-time course where participants learned the desired skills to minister the sick and suffering.

## **POLICY ENGAGEMENT**

##### **AMANAT- Care India Project, Bihar**

A partnership between CARE India Solutions and CMAI was established in November 2013. Considering the long history of training, pilot phase experience and the service mindedness of CMAI, CARE India offered us the same programme in four phases across Bihar's 29 districts out of 38. The first phase of the project began in January 9th, 2015 and the 4th phase ended in January 2017. The Project has been extended up to October 2019.

##### **The Mother and Child Health and Development Project in Purnea, Bihar**

###### **Project Support: Brethren in Christ Church**

The new phase of this project explores access to maternal and child healthcare by building capacity of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). The project is run by the local Brethren in Christ Church and more church leaders will be trained to conduct effective interventions in their respective communities.

##### **Rural Tribal Women Health & Development Project, Betul District, MP**

This project is managed by the Community health team in Padhar Hospital. The Government frontline workers are active in this area and the MCH activities are being conducted regularly. The project has been given a one year extension after the evaluation

done in February of 2018. The implemented changes are the extension of program from 10 to 20 villages.

CMAI's main value-added service is the development and maintenance of the self-help groups as well as wide scale community awareness programmes.

### **Palliative Care**

Dr. Sunita Abraham, Head, CHD, and Ms. Saharsha Jacob, Programme Officer attended IPM Board Meeting at Institute of Palliative Medicine Medical College (PO) Kozhikode, Kerala on 29th August. Dr Stanley Macaden, the National Coordinator was also present. Management processes and finances were the main topics of discussion.

### **Bio-ethics partnership**

Foundation for Bioethics – CMAI published a revised edition, in partnership with The Centre of Bioethics and Dr Jameela George. Dr Priya and Ms Imtinenla Aier represented CMAI at The Centre for Bioethics (TCB) Annual General Body Meeting held on 11th of August 2018 in St Stephens Hospital, New Delhi.

### **Alliance for Immunisation and Health**

Dr Priya represents CMAI in the Alliance for Immunisation and Health (AiH). In this regard a meeting in the ministry with the Immunisation Action Group was attended on the 28th of September 2018.

### **Life Project Phase II and III:**

Labs for life (L4L) project is a partnership project of MOHFW, CDC and BD, aimed at strengthening the Quality management systems of public health laboratories in India. CMAI is the implementing partner for this project. Phase II project was implemented during 2015- 2018 & Phase III is implemented from 2018-2021. Phase III project intends to improve the capacity of lab personnel and Health care providers on strengthening HIV opportunistic infections laboratory diagnosis, lab monitoring of adverse drug reactions in PLHIV on treatment, with a special focus on the lab clinical interface.

### **Christian Coalition for Health CCH):**

The aim of the founding of the Christian Coalition for Health (CCH) is to be the voice of Christian Healthcare Networks and the various Christian healthcare institutions in the country. The CCH had been very active with programmes to educate the network and the government on a variety of topics such as awareness on Ayushman Bharat Scheme, voiced for DNB, General Insurance claims, and represented at NITI AYOOG.

CCH was invited by NITI Aayog to attend a meeting on the possibility of Mission Hospitals applying for DNB courses. CCH brought together representatives of CMAI, EHA and TLMTI to look at the possibility of our hospitals with over 100 beds could apply to hold DNB Courses. At the meeting we explained the constraints that we had to take up these courses. Faculty, would be one of the main issues.