



INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND

Message from the President: Dr. Nasir Khan

September, 2009



THE 62nd ANNIVERSARY OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE was cause for celebration on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2009. Many IMANE members and others gathered at the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade in Boston to participate in a special India Day event that was organized by the India Association of Greater Boston. The event kicked off with the National Anthem of the United States of America by Noura Khan and the National Anthem of the Republic of India by Kumkum Dilwali.

IMANE again had a large booth to offer free health screenings, including blood pressure measurements, blood sugar determination, dental screening and nutritional counseling. Almost 100 screenings were performed by a large number of IMANE volunteers. These included Geeta and Raj Trivedi, Anup Singh, Kunwar Singh, Manju Sheth helped by her 11-year-old daughter Shaleen, Mohani Malhotra, Neeta Garg and her husband, Manorama Mathur, Susheta Doshi, Payel Patel, and Rohit Chandra and Ashwin Reddy, BU psychiatric residents who became members, Saxena Kapil and his wife and children, Chander and Onaly Kapasi, Sameer and Sajani Kapasi and their new baby, and Anita Gohel, DMD, with 7 BU dental students, Jennifer Kha and Niki Ray, nutritionists from St. Elizabeth's Hospital, and Diane Chapman with diabetes literature from Novo Nordisk. I would like to thank everyone who contributed their time, particularly on such a hot, humid day. As a result of this generosity, our efforts were successful.

IMANE FREE HEALTH CENTERS are a wonderful way our members give back to their communities. I spent two evenings in July visiting the Worcester Free Health Stop and the New Hope Health Center meeting the volunteers and understanding the operations of these free clinics. These volunteer clinics are mostly staffed by IMANE physician volunteers, who are truly deserving of our praise.

I am proud that IMANE is so involved in civic activities like this for the needy. Although 95 % of Massachusetts residents are supposedly covered by health insurance, there has been no change in the volume of patients using these clinics. Many are visitors in transit, recent immigrants and people of all cultures.



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□ **The Worcester Free Health Stop** is actually located in Shrewsbury in a building owned by the India Society of Worcester. Starting in 2005, under the guidance of Dr. Sadhev Passey, IMANE has provided the medical volunteers for 192 successive weeks. I met with Carolyn Passey, a volunteer, Dr. Dhansukhlal Mandalay, internist, Dr. Rohit Vakil, nephrology, and Dr. Meha Saxsena, who is awaiting a residency match. There is also a roster of other physicians, who include Dr. Kavita Navani, internist, Dr. Neeta Shah, cardiologist, Dr. Gyatridevi Ika, internist, Dr. Raman Saharan, internist, Dr. Srilakshmi Anamandala, and Dr. Prasad Maddukuri, cardiologist, as well as support staff Hasu Patel and Pinku Kumar. Consultants of various specialties are also available for free care referrals.



□ **The New Hope Health Center** in Waltham, located in the basement of the Immanuel United Episcopal Church, was founded in 1999 by their pastor and is about to celebrate its 10th anniversary. IMANE has traditionally provided the medical personnel, but the center is funded by the church and supported by many volunteers. My guide was Betsy Rots, the administrative assistant who has volunteered since the founding. I met Dr. Richard Daley, Director, a family physician who has volunteered for 6 years; Dick Crowley, a Church Trustee; Doreen Embree, RN; Evelyn Guillette, a Reike specialist; Dr. Shanker Nesathurai, a physiatrist; and two high school students from Dedham. Other consultants include Dr. Onaly Kapasi, Dr. Manorama Mathur, Dr. Kunwar Singh, Dr. Anup Singh and Jossie Sukumar, RN. Others have volunteered on occasion.



The next **Executive Committee Meeting**

will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Massachusetts Medical Society Headquarters.



Profile: Manju Sheth, MD EC Member at Large

Dr. Manju Sheth was born in New Delhi and obtained her schooling there. She earned her medical degree from Kolkata National Medical College. She subsequently did her training in internal medicine in England at the Royal Infirmary in Hull and at a St. George's Hospital affiliated hospital in London.

Dr. Sheth went on to complete her training in internal medicine at Salem Hospital, now the North Shore Medical Center, in 1997 and practiced there for several years. She is now an internist practicing in Lynnefield and is affiliated with the

Beverly Hospital.

Dr. Sheth is active in IMANE and founded the Art & Culture Committee and also co-chairs the IMANE Women's Forum. In addition, she is active in several other Indian organizations and charities. She is passionate about music and dance, as well as women's issues. She also enjoys interior decoration and travel.

Dr. Sheth is married to a physician Dipak and she has an 11-year-old daughter Shaleen.

Profile: Neeta Garg, MD EC Member at Large

Dr. Neeta Garg obtained her medical degree from SMS Medical College in Jaipur, India. She then did medical and neurological training there and at Post Graduate Institute of Medical Research at Chandigarh, GB Pant Post Graduate Institute and All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. Following this, she arrived in the US and completed her neurology residency from JFK Medical Center, Seton Hall University, NJ.



Dr. Garg has held medical appointments at SUNY at Buffalo, NY and at UMASS Medical Center in Worcester, where she was recently promoted to Clinical Associate Professor of Neurology. She is also the Associate Director of UMASS Memorial Health Care Multiple Sclerosis Center.

Dr. Garg has published extensively, is a frequent lecturer and is actively involved in many research projects as Principle Investigator. Dr. Garg is board certified in Neurology.

She is married and has a 19-year-old son and lives in Natick, She enjoys music, skiing and swimming.