

From:

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To:

Whomsoever It May Concern

I have seen Dr Ravishankar KV from my student days at Anna University, Chennai, in the early 1990s when he was working for Sankara Netralaya, Chennai, a premier eye institute of India.

I have witnessed how Dr Ravishankar was very much influenced by the charitable work done at Sankara Netralaya, and was inspired to start Usha Kiran Charitable Trust with his wife Dr Uma, when he started practicing in Mysuru a few years later. Right from day one of their practice, they have made it a priority to serve financially needy patients completely free of cost, and without any difference in the type of care provided to the patient.

I was very much impressed how Dr Ravishankar and Dr Uma have taken this pledge of serving financially underprivileged patients, and specializing in treating kids with eye care needs who often go untreated because of their rural background or because their parents are not very well educated to understand the gravity of the problems the kids may have.

Many years ago, my wife Poornima & I happened to see the work being done at some of the camps for screening kids from schools at Mysuru and Mandya districts of Karnataka, and watch how eligible patients were brought to Usha Kiran Eye Hospital in Mysuru to get treated. Very impressed with the goal of Usha Kiran Charitable trust to eradicate childhood blindness, my wife & I have tried to join hands with the trust by financially supporting these activities whenever possible, by activities of our theater and community groups, and friends in California.

I also had a chance to visit offices of SEE International at Santa Barbara, California in 2008 and Blind Foundation for India, Wisconsin in 2018 and learn from then how Usha Kiran Charitable Trust, and Dr Ravishankar KV have worked with them in projects involving children's eye care not only in India, but in countries like Bangladesh, Ghana, and the Gambia, and on the Mercy Ships.

I am extremely heartened to hear that Dr Ravishankar is being nominated for the "Champion of Impact" award by the Rotary International. I would very much like to second this nomination, which he evidently deserves.

I wish Dr Ravishankar the very best, and hope this award gives him even more recognition, and chances to serve underprivileged kids and help eradicate childhood blindness in India,

Regards

Kowshika Ramaprasad
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