



## DECCAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA (DAANA)

A 501 (c) (3) Organization

[www.daanadcms.com](http://www.daanadcms.com)

### ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017



DAANA FAMILY

2016 & 2017



## INTRODUCTION

Deccan Alumni Association of North America (DAANA) is an alumni organization for graduates of Deccan College of Medical Sciences (DCMS) which is located in Hyderabad, Telangana, India.

It is a registered 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization under US federal guidelines and was incorporated in the state of Virginia. Its membership is open to all DCMS alumni. The association was formerly launched in August 2016 at a DCMS reunion event in Dallas, Texas. It is estimated that there are more than 600 doctors from DCMS settled all across the US and Canada. Several hundred others reside across Europe, Middle East and Australia.

The purpose of this alumni association is to connect all DCMS graduates not only in the USA and Canada but across the world. Our mission statement is **“To foster collaborative relationships between alumni of Deccan College of Medical Sciences through educational and cultural programs and to help the underprivileged through philanthropic activities”**. DAANA strives for equal representation for all, we are a nondenominational organization.

During our first year of existence we have successfully connected several hundred alumni spread across the globe on one platform. We hope to build a strong network of professionals who can collaborate for various projects and initiatives.

Our major efforts this year were to help DCMS graduates pursuing residency and to establish several sites across the US offering Observership positions for these young graduates. Recently we also launched a grant program that offers financial assistance to deserving alumni. We have successfully partnered with DCMS administration in Hyderabad and look forward to launching collaborative efforts in the near future. We are working to develop projects that will help the underprivileged both in the US and in India.

In the longrun we would like to establish programs that benefit our future generations, who will carry our mission forward.

We are thankful for the support from all DCMS alumni who have helped us in various projects in our inaugural year. We look forward to working with you in taking DAANA to the next level in the coming years.

Sincerely,

DAANA BOD

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

The only definition that describes us correctly and inclusively is that we belong to Deccan College of Medical Sciences (DCMS).

We would like to make this into a vibrant DCMS community.

A community has young and old, specialist consultants and general practitioners, some practicing medicine and some not; bachelors, grandmothers and grandfathers. It is therefore not an easy task to keep everybody on the same platform while simultaneously keep it enjoyable for everyone.

The best thing to come out of DAANA for me is the opportunity to connect with alumni throughout the different batches. This in itself is a blessing. This blessing is demonstrable in the love and concern we have shown on occasions of happiness as well as sadness. Do not underestimate the power of supplication when somebody is ill or after he or she has passed away from this world; this is something we have been consistently doing on one platform.

Some have had questions that have been answered pertaining to medications, practice of medicine, local city details and at times, questions about life itself. In this regard one of our alumni has also been active in matchmaking which I think is a work of great reward.

A lot of work and time is being spent to help young DCMS graduates who are pursuing residency. The amount of time, effort and planning that goes into this kind of work is tremendous. I like to thank the team, each member of them, on behalf of DAANA in this regard. May the Almighty reward you for your good deeds.

We had two wonderful gatherings of friends from our college both in Dallas and Chicago. All of this came with world class CME programs paired with traditional Hyderabadi hospitality and its wonderful food. I would like to thank the organizers of both these events for doing a wonderful job.

As a community, we have also had some misunderstandings. Having been in the thick of it I can report very proudly that these misunderstandings have only made bonds of friendship even stronger among us.

My prayer to God at the end would be to have a vibrant community of physicians from DCMS who in the process of enjoying each other's company deliver help to the people who need it the most, in an effective and sustained manner. I would also pray that we do not get bogged down by petty politics and nonconstructive diversions.

Sincerely,

Raza Khan, MD

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dear fellow Deccanites,

I feel greatly honored and humbled by this opportunity to serve in Deccan Alumni Association of North America (DAANA). August 2017 marks one year of our existence. What an eventful first year it has been! The biggest pleasure for me has been reconnecting with alumni from across all batches.

Forming an alumni association had always been on the mind of DCMS graduates in North America. I still remember one of our earliest reunions which was held in Chicago in 1998-99. There were probably 40 alumni that attended that reunion. It was a great opportunity to reconnect with some of our senior college mates who were the pioneers of DCMS community in the US. We had talked about forming an alumni association even back then. Since then there have been smaller reunions but a much bigger one took place in Dallas, TX in August 2016. Prior to the Dallas reunion, there was frantic activity behind the scenes involving alumni from various batches to organize under one umbrella as DAANA. We had filed for a 501 (c) (3) status shortly before the event. We had also solicited names of alumni from various batches to form our first Board of Directors; these alumni were nominated by their peers and appointed by a board selection committee. It was at the Dallas 2016 Reunion that DAANA was officially launched. It was a momentous occasion and culmination of a long and arduous process. In 2017, we had an even bigger and well organized reunion in Chicago, IL attended by several hundred alumni.

The formation of this organization was a well-coordinated team effort. We wanted to make sure we followed all legal formalities during this process. We hired a lawyer experienced in non-profit organization set-up to help us formulate our bylaws and administrative framework. In addition to an eleven-member BOD, we also appointed a few other committees. The most active of which has been the Mentorship Committee. Shortly afterwards we launched our website [www.daanadcms.com](http://www.daanadcms.com) with the help of a professional website developer. We established social media presence with a Facebook page as well as a Twitter account, in order to reach the maximum number of alumni globally.

The excitement and involvement from DCMS alumni across the world has been phenomenal ever since. Their energy and enthusiasm has truly taken this organization to a new level in just one short year and I truly believe that sky is the limit from hereon. I have had the opportunity

to interact and meet with outstanding, highly accomplished alumni from all batches of DCMS and it's been one of the most rewarding experience for me personally. What has impressed me most is everyone's sincere desire and passion for giving back to their community and DCMS family.

Beyond organizing reunions, CME's and cultural activities our mission is to help DCMS alumni who are starting their training here in the US and to help the underprivileged sections of society here and in Hyderabad. We strive to remain apolitical and nondenominational, we welcome all alumni as equals in this organization. The Mentorship Committee was formed specifically with the intent of helping DCMS graduates commencing their training in the US. The committee has already helped several alumni with residency applications, interviews, personal statements, finding electives and observership etc. We have recently launched DAANA Grant Program that offers financial assistance to deserving alumni.

Through the mentorship committee we have established observership programs across the US where recent DCMS graduates can gain clinical experience. We have partnered with DCMS administration to educate medical students about these opportunities that are available to them. We have developed partnerships with liaisons in UK, Australia, Middle East and India to organize our regional efforts more effectively. We have formed a CME committee geared towards organizing educational CME's during our events.

In the coming years, I look forward to accomplishing our immediate goals as well as initiating new projects. It has been extremely heartening to see so many alumni volunteering their time and effort towards this organization. The first few formative years are always the toughest for any organization and we continue to learn from our successes as well as mistakes. At the end of the day it is encouraging to see that we all are working towards the same goal and I see a bright future ahead for DAANA.

Best regards,

M Taruj Ali, MD



## DAANA ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT Aug 2016 – Sep 2017

### INCOME/DONATIONS:

2016

• Account set up	100
• Donor 1	2500
• Donor 2	2500
• Donor 3	3050
• Donor 4	2000
• Donor 5	1500
• Donor 6	1000
• Donor 7	1000
• Donor 8	100
• PayPal Dallas Reunion CME	196.87

2017

• Donor 9	1000
• Donor 10	2500
• Donor 11	2000
• Donor 12	10000 (DAANA Grant)
• Donor 13	500 (Harvey relief)
• Donor 14	1000 (Harvey relief)
• PayPal Donations (<100)	275

**TOTAL INCOME/DONATIONS:**

**\$ 31221.87**

**EXPENSES/PAYOUTS:**

2016

• Attorney fees for 501 c 3	2675
• IRS Fee	275
• Hayat Clinic Donation	2500
• Website Hosting 2 Yr	203.39
• Business Account Bank fee	60
• Post Box Fee 1 Yr	64
• Postal supplies	14.90

2017

• Website developer fees	1800
• Website plug-in	39.95
• Harvey Relief – Houston	1500
• 2018 DAANA-DCMS Reunion location deposit	4000
• PayPal fees	149.35
• Wire Transfer fees	43

**TOTAL EXPENSES/PAYOUTS** \$ 13324.59

**CURRENT BANK BALANCE (as of 9/10/17)** \$ 17897.28

## MENTORSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

DAANA's mission is to serve the underprivileged and foster collaborative relationships between the alumni through educational, cultural and philanthropic activities. DAANA mentorship committee was constituted in August 2016 with the above mission to assist our alumni navigate the residency match and beyond. We provide help with reviewing applications, personal statements and offer interview guidance as well as career counselling.

DAANA Mentors are alumni who have successfully completed US residency and fellowship programs, are accomplished in their respective specialties and many have an academic background. Our mentorship committee is under the stewardship of Dr. Mohammed Moizuddin (BOD '88) and Chair-Elect Dr. Baseer Qazi (BOD '96), and they are ably assisted by about 30 active mentors. All incoming alumni applications are reviewed and volunteer mentors are assigned to the candidates, who then guide and follow them closely during the application and residency match cycle. The mentors report back to the committee on a regular basis to receive any additional feedback and assistance as required for the candidates. Dr. Moizuddin updates the DAANA Board of Directors during their scheduled teleconferences and follows up on their recommendations.

DAANA has developed Clinical Observership/Externship Programs for alumni who are looking for US based clinical experience. This has been specifically designed for alumni holding ECFMG certification or those who will receive the same within 4-8 weeks. Unfortunately, we do not offer any assistance in visa/immigration issues at this time. The alumni are responsible for arranging their lodging and travel expenses and we provide local assistance/guidance if needed anytime. At this time, we have established these clinical programs in Virginia, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, Urbana Champaign, IL and plan to expand it to other cities soon. We are currently offering clinical experience in General Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Geriatrics, Cardiology, Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine, Sleep Medicine and Nephrology. All alumni are required to register on our website [www.daanadcms.com](http://www.daanadcms.com) and email their requests and current curriculum vitae to [dcmsmentors@gmail.com](mailto:dcmsmentors@gmail.com). We also intend in the near future to assist alumni who are still in medical school in finding suitable student externship programs. DAANA mentorship committee has prepared general guidelines, application forms and framework for evaluation and issuance of letters of recommendations for candidates who successfully complete our program.

DAANA mentorship committee provided assistance to approximately 10 alumni in the inception

year 2016-17 match cycle. We had 4 candidates who successfully matched in their desired specialties. The committee met physically during our May 2017 Chicago reunion and critically went through the process to streamline it for better success in the future. We have so far received 9 applicants for next academic year (July 2018) and anticipate receiving at least 20+ in the next few days before start of the current match cycle. We intend to expand DAANA clinical observership/externship program to five more centers and look forward to inviting more volunteer members to this committee. We encourage alumni to also participate in other ways by providing local assistance for our applicants during their clinical training, travel and interview process. We have received a substantial financial pledge from a DCMS alumnus to help support any deserving applicants and the board of directors are working on providing a framework for this process.

Sincerely,

Mohammed Moizuddin, MD



## DAANA GRANT PROGRAM

In August 2017, Deccan Alumni Association of North America launched their grant program to benefit DCMS alumni who are applying for residency in the US. The launch of this program was made possible by a generous donation from Dr. Essam Quraishi ('94) and contributions from several other alumni.

Graduates of DCMS make substantial efforts to pursue graduate medical education in USA. Many graduates have limited financial and other resources as they continue to hustle and engage in activities to increase their chances of matching. Furthermore, the application process and the interviews pose a financial burden on graduates who typically have no definite source of income. Many graduates cannot maximize their opportunities because of limited financial resources. Graduates of USA medical schools are eligible for US bank loans to cover these costs. This is not available for graduates of DCMS.

This program was launched to provide financial assistance to cover these costs for deserving DCMS graduates. The amount of the interest-free grant is currently \$2000 per candidate. The grant money could be used to cover travel expenses, boarding & lodging, application fees and other related expenses. We have established clear guidelines to help determine who qualifies for the grant. A grant review committee scores each application objectively to determine a candidate's eligibility.

We would like to expand this program in the coming years to benefit more incoming alumni and hope to make this a self-sustained program in the future, wherein candidates who benefited from the program become its future patrons.

Details of the program can be found in a separate document available through DAANA-DCMS website.

DAANA BOD

## DAANA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[daanabod@gmail.com](mailto:daanabod@gmail.com)

WWW.DAANADCMS.COM

Raza Khan, MD *President* ('84)

M Taruj Ali, MD *Secretary* ('90)

Iqbal Kapadia, MD *Treasurer* ('85)

Khaudeja Bano, MD ('86)

Mohammed Moizuddin, MD ('88)

Aijaz Khan, MD ('88)

Yasmin Ansari, MD ('90)

Qutub Khan, MD ('92)

Ismail Shakaib, MD ('93)

Gulam Ali Akhter Noorani, MD ('94)

Mujahid Ali Syed, MD ('94)

Baseer Qazi, MD ('96)

Jabeen Taj, MD ('97)

Wase Qawi, MD (BOD 2016)