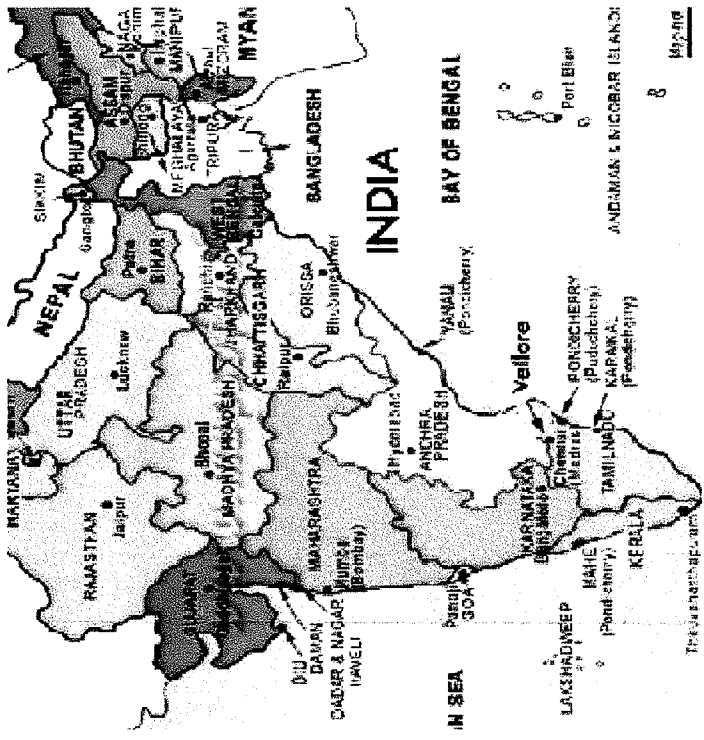


ASInRI

Volunteer to Vellore



The Vellore Christian Medical College Board
475 Riverside Drive Ste 243
New York, NY 10115
1-800-875-6370
usaboard@vellorecmc.org
www.vellorecmc.org

VOLUNTEER TO VELLORE

The Christian Medical College in Vellore, India (CMC) is a major college and teaching hospital in South India which welcomes health professionals from around the world as volunteers.

What each volunteer can do will vary with the needs of the hospital and college and the level of expertise offered. CMC is on the cutting edge of medicine in India with a number of firsts from the first open heart surgery and first kidney transplant in India to the first to test for HIV in blood and being screening for the virus.

CMC is also recognized for its research, and five of the 11 Indian labs named as Centers of Excellence by the Indian Council of Medical Research are at CMC in Vellore. Its Community Health Programs, CHAD, RUSHA, and CONCH are internationally renowned.

Considering its goal for excellence in its mission to provide the best possible care to the disabled, those disadvantaged and those least able to afford quality care, particularly women and children, CMC



is especially interested in health care professionals who can offer a high level of expertise and have a genuine desire to make a contribution to the truly needy and less fortunate. As a major hospital and medical college, there are possibilities in all areas of health care for a volunteer. The program, however, is a strictly volunteer one in which the volunteer pays all his/her own costs including transportation to Vellore, lodging and living expenses. (Relatively inexpensive lodging is usually available on campus.)

The Vellore Board helps expedite the program for volunteers from the USA by providing information and acting as an intermediary between the volunteer and CMC staff. Those interested in volunteering should write the U.S. Board detailing their professional background (send a C.V.), and indicate, in a covering letter: what they would like to do at CMC, when they

would like to go, and how long they would like to stay. Volunteers can go for any length of time from a few days for a highly specialized lecture or help in some procedure to several months. Generally, because of visa restrictions, the longest period is six months. The government of India does not encourage hands on practice of medicine by non-nationals, especially those physicians who are "tourists." Medical registration (license) is generally not being granted to visitors or tourists. This is not a problem for most other health professionals. Volunteers can contribute in a wide variety of fulfilling and valuable ways including doctors who can participate in rounds and clinics, see patients and advise on care, give lectures, and participate in seminars.

If you would like to volunteer, or would like to discuss the program, please contact Philip Ansalone at the Vellore Board. Please see the contact information in this brochure for specific information. Picture: Overview of Hospital Campus

Medical Student Elective Program

The Christian Medical College in Vellore, India, has an elective program for medical students that attracts medical students from around the world. Some 80 to 100 students per year participate in the program with as many as 20 to 25 from the United States.

The program itself is rather flexible, aimed at students in their fourth or final year of medical school. Essentially, the foreign students joins their Indian counterpart at the medical college in the course of study that interests them. The College allows up to three months for foreign students with official government approval. Those who come as student observers can stay up to four weeks with the possibility of extending it an additional two weeks at another, associated school/hospital

To be recognized as an official participant in the elective program and receive certification from CMC, permission must be obtained from both the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Medical Council of India. This takes from 6 to 8 months, so students considering applying for the program should do so with that lead time in mind. If a student wishes to go to CMC/Vellore for the elective program but there isn't sufficient time to get the permission in advance, they should contact the Vellore Board USA office to find out what other options might available.

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There is one other area worth noting, and that is doing research in India. Some students are interested in being involved in some study or project while in India. However, there is some historical sensitivity to foreign nationals coming to India to do research projects of their own, collect specimens, and write up and publish the results without any reference to Indian counterparts or co-investigators or any transfer of technology. There are government restrictions which must be met.

If you are thinking of a research component to your experience at Vellore, you should contact the Vellore Board USA which can explain the policies and restrictions and put you in touch with the appropriate people to help plan and approve such an experience.

The Vellore Board USA helps to facilitate the program specifically for medical students in the USA and Canada. If you are interested in more information or have questions, you can write or send email to Philip Ansalone (please be sure to include your postal address) and he will send you further information.

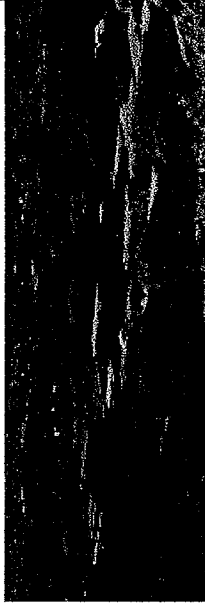
We also have copies of the necessary forms if you are interested in applying. We can help you start the process by sending you the application forms to apply to the College. Students from other countries can write directly to the Dr. Jayaprakash Muliyl, Principal, Christian Medical College, Vellore 632

"The trip contributed to my medical education by showing me how with really minimal resources, one could still help people get better. All of the objectives that I had for the trip were met and more by the site and the people there."

David FitzGerald, Univ. of Mass. Med. Sch.

Medical Student Elective Program

College Campus in Bagayam



Medical Student Brian Kim with child on visit to village with Community Health team.



Medical Student Tina Meyer meeting the locals on a day off.



"... I loved my elective experience. ... I learned an incredible amount about the culture, healthcare system and diseases not often seen in the US through my both clinical observations and discussions with healthcare staff."

Tina Meyer, Cornell