

GEORGE SUBRAJ FUNDS ANOTHER KIDNEY TRANSPLANT

Donates Ambulance to Dr. Balwant Singh's Hospital in Guyana

BY RICHARD B. MAHASE

This is not a reprint!

George Subraj, President of Zara Realty Holding Corp. has indeed sponsored another kidney transplantation at the Dr. Balwant Singh Hospital, East Street, Georgetown, Guyana. And while there George also took the opportunity to officially hand over a fully-equipped ambulance which he purchased for the institution.

Mark David of Anna Catherina, West Coast Demerara, is now rapidly recuperating after suffering with End Stage Renal Failure for the past five years. The father of two was speechless after the successful surgery knowing that very shortly he would be able to resume his normal life, free of time-consuming, painstaking, expensive, constant dialysis!

Surgery was done on Wednesday, August 31.

David, a Certified Accountant said that he is also now in life-long debt to his close friend Raymond Bacchus, who donated one of his kidneys for the surgery. Both patients are from Anna Catherina, WCD.

Once again it was the untiring and selfless Dr. Rahul Jindal with Dr. Arthur Womble who led the medical team which included: Dr Steven Guy, Dr Alden Doyle, Dr David Oliver, Dr Amit Verma, Dr Vineet Naja, Dr Aashish Chavan and Chelsea Guy. The team also treated 132 patients and conducted 5 other surgeries on patients with kidney related illnesses.

And as on the many occasions that

the renowned philanthropist George Subraj sponsored such critical medical mission, it was again coordinated by Mr. Lake Persaud.

Astonishingly Mark David's successful operation was the fifth sponsored by George Subraj since July, 2008 – Munesh Mangal, 18; Gopinath Rampersaud, 33; Alan Roberio, 55 and Rory Hamilton, 55 – are the others.

George has made many other trips to Guyana as he fervently continues to assist the sick and underprivileged. Asked why, as this seems to be a perpetual trek, the tall realtor said, "helping one person in need doesn't end pain or poverty. It's a continuous process. Even if you help a million today, tomorrow you should try to do the same or more. In trying to assist, one should not look at the numbers but what the support means to that individual, his family and the community."

"I am always thinking about ways to bring health to the sick and education to the poor. The majority of the people in the world are suffering because of poor nutrition, diseases and illiteracy. It is no different in Guyana. So the more we can assist and put these people on a productive path it is the more beneficial they would become for themselves and the country. Countries with strong, committed, creative workforce like the USA,

England, Canada, just to name a few, are way ahead of the rest of world. These countries invested first in their human resource and today they are the leaders on the planet. Similarly, it is the same thinking I am trying to introduce in Guyana. The only difference being I am not only thinking of it but physically and financially getting involved. Every few weeks I am there interacting and listening to those who are sick or those that have a dream and wish to pursue it," said the senior Subraj of Zara Realty Holding Corp.

Mark David, 37, said he would also now be eternally grateful to George Subraj and was relieved that unlike his dad who died with End Stage Renal Failure, he is able to receive the kindness of Guyanese humanitarian and the medical personnel. "The doctors who came were all very kind, caring and professional. They looked into every detail of surgery and explained everything minutely. Being in there care was extremely reassuring. It was like clockwork. They wiped away any fear or apprehen-

sion and it all happened as they said it would," David said.

George also indicated that even though Mark

experiences the generosity of Bacchus and is buoyed that such kindheartedness still exists. It is a message to all. Helping others in time of

George.

AMBULANCE

George Subraj, on one of his previous visits to the Dr. Balwant Singh Hospital earlier in the year, was told of the urgent need of an ambulance to serve Georgetown and its immediate environs. This being ascertained Mr. Subraj returned to the states and made the purchase.

The Balwant Singh's Hospital named after the father and prominent doctor of Guyana was recently built by his son, Dr. Balwant Singh Jr. The site of the hospital was originally the office of his father's practice and today Dr. Balwant Singh Jr., is proud of the strides his dad made in the medical field for decades building a platform for the family to continue the tradition.

"Some patients of my dad still come here and remind us of his care and professionalism. It is this same distinguished service that we are continu-



Philanthropist George Subraj, and kidney transplant patient Mark David.

David and Raymond Bacchus are not related, "virtual strangers biologically, Bacchus's kidney was a very good match and the surgery proceeded smoothly. It was the first time in Guyana since we have been doing this procedure that the patient and the donor are not related.

"Immediately one expe-

need is not only about large sums of money. There is so much we can do as individuals: from teaching a child to read a book or donating a vital organ to save the life of someone else can make the difference in so many ways. This without actually expending any funds. This is the core of selfless service," said

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George Subraj donated this fully-equipped ambulance to Dr. Balwant Singh Hospital in Georgetown, Guyana.



RECEIVING PLAQUES FROM GUYANA'S PRESIDENT BHARAT JAGDEO: (l-r) Dr Rahul Jindal, Mr. Lake Persaud and Mr. George Subraj

ing," said Dr. Singh, Jr.

Dr. Balwant Singh's Hospital Inc. is a 50 bed acute care hospital. Its specialty care includes laparoscopic surgery, haemodialysis, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Ophthalmology, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery; family centred maternal and child health services, general and vascular surgery, modern intensive care centres, orthopaedics, and advanced diagnostic services including CT Scan and 3D Ultrasound. An extensive array of outpatient services including same day surgery is also available according their web page.

The hospital which has one hundred and forty full time staff, including 25 trained nurses and 14 doctors, is a medical institution devoted to providing quality health care with unrelenting attention to clinical excellence, patient safety, unparalleled passion and dedication to assure the very best healthcare for those we serve according to its mission statement.

"With this ambulance we are truly going to fulfil another important aspect of our service," said Dr. Singh Jr.

"Mr. Subraj's gener-

osity touches us all. This ambulance is equipped to serve the community. We have also completed the training of the staff and the ambulance is already on the road.

"We are taking calls from Georgetown and the east and west coast of Demerara – as far as Parika. Already we are seeing results of this ambulance. Additionally, our trained staffs on the ambulance evaluate each patient before they actually bring them in and start treatment immediately. So it is a great service that cuts in on the waiting period and brings assistance promptly," said Dr. Singh Jr.

According to Dr. Singh Jr., over the years, "we have added numerous clinical services to meet the great demand of our customers through extensive research. We are pleased to be the first medical hospital locally to offer Haemodialysis at our institution. Haemodialysis is a method for removing waste products such as Creatinine and urea, as well as free water from the blood when the kidneys are in failure. Haemodialysis is one of three renal replacement therapies (the other two being renal transplant; peritoneal dialysis).

"We provide dialysis under the direct supervision

of our specialized physicians who take total care and responsibility for associated medical conditions such as diabetes and heart conditions which are frequently associated with renal problems," said Dr. Singh Jr.

"And so apart from the ambulance, the doctors who accompany Mr Subraj on these trips offer invaluable assistance and expertise. They bring the latest information in kidney care that helps us so much. I am glad also that Dr. Jindal has proposed a number of programs which will continue to educate both our staff and the patients. This kind of wisdom about lifestyle changes will certainly help us and we are looking forward to working with him to implement same as soon as possible.

"Mr. George Subraj and his team have completed four transplantations here and all these patients are doing well. The collaborative effort between our hospital and the experienced, skilled medical team made possible by George Subraj and Zara Realty Corp., has gone way beyond just surgery. In many areas they are assisting and we are extremely grateful. This is not only valuable to us here at the hospital but for Guyana as a whole.

"In conclusion it's not

just an ambulance that Mr. Subraj has gifted us. He assists kidney patients of every age and ethnicity who cannot afford overseas surgery. He imports some of

the best medical minds in the field to perform the surgery and even look into the patient's medication personally.

Mr. Subraj and his team

is now a large part of our hospital's success in kidney care and we are proud of this association," said Dr. Balwant Singh Jr.



George Subraj and Lake Persaud, with earlier patient Rory Hamilton and family.



(l-r) Mr. Lake Persaud, Mr. George Subraj and Dr Balwant Singh