IAPA AND CHILDS TRUST IN CHENNAI, INDIA

The International Alliance for the Prevention of AIDS (IAPA) is an NGO co-founded by a former UCLA Pediatric Resident, Sanjay Sinha. IAPA’s aim is to work with partners in Chennai to provide medical education and training on HIV/AIDS in an effort to improve the delivery of clinical care to HIV positive persons in Chennai.

Since 2011, IAPA has run a children’s nutrition project to provide improved care for HIV positive orphaned children. These children receive monthly visits with a physician, nutrition screening, monthly nutritional supplementation, referral services if needed, and education on health and hygiene.

UCLA residents will assist IAPA in improving pediatric educational and assessment tools, although specific projects may vary from year to year. Additional advocacy opportunities may include working with a local hospital to provide community education on injury prevention, basic first aid, hygiene, and other community outreach including on child health topics not related to HIV/AIDS.

The clinical experience in Chennai will be at the Child Trust Hospital under the supervision of Dr. Bala Ramachandran, a board-certified pediatric intensivist. Dr. Bala received his PICU training at Cook County in Chicago and is now the hospital director at Kanchi Kamakoti Childs Trust Hospital. The hospital is a free-standing 250 bed children’s hospital with 14 pediatric residents and 7 PICU fellows each year. The residency program here is one of India’s largest programs and has a very high board exam pass rate.
Residents will round with the general pediatric team on the wards and in afternoons can participate in the resident community clinic outreach mobile clinics and in teaching and board review classes. Residents can also spend a week in the PICU and assist on transport, which generally occurs three times per week. During the clinical rotation, UCLA residents can do teaching including case rounds and journal clubs. Average days for residents will typically consist of rounding at Child’s Trust in the morning, attending educational sessions, and working on projects with IAPA in the afternoon. A site fee of 10,000Rs (~$150 US) is required for the month long rotation.

Housing is at the CSI Guest House located in the heart of Chennai, with easy access to shopping, restaurants, and conveniently located within a short rickshaw ride from IAPA offices and Child’s Trust hospital. The rooms are comfortable with air-conditioning, television, refrigerator, and slow wi-fi (on some floors). Housing is approximately $30 per night for a 2-bed room.

Application Details:
- Maximum residents to be accommodated is 2 residents at a time once per year.
- The best time to go is November-January. Other times of the year are also ok but April through August is very hot.
- No language requirement.
- Approximate expenses $1,750.

Supervising Faculty Mentor: Dr. Bala Ramachndaran. Childs Trust Hospital 12-A Nageswara Road Nungambakkam
Chennai - 600 034

Logistics Coordination (Housing and Advocacy Work): IAPA #8 II Floor Officers’ Colony I Street Metha Nagar
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