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[www.dmausa.org](http://www.dmausa.org)



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Vinod Kondoor

## President's Message

**A**s the year ends, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude to all the supporters of Detroit Malayalee Association and would like to reflect on our accomplishments this year. 2023 is a year like one of the years before COVID pandemic and we were able to meet with friends and families and take part in events without any pandemic fatigue or worries.

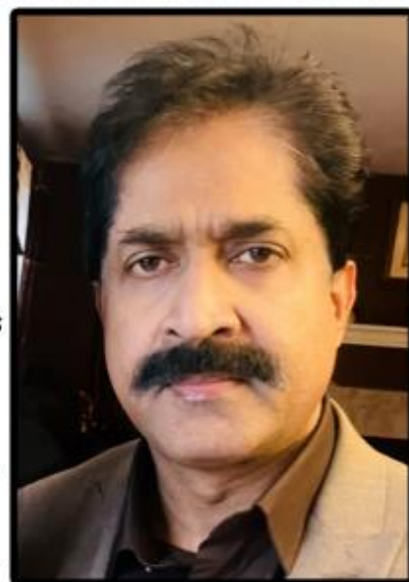
In September this year we had the Onam 'Polika' event which will remain in our memories for ever. We had served delicious Kerala style Onam Sadhya to about 550 people and that was followed 3 hours of non-stop entertainment. The event was an outcome of more than 2 months of dedicated practice and rehearsals by the DMA team. We also had scholarships awarded to 2 deserving candidates during the Onam event.

Before the Onam event we also had a "High On Music" Star show and Picnic and both of these events were mentioned in the August edition of Dhvani. Both were memorable events too. In addition to the above entertainment events we also conducted various charity and community outreach events to name a few - Blood drive in partnership with St. Thomas Syro Malabar church and Versiti, Adopt a road highway cleaning, Habitat for humanity home renovation, Sponsoring and Serving dinner at William Davis charity center in Pontiac, Volunteering at Gleaners food bank, our women's forum volunteering at St Pope Francis charity center in Detroit, Our Youth forum conducting a greening of Detroit project, Volunteering at soup kitchen, assembling and distribution of hygiene kits to the underprivileged, writing and distributing encouragement letters to the meals on wheels seniors. In addition to the volunteering, we had donated a significant charity amount to the needy both in India as well as locally within the U.S. For all the work that was done I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Executive committee, women's forum, Youth forum and each and every volunteer who took part in these events. I'm also glad that our youth forum President distributed recognition certificates to all the youth forum members who volunteered in the charity and outreach events and that will serve as a motivation for making new strides and bringing in more young volunteers who can do wonderful thing for the community and at the same time such acts will bring exponential growth potential from self-confidence and leadership point of views. Would like to thank all the sponsors of DMA for their generous contributions without which nothing would have been possible this year.

As we look to the new year, we are excited to build on our successes and I take this opportunity to congratulate the new 2024 OB team. On behalf of the 2023 OB team, wishing all success to the new 2024 OB team.

Thank you again for your unwavering support.  
Wishing you a Merry Christmas, joyous holiday season  
and a happy, healthy new year.

Sreekumar Kambath

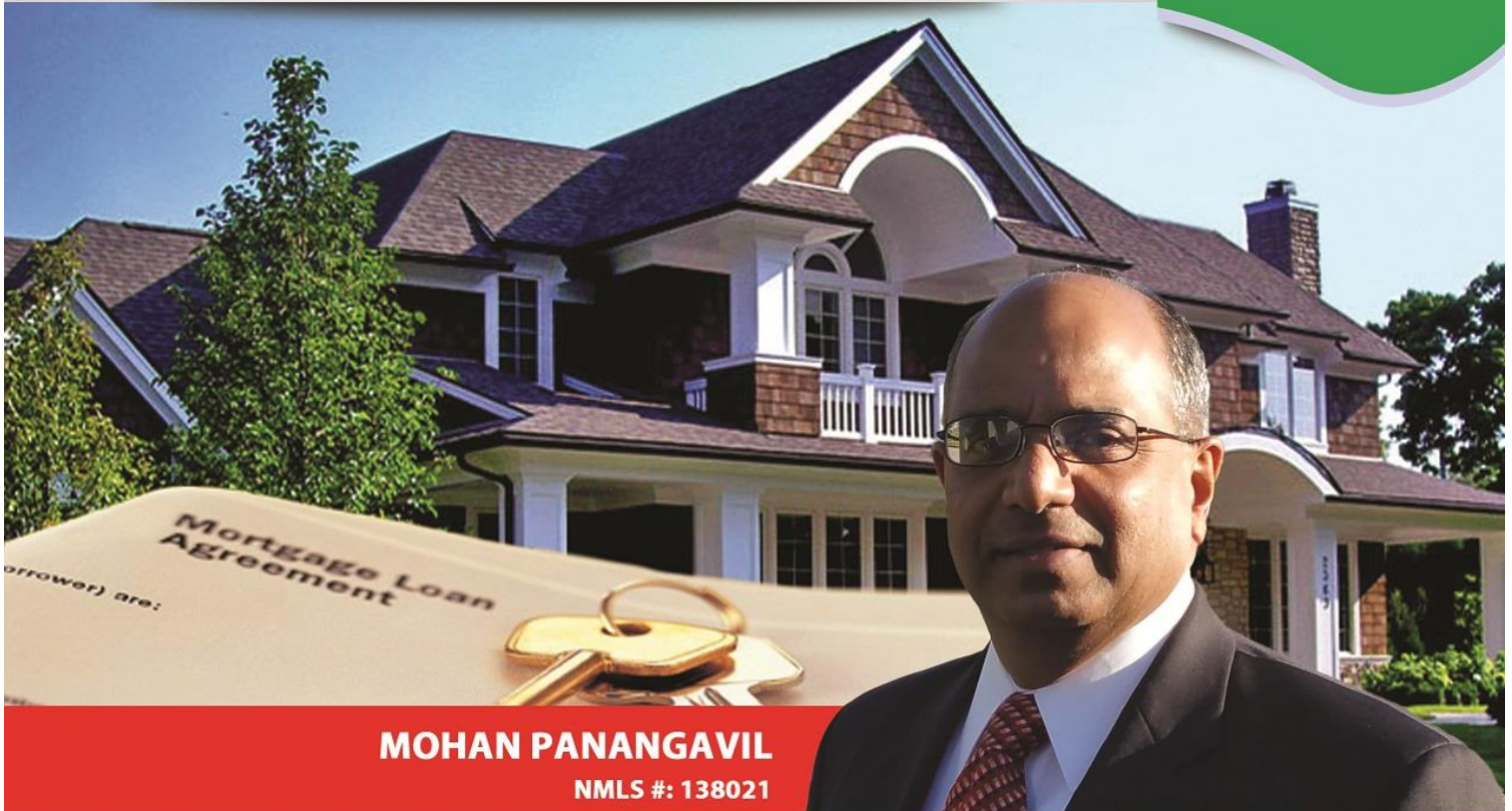






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Christmas 2023

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

### DMA's Journey for the Year 2023



**Praveen Nair**  
General Secretary

As in the past years, the year 2023 has been a very successful year for Detroit Malayalee Association and for all Malayalees across Metro Detroit. DMA conducted several captivating events throughout the year for Malayalees in and around the Detroit Metro area.

The year began with taking charge by the new Office Bearers on January 1<sup>st</sup>. It was a very successful year for DMA with the help of all hard-working office bearers, executive committee members, women's forum members, board of trustees, and youth forum, and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the DMA team for a very successful year for Detroit Malayalee Association. Following is a quick recap of our major initiatives, events, and programs that took place during the past 12 months.

We celebrated 2022 Christmas with a grand program named as "Divya Thaarakam" at St. Thomas Syro Malabar Church on December 17th. More than 150 families attended the event, which featured a wonderful Christmas Nativity Show, Christmas Carol, Arrival of Santa Claus, Music Medley, Cultural programs, and a delicious buffet. The highlight of the evening was the drama "Panchara Thankachante Christmas Raavu" directed by Sri. Bobby Alappatt. The event was a huge success and received positive feedback from everyone. Praveen Nair coordinated the event successfully with assistance from the DMA family.

You can watch the highlights of our Christmas Programs, scanning the QR code.

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## 2022 Christmas Celebration

Christmas 2023



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Christmas 2023

## Valentine's Day Celebration

DMA started the year 2023 activities with the Valentine's Day - Family fiesta "Taj Dreamzz" on 18th of February, and the program was coordinated by Sri. Libin John and DMA Women's Forum. This was an evening of love and laughter. We also celebrated the Milestone Birthday of our EC Member Sri. Thomas Karthanal. There were various games, entertainment programs, a photo booth special buffet of Indian delicacies, along with wine and desserts. The highlight of the event was the satirical skit "Sthree Shaktheekaranam" directed by Sri. Saijan Joseph. You can watch the highlights by scanning the QR code on the side.



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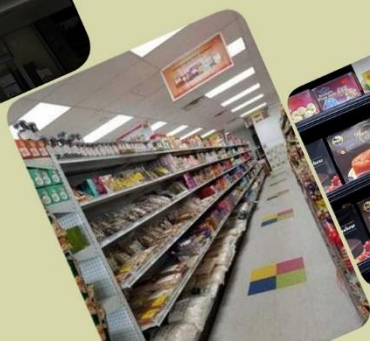
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DETROIT MALAYALEE ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

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Venue : 17235 Mt Vernon St, Southfield, MI 48075

Games, Skit, Music, Food & above all ... LOVE IS ALL AROUND ... RSVP Today



## International Women's Day Celebration

DMA Women's Forums kickstarted their activities with International Women's Day Celebration on March 11th. The event was coordinated by Women's Forum President Smt. Boni Koithara and Secretary Smt. Priya Krishnan. There were games and activities to engage the Members and the team discussed the activities planned for the year 2023.



## Blood Donation Drive 2023

Community Outreach is in the DNA of DMA. DMA in association with St. Thomas Syro Malabar Church, Southfield organised a Blood Donation Drive on April 29 to kickstart our charity and



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community outreach events for this year. The event was coordinated by Sri. Vinod Kondoor and it was done in partnership with Versiti. The event was a huge success and more than 50 people signed up for the Blood donation drive. DMA wants to thank all the people who signed for this noble cause.



St. Thomas Syro Malabar Church and Detroit Malayalee Association Organizes

## COMMUNITY BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

April 29 10:00 AM - 02:00 PM



**DONATE BLOOD**



**DONATE LIFE**



Location:  
St. Thomas Syro Malabar Catholic Church,  
17235 Mt. Vernon St, Southfield, MI - 48075



## High On Music 2023

After the superhit "High on Music" Show in 2022, DMA organized High On Music 2023 with popular singers Vidhu Prathap, Jyotsna, Sachin Warriar and Arya Dhayal. This was another successful show for DMA this year. DMA EC Members Sri. Rajesh Kutty and Sri. Noble Thomas were the leads for this event. The event was held on May 19 @ Henry Ford II Performing Arts Center in Sterling Heights. DMA wants to thank our sponsors and the Malayalee community for making it a successful show.





## Habitat for Humanity Project

DMA and Habitat for Humanity believes that everyone deserves a decent place to live, and we partnered with Habitat for Humanity on July 1st, to rehab a home in Eastpointe, Michigan. The event was coordinated by DMA EC Members Sri. Sanju Koithara and Sri. Noble Thomas. DMA EC and Youth forum members along with the Habitat team spent a day to rehab the home for a low-income family.





## Summer Picnic 2023

DMA's Annual Summer picnic was held on 15th July at Firefighters Park, Troy. The event was coordinated by DMA's past presidents and lead by Sri. Rojan Thomas. It was a fun-filled day with Barbeque specialties, "Naadan" Kerala food, face painting, fun games including Tug of war and Chess exhibition. This was a very successful event as many new members from the Malayalee community in Detroit came for the picnic. Scan the QR code to watch the highlights of our Summer Picnic.







## Adopt a Road

One of DMA's ongoing initiatives for the past 10 years, is the Adopt a Road program, where DMA Members volunteer to clean up our designated stretch of the road (Dequinder Road between 14 mile & Big Beaver on the East Side and Novi Road between 8 mile and Grand River on the West side). The event was coordinated by DMA EC Members Sri. Sanju Koithara (East Side) and Sri. Sam Mathew (West Side). As part of the event DMA Members cleaned up the designated stretch of



the roads and thus giving back to the community, we live in. We believe that our community outreach events make us stand out from other community organizations.



## Volunteer Work @ Pop Francis Center

DMA believes that “Service to the humanity is service to God”. DMA Women’s Forum Members did the volunteer work @Pope Francis Center, Detroit on August 12th. The Center provides vital services to individuals experiencing homelessness. They welcome nearly 200 guests per day and provide them, nutritious meals and other services including access to the doctors, dentists, lawyers, and housing. DMA is Thankful to Pope Francis Center for this opportunity and looking forward for more in the future. WF also collected gently used winter clothes for the homeless. And donated the collected items to Pope Francis Center during the Christmas holidays.





Christmas 2023



## Participation in the ILA India Day Parade

Detroit Malayalee Association joined hands with ILA on the India Independence Day celebrations at Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi on August 19, 2023.







Christmas 2023

## DMA Onam 2023 - POLIKA

The name for DMA's 2023 Onam Program was selected through a naming contest and Mrs. Dhanya Sreejith was selected as the winner of the contest for suggesting the name "Polika". "Polika 2023", was a very successful and well-coordinated under the leadership of Chairperson Saijan Kaniyodikal Joseph and was held on September 16, 2023, at Henry Ford II Performing Arts Center, Sterling Heights. The program was a new take connecting the myth, melody and rhythms of Onam and was organized in to five chapters viz. The Colors and The king, The Melodies, The Rhythms and The Country. The programs were of high quality and the crowd was so appreciative of Saijan's and our local artist's efforts to come up with a wonderful show that was highlighting the various art forms such as Bollywood fusion dances and music performances by local artists, Bharathanatyam, Festive Songs, Asoka - a dance drama, Mohiniyattam, Kalarippayattu, Ottamthullal, Thiruvathira and the highlight of the show was the drama, "Vande Bharatham" presented as part of Chapter 5 – The country. The drama, which was based on a true story was directed by Sri. Saijan Kaniyodikal. Onam Program videos are available in DMA's official YouTube channel and can be accessed by scanning the QR Code below.



Chapter 1  
The Colors



Chapter 2  
The King



Chapter 3  
The Melodies



Chapter 4  
The Rhythms



Chapter 5  
The Country



Prior to the entertainment programs, we served our signature Onasadya. This year we served Onasadya to 500+ guests which were led by Biju Joseph and Sanju Koithara. Our executive members were instrumental to help serving the Onasadya to our guests.





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The cultural events were kickstarted at the venue entrance with chenda melam led by Rajesh Nair. The procession and welcoming Maveli was coordinated by Ajith Ayyampilly. This year our Maveli, Sri. Paul Kuriakose arrived in a Rolls Royce Cullinan. Our guests thoroughly enjoyed all these cultural programs.

DMA executive members, women's forum and youth forum members were instrumental in coordinating various activities for the Onam event and this collective effort made Polika 2023 as one the Best Onam event for Detroit Malayalee Association.









Christmas 2023

## DMA Scholarship 2023

DMA's Scholarship program continued this year under the leadership of Gigi Paul along with the team members Madhu Nair, Mathews Cheruvil, Osborne David, and Shalini Jayaprakash. Madhu Nair was an integral part of the committee who was instrumental in validating the applications, tallying each applicant's scores, reaching out to all participants to clarify their questions, etc.

George Elengikal and Anand Brijesh were selected as the winners for DMA Scholarship 2023 and both received \$1,000 as the prize money. The awards were sponsored by Koshy George and Kuriakose Paul.

**DETROIT MALAYALEE ASSOCIATION**

# Scholarship 2023

A highly educated Indian Malayalee population is vital for the prosperity of the US Indian community within the state of Michigan.

**For application & more information:**  
visit [www.dmausa.org](http://www.dmausa.org)

**2022 Recipients**

Archana Chandran

Christian Thomas

Kevin Mathews

### ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP

In order to motivate the students, DMA will provide educational scholarships (\$1000) to those who have close social and cultural ties to the Malayalee community in the state.

**Deadline to apply:**  
July 15th, 2023

### Eligibility Criteria

Students who demonstrate either Academic merit or active community involvement or other notable achievements in any field will be eligible to receive this scholarship. Prospective students should submit an online application detailing their academic details and other achievements along with a personal statement. Students are required to submit one reference to vouch the student's achievements.

### Rules & Regulations

- \* Completed DMA Scholarship application Form
- \* Must be a High School Senior
- \* One of the parents should be Malayalee origin and Michigan resident.
- \* Cumulative GPA 3.0 or above
- \* SAT, ACT or any Standardized test scores
- \* Letter of reference
- \* Details of other achievements or awards
- \* Personal statement

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## DMA Scholarship Recipients - 2023



### George Elengikal

George Elengikal (S/o Sajan George & Tessy Sajan) graduated from Novi High School

“ I’m currently pursuing a BS in Computer Science at the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor. After graduating, I would like to pursue a career in software development, specifically a position related to artificial intelligence. I’m passionate about leadership and strive to be a good leader regardless of my role. In my free time, I like to listen to music, build puzzles, and meet new people.

”

Scholarship sponsored by: Koshy George

## DMA Scholarship Recipients - 2023



### Anand Brijesh

Anand Brijesh (S/o Brijesh Gopalakrishnan & Jayasree Brijesh) graduated from Novi High School

“ I am currently attending Wayne State University as a pre-med student majoring in Biology. I want to join the medical field as a surgeon and hope to gain experience conducting lab-based research and volunteering in downtown Detroit. I enjoy playing chess, practicing my violin, exercising, and being at home with my family.

”

Scholarship sponsored by: Kuriakose P Paul



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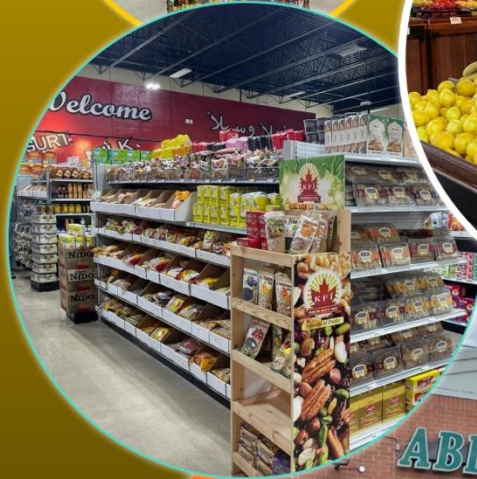
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Christmas 2023

## Youth Forum Volunteering Activity - The Greening of Detroit

DMA EC Members along with DMA Youth Forum members volunteered the Greening of Detroit Project on 10/14/2023. This initiative was led by DMA Youth Forum Chair, Aditya Kutty and many youth forum members participated in this event.



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## Volunteering Activity – Soup Kitchen

DMA EC Members volunteered with Soup Kitchen to provide Dinner and refreshments @ Williams Davis Center in Pontiac on 10/15/2023. This initiative was led by Rajesh Kutty.





## DMA Friendly Cricket Match

We conducted a friendly cricket match on October 29, 2023, between President VII vs. Vice President VII. This initiative was led by Rajesh Nair. Rajesh Nair and Sandeep Palakkal were the captains of the Teams. It was a fun-filled evening, and the winners were Vice president VII. After the game, we gathered at Bobby Thomas's backyard for an after-game party.





## Volunteering Activity – Gleaners Food Bank

DMA donated canned food @ Gleaners Food bank, Howell, MI on October 31, 2023. Rajesh Kutty led this effort for DMA.





## Thanksgiving Family Fiesta

DMA EC members and family celebrated the Thanksgiving dinner and family fiesta on Saturday, November 18, 2023, at Santhome Auditorium, Southfield. The theme and dress code for the evening was "Fall Colors". All families enjoyed a well-organized event. Various entertainment activities included games, songs, dance floor, and thanksgiving dinner. Rajesh Nair coordinated the event with the help from Women's Forum.





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## Youth Forum Volunteering Activity – Grace Centers of Hope

DMA Youth Forum members volunteered to work at the Grace Centers of Hope and provide their help on Diaper Room, Food Pantry, the temporary Wardrobes for the homeless and the Walkin freezer on 11/25/2023. This initiative was led by DMA Youth Forum Chair, Aditya Kutty with the help from Youth Forum members.







Christmas 2023

## Youth Forum Volunteering Activity – Meals on Wheels, Ann Arbor

One Hundred hand-written encouragement cards were prepared and delivered by youth forum members to 'Meals on Wheels' in Ann Arbor on 11/25/2023. These cards will be distributed with their meals to homebound seniors in our community.



## Youth Forum Volunteering Activity - Donating Hygienic Kits for Veterans

Youth forum members donated Hygienic Kits for 200 homeless veterans in Downtown Detroit and 3200 diapers for kids who cannot afford in Ann Arbor on 12/2/2023.





Christmas 2023

# Kuttanadan

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Christmas 2023

## FREE 5-WEEK JAVA TECHNOLOGY TRAINING FOR YOUTH:

Recognizing that technology is rapidly becoming valuable as an everyday life skill, the DMA Youth Forum has organized Free 5-week Java Technology Fundamentals training for youth members of the community.



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# Learn Coding

DMA Youth Forum has this unique awesome opportunity and tied up with fellow youth and avid coding instructor **Sreeram Suresh** to teach **JAVA Introductory Online Course** for kids from 6th Grade and above.

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Christmas 2023

## Annual Youth Social @ Top Golf

DMA Youth Forum finished the year with Youth Social Evening at Top Golf with lots of fun, food and Golf, of course.



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## 2023 Christmas Program – Eve in Bethlehem:

We celebrated 2023 Christmas with a mega program “An eve in Bethlehem” at St. Thomas Syro Malabar Church on December 09<sup>th</sup>. More than 150 families attended the event, which featured a wonderful Christmas Carol, Arrival of Santa Claus, Music Medley, Cultural programs, and a delicious buffet. The highlight of the evening was the drama “Sthree Shaktheekaranam” directed by Sri. Saijan Kaniyodikal. The event was a huge success and received positive feedback from everyone. Rajesh Kutty and Rojan Thomas coordinated the event successfully with assistance from the DMA family.







Christmas 2023

This year, we have conducted numerous programs and activities for our community's well-being and its progress. As we approach the end of the year, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support and dedication to our organization. Your contributions have been instrumental in making this year a success. I am proud of what we have accomplished this year, but I know that we can do even better. Let us continue to work together and to make a positive impact on our community.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

*Praveen G Nair*

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## CHARITY REPORT

### Charity & Community Outreach Activities



Rajesh Kutty

As much as the whole world reels itself yet another notch out of one of the biggest pandemic that the earth has ever seen, so has the metro Detroit community and our own state of Kerala.

However, we all know and accept the fact that the world still needs a lot of help, and Detroit Malayalee Association (DMA) as always, never shied away from its responsibility of reaching out to those who need assistance the most. We encourage all the DMA members and well-wishers of DMA to support us with our charity initiatives that we continue to do and help in every little way we can.

One of the first things, the 2023 DMA Team, kicked off the year was with community outreach activities and looking into the requests for helping the underprivileged.

The team did several projects and activities this year, which include the regular soup kitchen, food preparation, food serving and clean up at soup kitchens in the local communities. Other activities include Adopt-A-Road, which DMA does twice a year at Sterling Heights and Novi, Michigan. Also, one of our signature community support activities include Habitat for Humanity, which supports elder and senior citizens who need it the most.

DMA also has provided substantial help with monetary support for several deserving families during the entire year. Following were the five families DMA supported directly during the year.

- ❖ **Anunand**, a 7-year-old kid from **Kozhikode**, who is suffering from acute myeloid leukemia – a type of blood cancer and is currently undergoing urgent lifesaving donor transplant.
- ❖ DMA also financially supported **Aruljothi Rexcinia** from **Coimbatore**, who is suffering from myasthenia gravis crisis – a rare autoimmune, neuromuscular disease and a medical emergency that occurs when the muscles that control breathing weaken to the point where a ventilator is required to breathe.
- ❖ The family of **Biju Kodoor** in **Pala**, Kerala who are in dire straits due to an accident with no family income, was supported by financially by DMA.
- ❖ The family of **Vijayan Pillai** of **Adoor**, Kerala whose family of three are with no family income, and bedridden by an accident and spouse suffering from cancer were supported financially by DMA.





Christmas 2023

- ❖ The family of **Jose PV** of **Aluva**, Kerala whose family does not have any income and all three members are bedridden, were supported financially by DMA.

Keeping the tradition with helping organizations and people here in metro Detroit, DMA made a financial contribution to the **Leukemia and Lymphoma Society**.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

*Rajesh Kutty*



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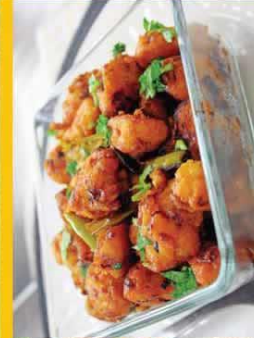
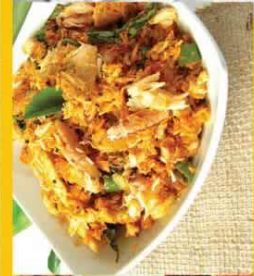
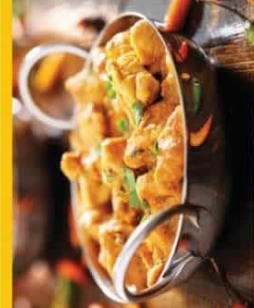
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