



## Hampton Roads Malayalee Association (HRMA)

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

### HRMA ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

HRMA Executive Committee 2019- 2020 started this year on a high note with our Christmas and New Year celebrations at the new venue. Soon after emerged covid-19 Pandemic and safety being the HRMA's primary concern. In adherence to Covid guidelines HRMA's every planned activity took a different direction, some turned virtual and forced to cancel those that involved outdoor activities. Nevertheless, with a dynamic and committed team HRMA committee was able to bring necessary pulse to our community be it to serve, or being responsible, or to entertain the community. This committee has extended its best effort in all direction.

**Virtual Onam Celebration:** HRMA committee was determined to have Onam celebrated for our community with a safe plan, if not in the traditional way but online. Thanks to technology, we celebrated Onam virtually on Zoom with an eminent Artist "Sajan Palluruthy". Of course, even though we missed Sadhya, the committee members worked hard to make sure the traditional Payasam "Adapradhaman" available to all community. The payasam was made available free to all members and at \$10 to nonmembers. A special mention to "Philip Achayan" for extending his help and guidance.

**Donation to Local Food Banks:** HRMA Executive Committee unanimously decided to donate \$200 from its funds on behalf of the community to the worthy cause of helping the local food banks. Our goal was to raise \$1000 from the community towards this worthy cause. We collected a total of \$1,125 as donations from our HRMA community and HRMA sincerely thank you for your donation, support, and care during this Global Pandemic situation. HRMA is happy to announce that we contributed a total of \$1,325 (which includes the donation collected \$1,125 and contribution from HRMA Fund \$200) to four local food banks listed below.

1. Food bank of South Eastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore - \$350
2. Virginia Peninsula Food Bank - \$350
3. International Christian Church - \$375
4. Bayside Presbyterian Church - \$250

**Coping with Covid seminar:** Along with pandemic came a lot of questions and concerns. HRMA decided to conduct a seminar "Coping with Covid" to alleviate tension and ambiguity related to COVID. We tried to bring in some of the eminent speakers from our community: Dr.Govindankutty Palat, MD



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who is a Board Certified Psychiatrist and Dr. Joy P Kannarkat, PhD who is a licensed Clinical Psychologist. Thanks to both speakers.

**Interactive session with award-winning NASA aerospace scientists:** HRMA in our continued efforts to inspire young minds, were able to coordinate and conduct an educational and interactive session with award-winning NASA aerospace professionals, Thanks to Dr. Renjith Kumar and Mrs. Susan Thomas for providing a wonderful session. We conducted virtual session via Zoom on Saturday November 7 2020. The session was highly informative, and all age groups of audience really enjoyed the workshop.

**Pay gratitude to all healthcare workers:** HRMA within our community stood together as a family to pay gratitude to all healthcare workers helping us out through this pandemic with a token of appreciation. HRMA committee members personally reached out to each of them and conveyed gratitude and delivered an appreciation gift.

**HRMA Malayalam Classes:** HRMA realized the importance of virtual learning capability and converted the Malayalam classes to online and made sure all kids had fun and learning at its best. We are now conducting the Malayalam classes on a weekly basis through Zoom Platform and the kids are really enjoying the class. Special mention to all those selfless volunteers, parents, and kids with whom we were able to keep this class moving. Our goal is to provide language tools for the children and help them develop their own sense of understanding of the language. The cost associated with holding classes is covered by generous donations.

**HRAM Newsletter:** In the interest of being connected with the community, HRMA consistently published the newsletters every quarter starting Sep 2019. Thanks to Chief Editor Anu Thomas and Joy Kannarkattu for their hard work. HRAM successfully published 4 editions of Newsletters.

**HRMA Christmas and New Year Celebrations:** HRAM celebrates 2020/21 Xmas and New Year virtually through Zoom. Cultural Programs published over Zoom and YouTube. Food Coupons worth 25\$ made free to all members. This can be redeemed from Biryani hub. HRMA committee members will in person distribute coupons to all members.

**HRMA Account Audit:** Joby Varghese audited HRMA Account for FY- 2019-20. All receipts, documents, bank statements were provided by the treasurer to the auditor for a thorough audit. Treasurer Chanchal Rachel was the lead for collecting all necessary documents for the audit. HRMA filed



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99N (Annual Electronic Notice – e postcard) required for tax-exempt organizations with IRA for the financial year 2019-20.

**HRMA 2018-2020 Elections:** HRMA formed an Election Committee with Aju Paul, Sajeev Sadanandan and Dennis Devasia. HRMA wanted to welcome new committee members to the association and planned to hold the elections during the 2020 Xmas Celebration. Election committee created nomination forms and send email notifications to the community. The deadline to receive nominations was 7<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2021. HRMA Election Committee acknowledged all nominations received and there was no multiple nominations received for any of the available post, hence no elections conducted. The following people elected as of 2021/22 HRMA Executive

- Committee President: Nisaraj Dharmarajan
- Vice President: Chanchal Rachel
- Treasurer: Sreejith Chandran
- Secretary: Latha Sasidharan Nair
- Board of Directors: Deepak Satheesh, Prajeesh Sekhar, Aneesh Panachikkuth , Biju Abraham
- Ex-Officio Member: Dr. Joy Kannarkat
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### Recap of HRMA Events in 2020/21:

- Virtual Onam Celebration:
- Donation to Local Food Banks
- Coping with Covid seminar
- Interactive session with award-winning NASA aerospace scientists
- Pay gratitude to all healthcare workers
- Christmas and New Year celebration 2021

HRMA had a very productive year so far and the Executive Committee