

The College Motto Award 2015

Dr. Koshy C George & Dr. Lydia John

Dr. Koshy C George and Dr. Lydia John joined the Christian Medical College, Vellore in 1988. Koshy was the vivacious, fun-loving, young man with an ever-present laugh, while Lydia was the serious, responsible, and caring young lady. Married in 1999, they are blessed with two children.

Following their MBBS service obligation, they came back to CMC, Koshy, to pursue his Diploma and MD in Child Health, while Lydia completed her MD in General Medicine. After completing their sponsorship obligation in Lalitpur, UP. and Herbertpur, Uttarakhand, Koshy and Lydia joined the Baptist Christian Hospital, Tezpur, Assam in 2009. In 2011, Dr. Koshy was nominated Managing Director of the Hospital.

They have initiated and developed a number of programmes that have made a difference to the community they serve. Dr. Koshy started a Level II Neonatal ICU in 2009 and the Pediatric ICU in 2014. He was also part of the team that started the NeST (Newborn Survival and Treatment) program for the EHA hospitals. Realizing the need for reliable laboratories in delivering efficient health care, he established the Virology and Microbiology laboratories in Tezpur. He was also instrumental in establishing a hospital and community - based palliative program for the terminally ill patients in the area. Dr. Koshy is involved in the CBM Community - based Rehabilitation Program for children with disabilities as well as the EHA Anugrah project.

Dr. Koshy's 'Go – Green' initiative has resulted in computerization of the Outpatients department; a similar facility for the In-patient services will be operational by the end of the year. Dr. Lydia is a full-time physician, and shares additional responsibilities of the Hospital Infection Control and Clinical Services committees. Apart from initiating protocols in infection control and emergency management, she has also developed the Stroke Unit in the hospital. Her experience has benefitted the M.Med program run by the Distance Education Department of CMC, Vellore.

Drs. Koshy and Lydia remain sensitive to local issues and have worked tirelessly to eradicate corruption and social injustice. To this end, WHO has recognized Baptist Christian Hospital, Tezpur as a center for screening for fake medications in the region. Assam is notorious for human trafficking and Dr. Koshy and his team, realizing that it was illiterate, unemployed innocents who were mainly victims, started a Community College for skill - based learning last year. Eighteen students are currently undergoing this training. To their credit, all the youth in the program have received placements opportunities even before finishing the course. Additionally, the Tezpur Central Government University has initiated efforts towards obtaining UGC recognition for this course.

Their awareness and insight has made Tezpur a hub of local and multi-centric research programmes. The encephalomyelitis and the hemorrhagic stroke studies in the North Eastern region are notable examples of a few such initiatives.

Apart from all their academic and professional work, Koshy and Lydia take active part in the Sunday evening fellowship for colleagues and staff in their hospital. They have also been instrumental in the spiritual nurture of the student community in the hospital, as well as surrounding educational institutions.

Koshy and Lydia are a couple who have demonstrated the true meaning of our motto, “Not to be ministered unto, but to minister”, by their selfless work in a needy part of India. Their life is an inspiration to all the young graduates of the Christian Medical College who want to fulfill the vision of Aunt Ida.

The CMC Alumni Association is proud to present the College Motto Award 2015 to Dr. Koshy and Dr. Lydia.