

Dear Classmates,

We hope this email finds you and your loved ones safe and well. The pandemic has affected each and every one of us. In particular, the country of India has been hit with a severe wave and spike in new cases in these recent weeks. For those that may not be aware, India's current 7-day average for NEW cases these past 7 days is over 357,000+. Let us emphasize, this is not total cases being above this number, but daily, NEW cases. Also, the average presented is just the last 7 days, with this rise in cases occurring over several weeks. Social media and news outlets have shown that hospitals are incredibly overwhelmed. Many hospitals have to turn away patients because they do not have enough oxygen for all.

We write this email to share with you this horrible news and to show support for our RowanSOM community, as many of our students are of South Asian ethnicities and may have loved ones in India or other countries that are personally affected by this. We are here for you all. We also write this email to help possibly share some places that you can contribute and try to help.

We completely understand that not everyone may be in the financial position to donate, nor should you feel pressured into donating. However, any contribution you do make, even if it's something small, will still make a positive impact. You can also contribute by sharing this with family/friends/others that may not be aware of what is going on. You can be there for your fellow classmates that are personally being affected by this terrible pandemic, whether they are South Asian or not. Finally, you can continue to try to do something small every day that prepares you to become a better physician and person.

Here are some places you can donate:

- Oxygen For India [GoFundMe](#)

This GoFundMe was put together by Dr.'s Shubha Varma, Jas Katariya, Ruchika Talwar, and Ms. Archana Gollamudi. They are looking to send a minimum of 100 oxygen concentrators to the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Bangalore, and Kolkata. They have raised over \$250k and are hoping to reach \$300k. You can **Venmo directly to @Shubha-varma**. You can see the progress that they are making in real time via this [Instagram](#) account.

- [Mission Oxygen](#)

Ketto, a fund-raising platform in Mumbai which is a hot spot of the country's latest COVID-19 outbreak, is shepherding a campaign by hundreds of entrepreneurs to purchase 3,000 oxygen concentrators. According to their website, they have placed an order for 3900 concentrators already and are a little over halfway to their fundraising goal. The organizers are tweeting live updates [here](#).

- [Milaap - Breathe India](#)

This organization has placed an order for 185 concentrators and is finalizing an order for another 65. They are saying that it will arrive in the city of Delhi in the next couple weeks (early May). They are posting live updates on their [website](#).

- [Sewa International](#)

AAP's national board has partnered with Sewa International to fund 200 oxygen concentrators. Sewa seems to be sending other things such as food and medicines to about 10,000 families and more than 1,000 orphanages and senior citizen centers. For more updates, be sure to check their [Twitter](#).

- Hemkunt Foundation

You can send a **Venmo payment to @Arshya-Chopra** for a donation. Hemkunt is a non-profit organization that is based on Delhi, India, and I saw this post from a friend who I spoke to. Arshya is their friend and also has family friends that runs this organization. They have already started delivering oxygen concentrators. You can see live updates on their [Twitter](#) and learn more about their organization on their [website](#).

- [KhalsaAid](#)

This organization has also been sending supplies and oxygen concentrators to India and share updates on their [Instagram](#). They just posted about sending 200 concentrators recently. Take a look at their page if you are interested in donating!

To learn more, or find other places to donate, here's an [article](#) from the New York Times.

*** Please note, we tried our best to find organizations that are reliable and have been showing via their social media, news outlets, etc., that they are currently using their donations to help in India. We also encourage that you do your own research prior to donating to make sure that you are donating to something that you support. ***

Thank you to all those who read this email, shared, and/or donated. We hope you and your loved ones continue to stay safe during this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Vinit Parekh, OMS-II

Ekrem Cetinkaya, OMS-I

Jaasrini Vellore, OMS-II

Seema Sakaria, OMS-I

Zoha Shahabuddin, OMS-II