Dear Friends of CCN

Thank you for attending our 7th Annual Banquet on Sat, Nov 29. It was a joyous celebration marking the closing of another year of service through partnerships and compassion. Over 300 guests joined the gala, coming from far and near.

Professor Omer Mozaffar, from Loyola University, gave the keynote. Dr. Ausaf Saeed, India's Consul General in Chicago was the guest of honor.

Other dignitaries included Dr. Kaiseruddin, chairman of CIOGC, Dr. Zaher Sahloul, President of Syrian Medical Association of America, Manzoor Ghori, Executive Director of IMRC (Indian Muslim Relief & Charities) , Rasheed Ahmed, Executive Director of IMANA (Islamic Medical Assn of N. America) , Itedal Shalabi, Executive Director of Arab American Family Services, Dr. Munir Chaudry, Founder and President IFANCA (Islamic Food And Nutrition Council of America) Dr. Ali Niazee, Founder and Chair of Northwest Suburban College, Dr. Marcia Hermansen, Director of the Islamic World Studies Program at Loyola University, Dr. Sarwar Nasir, president of MCC Chicago, Irshad Khan, president of IFN (Islamic Foundation North), Talat Khan, founder and chairman of AARA (American Association of Retired Asians), Dr. William Walsh, president Walsh Research Institute, Azmathullah Quadri and Tariq Malhance past presidents of MCC, Sher Rajput and Ashref Hashim past presidents of Indo American Center, Chicago and Dr. Quadri, owner of Ashton Place.

Azher Quader, CCN's Executive Director, outlined the reasons why CCN exists. He explained what CCN does, how it does it , and why. "We believe that healthcare is a universal right for all people in a civil society," he remarked. "CCN works to ensure that access to affordable healthcare is available to all people regardless of their ability to pay or their citizenship status," he added.

Keynote speaker Professor Omer Mozaffar discussed how compassion and service above self are connected, saying that the work of CCN volunteers is a true reflection of our religiosity and is a 'rahma' (mercy) to society.

CCN President Dr. Muhammad Gafoor welcomed the guests earlier.

Vice President Dr. Ayesha Sultana presented CCN's Ibn Sina Award for Excellence in Community Service to Arshia Wajid, Founder and President of American Muslim Health Professionals (AMHP). She cited AMHP's work

in areas of health care advocacy, health care access, connectivity among professionals, mental health and people with disabilities among their many accomplishments.

Sana Ali, CCN's Director of Programs who organizes weekly health screenings and radio programs, spoke about the opportunities for students to volunteer and serve the community by joining CCN's work.

Abrar Quader, CCN's Director of Government Relations and Community Partnerships, spoke about the long history that CCN has of working with other organizations from diverse cultures. He also spoke of CCN's two-year long campaign to increase health coverage enrollments through the Affordable Care Act (ACA), by partnering with other organizations, which resulted in outreach to thousands of people, enabling many to obtain coverage.

A new video documentary about CCN was released, showing CCN receiving honors and recognition from the Governor's Office and the White House for its many years of community service. Fatema Rehman Mirza, Secretary of CCN, thanked all supporters and volunteers. Raees Yawer served as official MC. An enchanting musical program was provided following dinner by well known traditional Indian singers Rajesh Chalam and Manmeet Kaur, with a surprise exciting performance by CCN dentist Dr. Imaad Shaikh.

Look for Audio clips from the event to be posted next along with pictures.

For more information about CCN, go to: www.facebook.com/CompassionateCareNetwork, or call (773) 775-3600. The open enrollment period for health coverage under Obamacare (ACA) continues through February 15, 2015.

To donate on line go to: http://ccnchicago.nationbuilder.com

Watch New video released at the Banquet : CCN 2014 Video

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