

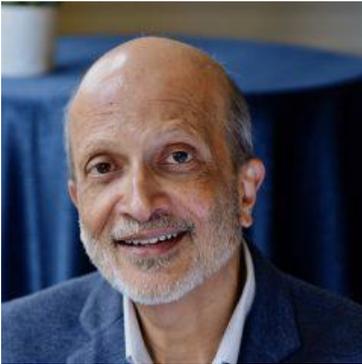
Indiaspora Philanthropy Summit

Georgetown University

October 2, 2019

*Speaker Bios*

**Opening Remarks**



***MR Rangaswami, Founder, Indiaspora***

MR is a software executive, investor, entrepreneur, corporate eco-strategy expert, community builder and philanthropist. Recognized as a software business expert, he participated in the rapid expansion of the Silicon Valley software industry during his tenure as an executive at both large and small software companies. In 1997, he co-founded Sand Hill Group, one of the earliest “angel” investment firms and was featured on the front page of the Wall Street Journal. He produced the prestigious Enterprise and Software conferences that were held in Silicon Valley. He was also listed on the Forbes “Midas” list of investors. MR is the publisher of SandHill.com, a leading

website for entrepreneurs, VCs and CIOs. In 2007, M.R. embarked on a new venture as the founder of the Corporate Eco Forum, an invitation-only membership organization for Global 500 companies that demonstrate a serious commitment to the environment as a business strategy. In 2012 MR founded Indiaspora to unite Indian Americans and to transform their success into meaningful impact in India and on the global stage.



***Irfan Nooruddin, Director, Georgetown University India Initiative***

Irfan is the Hamad bin Khalifa Professor of Indian Politics in the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown. He directs the Georgetown University India Initiative, a university-wide initiative that advances research and teaching around India and its role in world affairs and creates a platform for high-level dialogue among American and Indian leaders from government, business, civil society, and the academy.

He is the author of *Elections in Hard Times: Building Stronger Democracies in the 21st Century* (with T.E. Flores, Cambridge, 2016) and *Coalition Politics and Economic Development: Credibility and the Strength of Weak Governments* (Cambridge, 2011). Dr. Nooruddin specializes in the study of comparative economic development and policymaking, democratization and democratic institutions, and international institutions. He has been a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC, and is a Team Member with Lokniti: Programme on Comparative Democracy at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi. More information is available at [www.irfannooruddin.org](http://www.irfannooruddin.org).

## The Opportunity of Retail Giving



***Sanjeev Joshipura, Executive Director, Indiaspora (moderator)***

Sanjeev has served as Indiaspora's Executive Director since January 2018, and served as Director since July 2016. Prior to that, he was active in the US-India corridor for several years in a public policy and business capacity, via his own consulting firm. In the corporate realm, Sanjeev has worked at Fortune 500 multinational organizations in different industries, in the areas of strategy, finance and project management. Since 2008, he has been actively engaged in public policy, American politics and government relations. He has managed a US Senate election campaign, worked as a staff member on Capitol Hill advising congressmen and senators on economics and international affairs, and has been the Executive Director of an international industry association with large member companies

around the world. Sanjeev has a Bachelors in Computer Engineer from Pune University, India, an MBA from the University of Toronto, Canada, and a Certificate in Financial Risk Management from the Illinois Institute of Technology.

***Anjali Kochar, Executive Director, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation***



Anjali has worked on social justice issues for the past 25 years and is the Executive Director of the Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation US. After completing her undergraduate degree from The American University, she worked with the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Human Rights where she focused on child labor issues in India's carpet industry, supported the annual RFK Human Rights Award and served on the International Steering Committee for the Global March Against Child Labor. In 2001, Anjali received a Masters in International Affairs with a concentration in economic and

political development from the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. In 2004 joined Mothers Acting Up, an organization empowering mothers to take action on behalf of the world's children, where she was able to combine her passion for advancing children's rights with her belief in the power of mothers and young people to change the world. Anjali lives in Takoma Park, MD with her husband and two daughters.

***Rajesh Ramachandran, Co-founder, Deserving Causes***



Rajesh started Deserving Causes India Foundation in 2016 with Chandrakala Navaratan and Jayendra Panchapakesan to raise awareness and funds for causes in India focussing on disaster relief, education and health. In his other, for-profit life, Rajesh is the President & CTO of Qube Cinema, a media technology company based in Hollywood and the various film industries of India.



***Lowrey Redmond, Chief Growth Officer, Malaria No More***

Lowrey is a fundraising and international development expert with nearly 20 years of experience helping both NGOs and for-profit institutions reach their organizational missions and achieve sales goals. Throughout her career, Ms. Redmond has led strategic initiatives and business development efforts on issues ranging from public health to education. As Malaria No More's Chief Growth Officer, Ms. Redmond leads fundraising expansion in both existing and growth markets, and oversees the organization's finance and operations. Before joining MNM, Ms. Redmond led international health business development teams at Abt Associates. In that role, she led successful strategic initiatives and secured significant resources with an emphasis on institutional donors such as USAID. Prior to Abt, she played a

significant role in driving donor relationships and proposals at Cardno Emerging Markets and Chemonics International across headquarters and country teams. Previously, at Population Services International, Ms. Redmond helped to operationalize and resource new country operations, including in Nigeria where she was a technical advisor for maternal and child health programs. She began her career as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Senegal. Ms. Redmond holds a BA in international affairs from Lafayette College and an MA in international affairs from Columbia University.

**Climate Change: The Fierce Urgency of Now**



***Shefali Mehta, Founder, OpenRivers Consulting Associates (moderator)***

Dr. Shefali Mehta, an environmental and agricultural economist and statistician, focuses on developing strategy and change plans for organizations undergoing transformation. She founded and leads Open Rivers Consulting Associates to tailor solutions and create holistic strategies for a range of clients.

Prior to founding Open Rivers, Dr. Mehta worked in roles across private, public and non-profit sectors including McKinsey, Syngenta, the Soil Health Partnership, amongst others. She serves or has served as a Board member for various groups including Bountifield, Pheasants Forever, Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pest Center (MITPPC), the School of Statistics at University of Minnesota, The Gates Scholar Advisory Council, amongst others.

Dr. Mehta received her PhD in Agricultural and Applied Economics and MS in Statistics from the University of Minnesota, MPhil in Economics from Cambridge University and a BA in Economics from New York University.



**Siddharthan Balasubramanian, Senior Advisor, ,Strategy, ClimateWorks Foundation (CWF)**

Siddharthan supports ClimateWorks and several other Foundations who are committed to deploy philanthropic resources to India to advance India's development goals, particularly related to clean energy and climate change. In this cross-cutting role, Siddharthan helps developing compelling ideas, common strategies around those ideas and identifying partners on the ground to implement programs and projects. Siddharthan also works to advance ClimateWorks' mission of expanding climate philanthropy by providing India and 'India and the rest of the world' perspectives and act as a bridge between international and Indian philanthropies particularly around climate

change, energy and related thematic areas.

Siddharthan joined ClimateWorks Foundation after working for 3 years as the first India Country Head at the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), an inter-governmental organization with 30 Member Countries. His areas of expertise include but are not limited to climate change mitigation and adaptation, INDC implementation, international climate policy, green growth policy and planning, and energy policy. Siddharthan is an agricultural engineer by education and is an Indian national.



**Britt Groosman, Vice President, Global Climate, Environmental Defense Fund**

Britt Groosman is Vice President Global Climate at Environmental Defense Fund, where she helps shape EDF's advocacy for environmentally effective and economically sound climate policies, for a low-carbon transition at the pace and scale needed to put the world on a path toward climate safety. This includes our work on reducing deforestation with a particular focus on Brazil; our work in India on low carbon rural development and air quality; and our work in Mexico advocating for an emissions trading system (ETS).

Britt was EDF's first EU Director in London focusing on fisheries reform. She is an economist recognized for her wide ranging expertise in environmental policy, most notably climate and conservation policy. She is a strategic thinker with a collaborative style pulling together scientists, economists, and policy experts, to analyze and promote sustainable pragmatic solutions to environmental problems.



***Amita Ramachandran, Associate Director, India Climate Collaborative***

Amita Ramachandran is the Associate Director and Program Lead for the India Climate Collaborative - an India-led, India-focused philanthropic collaborative aiming to enhance philanthropy's response to climate change. She built this initiative while a senior program manager in the Sustainability portfolio of the Tata Trusts. Amita previously worked at a social enterprise called Avanti Microfinance, founded by Ratan Tata and Nandan Nilekani. As the

first employee in this start-up team, she developed and implemented pilot projects under a model aimed at revolutionizing the microfinance industry by providing affordable and timely credit to rural borrowers through a cashless, paperless, frictionless technology platform. Before Avanti, Amita worked at a small business incubator in Minnesota for low-income entrepreneurs of colour. Amita is a graduate from the United World College of South East Asia and Macalester College, with a degree in Economics and International Development.



***Reecha Upadhyay, Communications and Program Manager, Clean Air Fund***

Reecha recently joined the Clean Air Fund as the Communications and Campaigns Program Manager. Prior to this, she was at Purpose, where she was Campaigns Director in India. Reecha developed the strategy for and managed staff to deliver all Purpose India campaigns and programs. Reecha has overseen many successful air quality campaigns, including the #MyRightToBreathe campaign in Delhi, 100% UP campaign in Uttar Pradesh and the

100%Bihar campaigns on promotion of renewable energy. Reecha has a strong background in programme development and management as part of the Asia Foundation (2013-2015) and UN (2002-2008). At the UN, based in New York, Geneva, South Sudan, and New Delhi, Reecha ran programmes on conflict and disaster prevention, developing and implementing global advocacy campaigns like Stop Rape Now and One Billion Rising. As well working directly in air quality, Reecha has developed campaigns in and for many relevant fields including human rights and labour rights, women and gender equality, and child protection. She is also a founding partner of a film production company in Delhi called Jamun Media. Reecha holds a Master's degree in International Affairs from the New School University in New York.

## To Whom Much is Given...



***Sumir Chadha, Co-founder and Managing Director, WestBridge Capital***

Sumir Chadha is the co-founder and Managing Director of WestBridge Capital, and has been investing in India for the past two decades.

WestBridge Capital is a leading investment firm focused on India with over \$2.5 billion of capital under management. WestBridge focuses on investing in high quality public and private businesses in India with a long-term orientation. Sumir also co-founded and was Managing Director of Sequoia Capital India. Early in his career, he worked in the Principal Investment Area (PIA) at Goldman Sachs, and at McKinsey & Co.

Sumir received an MBA from Harvard Business School with Distinction, and a BSE in Computer Science from Princeton University.

## A Novel Philanthropic Medium: Arts Education



***Leslie Shampaine, Freelance Producer and Director, Bombay Ballet***

Leslie Shampaine has produced award-winning documentary programs for major broadcasters such as PBS, National Geographic, Discovery Channel, CBS and A&E. Her most recent position was as Senior Production Executive at Al Jazeera International where she oversaw current affairs programs including the Emmy-winning documentary series Fault Lines, known for its investigative storytelling.

Her work ranges from documentaries to cultural and educational programming and includes 8 years as part of the production team for the Emmy award-winning Kennedy Center Honors where she worked on over 30 biographical films of the Honorees, including Morgan Freeman, Robert De Niro, Steven Spielberg, Yo Yo Ma, Paul McCartney, and dancers Natalia Makarova and Twyla Tharp. Her credits include the PBS series Avoiding Armageddon hosted by Walter Cronkite; Who Betrayed Anne Frank (Discovery Channel) – winner of a Telly, a Cine Golden Eagle and a Gold Remi at the Houston WorldFest; DC Cupcakes (TLC); Smithsonian Networks series' Seriously Amazing Objects; and Fireworks with George Plimpton (A&E), which was nominated for an Emmy and an ACE.



**Cynthia Kane, Chief Fundraiser, Bombay Ballet**

Cynthia has helped transform the way global documentaries are seen on US television. She is an Alfred I duPont Columbia University Award and Peabody Award winner, an Emmy Award-winning-and-nominated producer. She created DOCday on Sundance Channel in 2002 where she instrumental in the premiere US broadcast of Jean-Xavier de Lestrade and Denis Poncet's *The Staircase* (2006 Peabody and Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia Awards.) Kane shepherded over 150 international and U.S. co-productions for public media at ITVS.

In 2013, she helped launch Al Jazeera America's documentary strand with series - Kartemquin's *Hard Earned*, winner 2016 Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia Awards, *Inside Obama's White House*, and documentaries including Albert Maysles' final work, *In Transit*, Leon Gast's *Sporting Dreams*, Barbara Kopple's *Shelter*, Jennifer Maytorena Taylor's *Daisy and Max*, Michelle Shephard and Patrick Reed's *Guantanamo's Child*, Marc Levin's *Freeway: Crack in the System* (the last two nominated for Emmy's) among many others. With her UK partners at gbgg films and Les Films de l'Après Midi in France, Kane executive-produced, *New Eyes* by award-winning Ethiopian director Hiwot Admasu Getaneh (Venice, TIFF, Rotterdam.) She is currently producing Maria Finitzo's [The Dilemma of Desire](#), now in post-production and Executive Produced *The Letter* by Kenyan filmmakers Maia Lekow and Chris King which will premiere at International Documentary Festival Amsterdam 2019.

**The Path of Collaboration: The India Philanthropy Alliance**



**Deepak Raj, Chairman, Pratham USA**

Deepak Raj is founder and managing director of the New Jersey-based private investment firm Raj Associates with investments in real estate and public and private securities. He is also CFA and, with his wife Neera, the founder of the Raj Center on Indian Economic Policies at Columbia University.

Deepak has extensive experience as an equity analyst and an investment banker. His leadership positions during 24 years with Merrill Lynch include senior analyst in research (and member of the Institutional Investor All-America Research Team); head of their Global Consumer Products Investment Banking practice; and senior vice president and member of the firm's executive management committee. As director of Global Equity Research, he managed a staff of approximately 700 investment professionals located throughout the world. A chartered financial analyst (CFA), Deepak graduated from IIT Kanpur with a BTech in electrical engineering and earned an MBA from Northeastern University. He has served on the investment committee of Spring Mountain Capital.

Deepak is chairman of Pratham USA. He and his wife, Neera, have two grown children and live in Princeton, New Jersey.



***Minoo Gupta, President, Foundation For Excellence (FFE)***

Minoo Gupta is senior director of engineering and customer experience at Citrix. She leads the customer experience for all NetScaler brand products for Cloud and Networking Division. NetScaler is one of leading brands for networking products in industry powering over 75% of the internet traffic for highly successful brand name customers. She is highly seasoned, tech savvy and customer focused executive working in the silicon valley since 1987.

Minoo Gupta serves as an elected President of Foundation for Excellence ([www.ffe.org](http://www.ffe.org)), a non-profit. FFE's mission is to enable academically brilliant and economically underprivileged students in India to complete their higher education in Engineering or Medicine through a Scholarship Program. The organization has supported over 16,000+ students to achieve their dreams since its inception in 1994. She has been involved with FFE as board member since 2012.

Minoo Gupta lives in Santa Cruz mountains with her husband Vikram Joshi and daughter Anika Joshi.



***Nishant Pandey, CEO, American India Foundation (AIF)***

Nishant is the CEO of the American India Foundation. In this capacity, Nishant provides strategic leadership to AIF's operations spanning the US and India. Nishant is an economist by training and began his career as a banker but soon realised that development sector was his calling. He joined Oxfam, a leading global charity, as the Programme Officer for South India where he designed and developed value-chain programmes on the theme of 'power in markets'. Subsequently, he moved Oxfam's global HQ in Oxford to lead on programme development and management in 12 countries including Russia,

Tajikistan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Albania, Yemen, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Jordan. In his work on Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area and its impact on small farmers in European neighbourhood, he demonstrated his ability to link high-level policy with projects on the ground and was soon given the opportunity to lead the entire policy and campaigns portfolio for Oxfam in the region. Before moving back to India as AIF's Country Director, Nishant was based in Jerusalem as Oxfam's Country Director for Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel.



**Swati Chaudhary, Member, Board of Directors, Arogya World**

Swati Chaudhary is Director of Synergos Consulting Services. She brings 13+ years of experience in management consulting, investing and economic development. Most recently she was a Manager at PwC Advisory, where she advised clients on FinTech strategies, payments and banking, revenue growth, cost cutting and risk management, as well as inclusive business, financial inclusion, social entrepreneurship, supply chain diversity and anti-corruption. She worked closely with UN Global Compact on developing Compass – a guide for companies to align their

strategies with the Sustainable Development Goals and assess their contributions. Swati brings knowledge of impact investing from Acumen Fund, and growth equity at General Atlantic. She received a Bachelor of Arts from Franklin and Marshall College, and a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University.



**Meenakshi Mahajan, Director, Institutional Giving, Magic Bus**

Meenakshi Mahajan is the Director of Institutional Giving at Magic Bus USA with extensive experience in sustainable development, livelihoods and women's empowerment in India and the US. Her role at Magic Bus includes developing and implementing strategies for advocacy, engagement, and fundraising from foundation, corporate and HNWI supporters in the US. Meenakshi has more than 15 years of experience and started her career in Advertising before moving to the social sector. Prior to Magic Bus, she worked with the Ford Foundation's India office in Sustainable Livelihoods and Micro-finance, and with CREA, one of the few feminist human rights organizations based in the Global South.

Meenakshi holds a Bachelor's degree in Commerce from Delhi University, a Diploma in Advertising from the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, and a Master's degree in Communication from Ohio University.



**Gouri Sadhwani, Executive Director, Akanksha Fund**

Gouri has worked with various civil society organizations focusing on human rights, social justice, education and poverty for over two decades. Prior to joining Akanksha, she served as Deputy Executive Director at Amnesty International USA where she led Amnesty's work on domestic and international human rights campaigns. She has also worked on labor rights here in the U.S. with the Service Employees International Union, Local 32BJ and at the global level with the National Labor Committee. She has served

as Executive Director of both the New York Civic Participation Project and of the Hague Appeal for Peace. She worked on bringing together environmental and labor public policy as Vice President of Campaigns at the Blue Green Alliance. She earned her MPA from New York University's Wagner School of Public Service. Born and partially raised in India, she joined the Akanksha Fund in 2013 with a desire to contribute to work being done to empower India's underserved communities.



**Ranjani Saigal, Executive Director, Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of USA**

Ranjani brings over twenty years experience in the field of education technology in well-known higher education institutions, most recent at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Facilitated the development, piloting and deployment of several teaching learning tools and course management platform. Strong believer in the power of philanthropy and social entrepreneurship to transform the lives of underprivileged people around the world. Actively engaged in fundraising, outreach and mentoring for several non-profit

organizations. Exceptional communication and collaboration skills with significant project management experience.



**Rahul Saxena, Member, Board of Directors, VisionSpring**

Rahul is an advisor to global firms and startups. He is a former senior vice-president of Verizon who developed and operated global, multi-billion dollar businesses in telecommunications and technology sectors. He has directed several startups around the world, co-founded one of the largest mobile companies in Europe, viz. Vodafone-Italy, and was head of European operations of Verizon Communications and Managing Director of a large software organization of Verizon in India.

Presently, he volunteers as an advisor and board director to not-for-profit organizations focused on vision/health care and education: *VisionSpring*, NYC, (VS, 2016-current) and *Women's Education Project* (2014-17). Since 2017, he also represents VS global organization on the board of *VisionSpring India*, where he is active in managing relationships with key Indian institutions in both, private and public sectors. *VisionSpring* has conducted eye-exams and provided prescription eyeglasses/readers to over 5M BPL people globally – India, Bangladesh and Africa; its Indian operations account for over 60% volume globally.

**Shefali Sunderlal, President and Program Director, CRY America**



With a Masters degree in Social Work from Delhi University, Shefali has held leadership positions at CRY India & CRY America for 25 years. Shefali was Director Development Support for 11 years, where she successfully established the grant management function of CRY India. She brought in strategic direction on children's rights and strong project selection, planning, monitoring & evaluation processes which are well recognized by donors & other non profits today.

Shefali was appointed President at CRY America and has been leading the organization since 2002, with a focus on brand building, civic engagement, fundraising and grant making. From \$87,709 (Annual Report 2003-04) revenues in 2003, CRY America has grown it's supporter base to 25,153 donors, 2000 volunteers & has impacted the lives of 618,915 underprivileged children through support to 70 Projects across India & the USA. Shefali currently lives in New York.



### ***Bala Venkatachalam, Executive Director, Pratham USA***

Balakrishnan ('Bala') Venkatachalam is Executive Director of Pratham USA, the US fundraising arm of India's largest education non-profit, Pratham. Since assuming this, Bala has played a vital role in strengthening the US organization with support from the Board. He was earlier involved with Pratham's programs in India between 2003 and 2006 as national head of operations and has previously worked across audit, strategy consulting, and a mobile technology start-up as Cofounder.

Before his role at Pratham USA, Bala worked with the strategy consulting firm, Monitor Group in India where he was Engagement Manager and most notably led the work to identify and develop new business opportunities in affordable urban housing. Bala has an MBA from INSEAD and is a Chartered Accountant (CPA equivalent).

## **An Immigrant's Narrative**

### **Aarti Shahani, NPR Correspondent**



**Aarti Namdev Shahani** is the author of memoir [\*Here We Are: American Dreams, American Nightmares\*](#). She is a correspondent for NPR based in Silicon Valley, covering the largest companies on earth. Her reporting has received awards from the Society of Professional Journalists, a regional Edward R. Murrow Award, and an Investigative Reporters & Editors Award. Before journalism, Shahani was a community organizer in New York City, helping prisoners and families facing deportation. Her activism was honored by the Union Square Awards and Legal Aid Society. She received a Master's in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, with generous support from the university and the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans. She

completed her bachelor's degree in anthropology at the University of Chicago. She was among the youngest recipients of the Charles H. Revson Fellowship at Columbia University and is an alumna of A Better Chance, Inc. Shahani grew up in Flushing, Queens—in one of the most diverse zip codes in the country—and believes every American should visit her hometown to understand what makes America great.

## Corporate Social: Responsibly



***Rick Rossow, Senior Advisor and Wadhvani Chair, U.S. India Policy Studies, Center for Strategic and International Studies***

Richard Rossow is a senior adviser and holds the Wadhvani Chair in U.S.-India Policy Studies at CSIS. In this role he helps frame and shape policies to promote greater business and economic engagement between the two countries. He joined CSIS in 2014, having spent the last 16 years working in a variety of capacities to strengthen the partnership between the United States and India. Prior to CSIS, he served as director for South Asia at McLarty Associates, leading the firm's work for clients in India and the neighboring region. From 2008 to 2012, Mr. Rossow was with New York Life Insurance company, most recently as head of International Governmental Affairs, where he developed strategic plans for the company's public policy and global mergers and acquisitions work. From 1998 to 2008, Mr. Rossow served as deputy director of the U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC), the world's leading advocacy group on behalf of strengthening economic ties between the United States and India. While at USIBC, he managed the Council's policy groups in the energy, information technology, insurance, media and entertainment, and telecommunications sectors. Mr. Rossow received his B.A. from Grand Valley State University in Michigan.



**Michael McCabe, Director, North America, Tata Sons**

Michael McCabe currently serves as the Resident Director for North America at Tata Sons, the principal investment holding company and promoter of Tata companies. He is responsible for Tata Sons' government affairs and strategy development across North America and works with Tata companies to help them strengthen their presence and positioning in the United States and Canada.

Mr. McCabe is a veteran of Tata having worked previously with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) since 2005 where his most recent role was Head of Government Relations for North America, responsible for government relations, public policy and public affairs across a region that accounts for more than 50% of TCS' global revenues. Earlier he was the Director of Communications for North America, leading the company's corporate communications initiatives.

Prior to joining TCS, Mr. McCabe worked at various public affairs and communications firms where he developed and executed campaigns for a number of leading technology, consulting, education and financial services companies and organizations.

Mr. McCabe is an international public policy and corporate communications veteran with experience developing and implementing government affairs and communications strategies across various industries. He has developed and implemented programs targeting internal and external audiences including public policy makers, media, employees, investors, and customers.

## Strategies for Effective Philanthropic Giving



***Jen Jope, Editor-in-Chief, Giving Compass (moderator)***

Jen Jope is a veteran journalist and media strategist. In her nearly two-decade career as a writer and editor, she has covered a range of topics including banking, travel, mental health, personal finance, higher education, and philanthropy.

At Giving Compass -- an online platform that helps donors give with more impact -- Jen oversees content strategy and partner development. Jen earned her BA in English at the University of Massachusetts and MA in Journalism at Emerson College in

Boston.



***Jessie Krafft, Senior Vice President, External Affairs, CAF America***

Jessie began her tenure with CAF America in 2011, and currently serves as the Senior Vice President of External Affairs. In her current role, Jessie coordinates the offices of the Grants and Donor Services teams, Business Development team, and the Thought Leadership & Communications team. Jessie develops and executes services assisting donors with strategic grantmaking, philanthropy planning, and investing charitable assets. She is a leading expert in international grantmaking from the U.S. and Canada as well as in

local country laws on foreign funding. She manages the grants team, overseeing fund management, charity vetting, and grant processing functions. In addition, she is managing the operations of our newest office, CAF Canada. Jessie completed her Masters in International Development program at American University in 2016, and she holds B.A. in Spanish and a B.S. in Anthropology, graduating summa cum laude from the honors college at Virginia Commonwealth University.



***Josh Mandell, Chief Operating Officer, Halcyon***

Josh is part of the Halcyon leadership team and responsible for delivering on Halcyon's impact-driven mission. Mr. Mandell is also responsible for identifying opportunities for expanding the Halcyon model internationally. These activities include the creation of mechanisms designed to meet the growing demand for supporting social enterprises that are solving 21st Century challenges around the world.

Prior to his work at Halcyon, Josh served in the Obama Administration as the Senior Adviser for Innovation and Competitiveness at the U.S. Department of Commerce where he was responsible for the development and execution of policies to support economic growth through innovation. Josh led the Office of the Secretary on portfolios including intellectual property, entrepreneurship, economic development, workforce, R&D and other aspects of the innovation economy.



**Dr. Smita Siddhanti, President, EnDyna Inc.**

Smita started EnDyna following a successful 15-year career with leading government contracting companies. A nationally recognized expert in public health risk assessment and management, she has worked extensively with federal agencies, the states, and multilateral organizations to develop regulations, policy, guidance, technology evaluations and management approaches to environmental protection and training. In addition to several publications, Dr. Siddhanti authored the book, *Multiple Perspectives on Risk and Regulation: The Case of Deliberate Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms into the Environment*, published in 1991. In addition to being actively involved with various philanthropic efforts, her passion is in enhancing rural entrepreneurship and livelihood in Indian villages, especially with women. Along with her other philanthropic pursuits, she is actively engaged with an NGO – WomenTech – working with 150,000 self-help groups in villages of Maharashtra, India, for the past two decades. She is a biologist by training (B.S. Biology Hons. and M.S. in Endocrinology) from Delhi University, and holds a Ph.D. in Technology and Public Policy from the University of Pittsburgh.

#### **IPA Public Policy: Giving to India: The Public Policy Agenda**



**Alex Counts, Senior Advisor, India Philanthropy Alliance (moderator)**

Alex Counts is Senior Advisor of the India Philanthropy Alliance. He previously served as President and CEO of [American India Foundation](#), and prior to that, worked with Nobel Laureate [Muhammad Yunus](#) in several capacities, including founding and running [Grameen Foundation](#) for 18 years. In addition to [Changing the World Without Losing Your Mind: Leadership Lessons from Three Decades of Social Entrepreneurship \(Rivertowns Books\)](#), he is also the author of [Small Loans, Big Dreams](#), published by John Wiley & Sons.



**Vaibhav Parikh, Head US Operations, Nishith Desai Associates**

Vaibhav is an engineer and a lawyer with around 25 years of experience. He leads the practice areas of Technology, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity and Blockchain. Over the years, Vaibhav has been advising many leading Indian e-commerce companies in their operations from a legal and regulatory standpoint. Tying in his expertise in advising several private equity players and venture capitalists navigate their way to successful investments, Vaibhav has facilitated some of India's largest e-commerce transactions.



**Keynote: Deputy Assistant Administrator for Asia Ann Marie Yastishock**

Ann Marie Yastishock is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service and currently serves as Deputy Assistant Administrator for Asia. Prior to joining the Asia Bureau, she served as the Deputy Mission Director from 2012 to 2015 for the regional office of USAID covering Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus and Cyprus. From August 2013 until March 2014, she served as the interim Deputy Mission Director for USAID/Burma. From March 2011 until arriving in Kyiv in 2012, she served as the Deputy Director of the USAID Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance (DRG). She is a graduate of Widener University School of Law with a J.D. and Penn State University with a B.S. in Economics. She is

a member of the Pennsylvania Bar.

Indiaspora Team



**Sanjeev Joshipura, Executive Director, Indiaspora**

Sanjeev has served as Indiaspora’s Executive Director since January 2018, and served as Director since July 2016. Prior to that, he was active in the US-India corridor for several years in a public policy and business capacity, via his own consulting firm. In the corporate realm, Sanjeev has worked at Fortune 500 multinational organizations in different industries, in the areas of strategy, finance and project management. He has managed a US Senate election campaign, worked as a staff member on Capitol Hill advising congressmen and senators on economics and international affairs, and has been the Executive Director of an international industry association with large member companies around the world. Sanjeev has a Bachelors in

Computer Engineer from Pune University, India, an MBA from the University of Toronto, Canada, and a Certificate in Financial Risk Management from the Illinois Institute of Technology.



**Gabrielle Trippe, Philanthropy Initiatives Manager, Indiaspora**

Gabrielle is the Philanthropy Initiatives Manager at Indiaspora where she works to catalyze philanthropic efforts and social impact among the global Indian diaspora. She comes from a background in international public health, and began her career in sub-Saharan Africa, where she worked on issues such as HIV/AIDS, human rights, and water and sanitation issues. Her experience in India began as a William J. Clinton Fellow with the American India Foundation. She served in Hyderabad and focused on women’s and girls’ health, in addition to work with the LV Prasad Eye

Institute. Most recently, before coming to Indiaspora, she worked with Purpose as Research and Partnership Development Consultant for a campaign to reduce avoidable blindness in India. A Fulbright-Hays Scholar and a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, Gabrielle holds a Masters in Public Health from Columbia University.



**Ashish Shah, Community Relations Director, Indiaspora**

Ashish Shah is the Community Relations Director at Indiaspora. He comes to Indiaspora with a background in non-profit management, consulting, and business development. Ashish is the founder of [GivingRise](#), an online giving platform created to make giving to India from the U.S. simple, transparent and highly impactful. Ashish is focused on understanding giving habits and patterns of the Indian diaspora in the U.S. and empowering donors and

philanthropists who wish to give and support causes in India. Before GivingRise, Ashish worked for over 10 years as a management consultant in the healthcare industry in Chicago, San Francisco, and Seattle. Born and raised in Mumbai, Ashish graduated with a Bachelors in Engineering from Mumbai University and a Masters in Telecom Policy from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



**Mansi Patel, Senior Manager, Communications and Outreach, Indiaspora**

Mansi Patel comes to Indiaspora with a background in communications, policy, and public service. She previously worked at a bipartisan government relations firm, where she served as a Legislative Assistant working on education, tech and natural resources issues. Prior to that, she served Congresswoman Frederica Wilson on Capitol Hill as part of her communications team. Prior to that, she was a public school teacher in South Florida. Born in Chicago and raised in Stuart, Florida, she graduated with a BA from Northwestern University.



**Rucha Gopal, Community Relations and Programs Coordinator, Indiaspora**

Rucha graduated from the George Washington University in May of 2019, where she received her BA in International Affairs with minors in Religion and Public Health.

Prior to joining Indiaspora, Rucha interned at the Hudson Institute, within the Initiative on the Future of India and South Asia department. She has also held intern positions at the Human Impacts Institute and Sponsors for Educational Opportunity. Rucha is originally from the tristate area, where she has learned Bharatanatyam and Hindustani Classical

Music. She is also an avid equestrian, and enjoys spending time out on the trails when the weather is nice.