



Founders Drs. Paul and Rubina Nguyen (center) with the 2018 Ambassador, Mentorship, and Career Guidance students.

S.C.A.R.F. Hosts Its First Gala

“RHYTHM OF LIFE” RAISES AWARENESS ON SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH

ON AUGUST 3, 2018, at the Chicago Marriott Northwest in Hoffman Estates, 430 guests attended the first S.C.A.R.F. gala where South Barrington resident Dr. Rubina Nguyen, co-founder and director of the S.C.A.R.F. Mentorship Program, offered welcoming remarks. The goal of the event was to introduce S.C.A.R.F. to the general community on a larger scale and to raise awareness about sudden cardiac death. The acronym stands for Sudden Cardiac-Death Awareness Research Foundation.

The keynote speech was given by Dr. Paul Nguyen, S.C.A.R.F. founder and director, also a South Barrington resident. The foundation’s mission is to eradicate the number one killer in the United States today—sudden cardiac arrest. Through community events, the organization helps spread awareness regarding risk factors and warning signs of this devastating condition. By fundraising, automated external defibrillators (AEDs) are donated to facilities in need. Each of the S.C.A.R.F.-donated AEDs come with significant CPR/AED training by the S.C.A.R.F. team, a wall mount to display the AED, and a plaque honoring a person who lost their life to sudden cardiac arrest.

The gala fundraiser showcased efforts of the interns in the S.C.A.R.F. Mentorship and Career Guidance Program. This year, 44 high school and college-age interns worked alongside the program’s cardiologists and staff the entire

summer, researched scientific topics, took part in community educational events, and learned the principles of professionalism, philanthropy, team work, higher education, and critical thinking. During the gala, their achievements were highlighted with help from emcees Rutva Bhatt, Neehar Shah, and Millen Srivastava, S.C.A.R.F. student ambassadors. AEDs were donated to three nonprofit groups to make public places safer.

A scholarship was awarded to Millen Srivastava (South Barrington resident and S.C.A.R.F. Student Ambassador) for demonstrating dedicated efforts to advance the mission of S.C.A.R.F., and for exceptional leadership skills. A grant was presented to Ranzy Collins (S.C.A.R.F. student) for supporting the “Race for Life” initiative.

Preceding the gala, all 44 interns who took part in the mentorship program presented their research during the “S.C.A.R.F. Scientific Symposium Poster Competition”. Winners of the competition presented their research project to the entire audience during the gala.

For more information, or if you work for a nonprofit organization (school, park district, camp, places of worship, etc.) that needs an AED, you can apply for one at www.scarfnw.org. 



From left: Kimberly Barrett, Ravinder Raju & Dr. Jayshree Raju, Pushkar Srivastava and Mrs. Vinita Srivastava.



S.C.A.R.F. Ambassadors are (front row, from left) Jacob Devadas (BHS), Jeevan Srivastava (BHS), and Saharsh Narayanam (BHS). Middle row: Shayaan Naseer, Ranzy Collins, and Abhinav Arulananadan. Back row: Samvrit Punyapu, Justin Buck, Arnav Nanga (BHS), and Ethan Brander



Ambassadors Anish Raju and Nisha Janamanchi (BHS students) presenting their research poster at the Scientific Symposium.



Dr. Rubina and Paul Nguyen Founders of S.C.A.R.F., Sudden Cardiac-Death Awareness Research Foundation.



Carl and Kelly Anderson



Alisha Dharia, Sophia Nguyen, Simrin Raju, and Krisha Mirchandani



From Left: Aarul Dhawan, Kamal Dhawan, Kunal Dhawan, and Preeti Dhawan



The SCARF administrative team is (from left) Leslie Guerrero, Yamini Saggar, Millen Srivastava, Dr. Paul Nguyen, Dr. Rubina Nguyen, Dr. Pritam Dang, Dr. Sarah Alfano, and Dr. Nick Hadji.