The Live Love Laugh Foundation (TLLLF) Appoints Ananth Narayanan to its Board of Trustees

Bangalore, 11 March: The Live Love Laugh Foundation (TLLLF) has announced the appointment of Ananth Narayanan to its board of trustees. Narayanan is the Co-founder and CEO of Medlife, India’s largest e-health company. Previously, he was the CEO of Myntra – Jabong. He has also served as a Senior Partner at McKinsey.

“I have known Ananth over the last couple of years and I must admit that during this time, I hoped that one day we could have the privilege of having him on our board. I am absolutely thrilled that after having followed the work of the foundation, he saw merit in what we do and has agreed to join us. His expertise and insights will be invaluable for us in the years to come,” said Deepika Padukone, Founder, The Live Love Laugh Foundation.

Narayanan, said, “India is affected with the same level of mental health issues as anywhere else in the world which makes awareness and research important. This can have a massive impact in the way we look at mental health and help address the stigma surrounding it. While awareness is key, there is also a need to look at how to solve problems at scale. One way to do this is to make use of technology. I have followed the work of TLLLF for over two years now and I am happy to now have the opportunity to guide the foundation’s work with the other members of the team. It is a way for me to give back to society and learn more about mental health in the process.”

Anna Chandy, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, TLLLF, said, “Ananth is well-known for his ability to actively problem-solve and achieve long term impact. I am glad he has agreed to offer his time and expertise to TLLLF. With his credentials, I am sure we will be able to channel TLLLF’s efforts towards building solutions that make mental health awareness and support easier to obtain. I look forward to working with him as we scale our activities in the years to come.”

The Live Love Laugh Foundation (TLLLF) was set up in 2015 as a charitable trust to give hope to every person experiencing stress, anxiety and depression (SAD).

- You Are Not Alone, the foundation’s flagship mental health awareness programme for school students and teachers has already covered more than 150,000 students and nearly 20,000 teachers in more than 700 schools across nine Indian states and eleven cities; The rural mental health programme supported by the foundation funds the treatment of more than 1500 patients annually in the Indian states of Karnataka & Odisha;
- The award-winning Dobara Poocho (“Ask Again”) campaign undertaken by the foundation in 2016, received in excess of 560 million total impressions across TV, print and digital mediums; The foundation’s #NotAshamed campaign in 2018 featured original narratives
encouraging other survivors to share their story with the world and garnered more than 100 million impressions across platforms;

- In September 2019, the foundation launched 'Live, Love, Laugh - a lecture series with Deepika Padukone'. The aim of the annual event is to invite the world’s foremost thinkers and achievers to present their ideas that could help shape the global mental health narrative. The maiden lecture was delivered by Pulitzer prize winning author and Padma Shri Awardee, Dr Siddhartha Mukherjee.

- In October 2019, TLLLF was named the 2019 recipient of the prestigious Dr Guislain “Breaking the Chains of Stigma” Award. The global award, which is an initiative of the Dr Guislain Museum in Ghent, Belgium and Janssen Research and Development LLC, honours TLLLF’s efforts to change the dialogue around mental illness in India.

- In January 2020, Deepika Padukone received the 26th Annual Crystal Award at the World Economic Forum 2020 Annual Meeting in Davos for her leadership in raising mental health awareness.

Bio – Ananth Narayanan

Ananth Narayanan is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Medlife, the largest e-health company in India, with business verticals including pharmacy, diagnostics and e-consultation. His vision is to use technology to serve the health care needs of a 100 million plus Indians. Prior to this he served as the CEO of Myntra and Jabong, the country’s largest platform for fashion and lifestyle products. Under his leadership, the company witnessed 6x growth in a span of 3.5 years, while improving profitability, with the right foundation for long term success.

Featured as one of “India’s Hottest 40 under 40 Business Leaders” in 2014, Ananth has deep expertise in driving performance improvement and product development. Prior to joining Myntra, Ananth was a Director at McKinsey & Company for 15 years and has worked across four offices (Chicago, Shanghai, Taipei and Chennai). Ananth serves as an Independent Director on the Board of Marico and is an active member of YPO, the global community of young leaders and chief executives. He is a part of the Champions of Change, Transformation Conclave set up by Niti Aayog, under the aegis of Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India. He is also on the Board of Arghyam, a foundation set up by Rohini Nilekani to improve access to safe water. He is an active member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network and is also on the Industry Advisory Board of the University of Michigan.

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