

## Fiji/Pacific Educators Recognize & Appreciate Healthcare & Frontline Workers

### The University of Fiji's Contribution

The formation of the **Fiji/ Pacific Educators for HealthCare and Frontline Workers Group** was through an initiative of a number of educators and Professor Unaisi Baba who is the Dean of the College of Humanities and Education at The Fiji National University. The aim was to recognize and appreciate the many healthcare and frontline workers for the sacrifices and commitment that they have demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic. The group's intention was to donate small baskets of goodies including essentials such as foods and drinks along with flowers and cards to bring about smiles on the faces of frontline workers and to uplift their spirits.

The group comprised of educators in Fiji and the Pacific as well as stakeholders of education who believe in utilizing education as a means to bring about positive development of the society and its members. Higher education institutions including the primary and secondary sectors were also involved in solidarity towards this wonderful initiative. Other education stakeholders such as the Ministry Lead Team and friends, the teacher unions, NGOs, a number of local businesses, mothers, fathers, youths, families and friends and just about anyone considering themselves educators were highly associated with the group and its activities.

The University of Fiji was also a significant part of this worthy cause and members of The School of Humanities and Arts supported the healthcare and frontline workers along with another university staff, Ms Vineeta Narayan by generously making monetary donations. In addition, a carton of bottled water was donated by Dr. Kamala Naiker. Along with that, a box of breakfast crackers was donated by Mr Sailesh Narayan. The Team Leader, Dr. Kamala Naiker, attended the organized meetings regularly with Ms Suvishna Singh, Mr. Sailesh Narayan and Mr. Ruveni Tuimavana to decide on distribution of food Baskets. It was compassion and the sheer willingness to applaud the hard work and sacrifices of individuals who are serving the country and the realisation of the unimaginable risks that our front liners are exposed to that brought about team SOHA's unity in contributing towards this noble initiative. We are grateful to those who are doing all that they can to ensure the safety and well-being of the citizens of our beloved nation.