

# **American Friends of Cecily's Fund**

## **Directors' Bios**

### **Craig Covil, President**

Craig is a professional civil engineer living in Dallas, Texas. He sits on a number of construction industry boards as well as charities. He was a past Principal with Arup in New York, Chief Development Officer for Halmar International, Managing Director of ASTM, a Milan based private equity developer focused on infrastructure construction in USA. Since 2018 he has had his own consulting firm working with private equity, developers, contractors, and public agencies on North American construction. He spent some of his childhood in West Africa and has worked in Southeast Asia and Southern Africa including in Zambia's Copperbelt. He has also lived in Hong Kong, Australia, Nigeria, South Africa, and UK. Craig and his wife visited Cecily's Fund's programs in Zambia in 2018. He works with non-profits focused on education, health, and welfare of children. Craig has three grown up children.

### **Mahadev Raman, Director and former President**

Mahadev was born in Nairobi, Kenya and spent his formative years in Zambia where his parents were schoolteachers. He is an Arup Fellow, Director of Arup Group Limited, and Chairman of Arup Americas. He is a mechanical engineer by profession and has been in practice for 34 years. Mahadev is a member of the faculty of Princeton University School of Architecture, and formerly a Board member of British American Business Inc. and a member of The Partnership for New York City.

### **Sue Skaf, Director and Board Secretary**

Sue was born in the UK. She graduated in French, Spanish and German and later specialized in conference interpretation. Sue worked in multilingual positions in Europe, before moving to New York, where she has lived for more than 30 years. She owns and manages a recruitment firm that sources staff to clients in a variety of industries, with a focus on international companies with NY offices. For many years Sue was Chairperson of an international PTA committee in her Westchester school district providing support and translation for non-English speaking and expatriate families. She visited our programs in Zambia in 2010. Sue was au pair to Cecily and her sisters whilst studying in Germany and remains a close friend of the Eastwood family.

### **Krishna Rangarajan, Director and Treasurer**

Krishna has over 25 years of experience as an investor and entrepreneur in the technology industry. He was born in India and received his BS in Technology from IIT, Madras (India) and his MBA at Stanford, CA. He is currently based in the US. Krishna works with us as he believes that each and every child has a universal right to education.

### **Basil Eastwood, Director and Cecily's Father**

Basil was a career diplomat with the UK Foreign Office and was British Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein and, before that, Syria. He held diplomatic posts in many other countries including in the Middle East, Africa and Europe. He retired from the British diplomatic service in 2004. He was Founder Chairman of Cecily's Fund for ten years and is now Chair of its International Advisory Panel. He has visited our programs and hosted groups to Zambia on many occasions and is very active in maintaining relations with our Zambian partners.

### **Richard Fursland, Director**

Now a Senior Adviser, as CEO Richard was a key figure at British American Business Inc. since its launch in 2000, as well as CEO of the British American Business Council – the two leading transatlantic business support organizations. Previously, Richard was COO of the International Peace Academy, EVP with Grey Advertising and a British diplomat serving in Hong Kong, Beijing, London and the United Nations in New York. Richard received his MA from Cambridge University. He visited our programs in Zambia in 2010.

### **Christina Hunt, Director**

Christina is an Attorney (Bar, State of Texas) having taken her LLM at the University of Houston. She specializes in international taxation. She has traveled extensively and currently resides with her family in London. Christina served for several years as Board Secretary.

### **James Kinsley, Director**

James is the founding Director of St. John's University's new Venture & Innovation Center. He was previously a member of the full-time faculty at Tobin College of Business and Professor of Management. James has spent most of his career in management and environmental consulting, working for a range of international organizations including KPMG, ERM, Atkins (now AtkinsRéalis), Merrill Lynch and the British Government's Dept of International Trade. James obtained a master's degree in Geography from the School of Geography and the Environment at Oxford University in the UK. He later received his MBA from Cranfield School of Management.

### **Jessica Moulton, Director**

Jessica was educated at Duke and Harvard, where she received her MBA. She is a Partner at the management consultants McKinsey & Co. and has been based for several years at their London office. She and her husband are avid supporters of children's charities and have travelled extensively in Africa. In 2008 they visited Zambia and experienced the impact of our programs firsthand.

### **H. Clay Black, Director – In Memoriam**

Clay is fondly remembered as a founding member of American Friends of Cecily's Fund and was invaluable in setting up our 501©3 status and handling all other legal and financial requirements. He had a distinguished career in the US Department of State, serving in several overseas posts, and continued to work part-time at the State Department in retirement. He resided in Washington DC with his wife.

### **Wyche Fowler, Jr., Patron**

Wyche is an American attorney, politician and diplomat. He visited our programs in Zambia in 2005 and was instrumental in the launch of American Friends of Cecily's Fund, serving as our President until 2009. He served as US Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Senator for Georgia, and member of the House of Representatives for Atlanta. He has been President of the Middle East Institute, Visiting Professor at Harvard University's Kennedy School of International Affairs, and Board member of the Carter Center at Emory University.