



## National Arab American Medical Association

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### NAAMA Chapters

NAAMA Arizona	NAAMA New England
NAAMA California	NAAMA New Jersey
NAAMA Central Florida	NAAMA New York
NAAMA Central Ohio	NAAMA North Carolina
NAAMA Eastern Virginia	NAAMA North Texas
NAAMA Florida	NAAMA Northwest Ohio
NAAMA Georgia	NAAMA Ohio
NAAMA Houston	NAAMA Ontario
NAAMA Illinois	NAAMA Oklahoma
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NAAMA Michigan	NAAMA Upstate New York
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NAAMA West Virginia	NAAMA Multi-State Chapter
NAAMA Southern Chapter	

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a new NAAMA chapter, visit [www.naama.com](http://www.naama.com)  
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Front cover: Rhazes (Al-Razi), Arabic clinician (865-925)

# National Arab American Medical Association



## الجمعية الطبية العربية الأمريكية

**NAAMA** The National Arab American Medical Association ("NAAMA"), established in 1975, is a professional, educational, charitable, humanitarian, and social organization for medical professionals of Arab heritage. NAAMA is nonprofit, non-political organization that proudly consists of 29 chapters across North America.

### Professional

One of NAAMA's key objectives is to promote professional relationships among its members and to allow for networking among health care professionals who share a common background and pride in their heritage. NAAMA also promotes relationships with medical organizations in North America and the Arab world, and has successfully built alliances with several medical schools and health care facilities in the region. Additionally, NAAMA is affiliated with the American Medical Association and several state medical societies.

NAAMA also advocates for international medical graduates and serves as an important voice for Arab-American physicians. *NAAMA also collaborates with Arab-American organizations in serving the medical and social needs of the Arab-American community.*

### Educational

NAAMA is fully accredited by the American Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide CME credits to physicians attending NAAMA's scientific conferences.

*NAAMA sponsors two major annual medical conventions, one national and one international, in addition to several local and regional activities.*

The conventions showcase the academic accomplishments of NAAMA's members and provide a unique platform for Arab and Arab-American medical scholars. These conventions are highly rated for providing updates on the latest in medical advancements.

Such information is exchanged among colleagues nationwide and overseas. The conventions also allow friendly and relaxed interaction amongst members and their families.

### Charitable and Humanitarian

*Since its inception, The NAAMA Foundation has provided funds through its annual disbursements to the Liaison Committees as well as special fund-raising initiatives. These initiatives help address acute needs in areas of crisis, both in the Arab world and elsewhere. Millions of dollars in financial support, funded by generous contributions from the organization's members and friends, as well as in-kind aid, has gone to assist educational, medical, and charitable institutions throughout the Arab World.*

NAAMA has also sponsored *medical missions* throughout the Arab world, taking the expertise of its volunteer members to where it is needed most, clinical venues where state-of-the-art care is provided free of charge.

In addition, NAAMA has conducted *clinical workshops* to "train the trainer" and contribute to the sustainable development of medical resources where NAAMA international conventions are held.

NAAMA has taken *medical certification courses* such as PALS and ACLS to the Arab World in efforts to assist our Arab colleagues in providing a standardized approach for patient care that will improve clinical outcomes.

NAAMA has provided *major grants to Arab-American organizations* such as the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) in Dearborn, Michigan helping its charitable health center to provide medical care to thousands of indigent Arab-Americans in the Detroit metropolitan area.

## The NAAMA Foundation

*The Road to Excellence...*

The NAAMA Foundation demonstrates NAAMA's commitment to long-term philanthropy. Supported projects have included medical assistance, educational exchanges, scholarships, research grants and emergency medical aid. Present and future milestones along the road to excellence include:

- Providing medical aid and health education to Arab American individuals and communities
- Providing and coordinating routine and emergency medical care in support of those in need in the Arab world
- Awarding scholarships to deserving health care students of Arab descent enrolled in U.S. or Canadian schools, based on need and merit.
- Sponsoring the training of paramedical personnel residing overseas
- Sponsoring speakers, grants, textbooks, and other educational resources for medical schools in the Arab world
- Donating medical equipment and supplies to hospitals and clinics throughout the Arab world.
- Responding to natural disasters in America and worldwide

## The Liaison Committees

Over the years, NAAMA has established liaison committees for each Arab country. These Committees plan and execute special projects in these countries as needed.

Some examples of recent successful projects include:

- **Egypt**

In 2003, NAAMA's Egypt Liaison Committee spearheaded a children's cancer project in Egypt to transform *Nasser Institute for Cancer* into a model treatment and research center. In 2004, the project expanded to include a pediatric intensive care unit for young oncology patients. Additionally, several educational symposia and workshops have been held at the Institute. A pediatric fellowship program was also established at the institute, and has already proven its success with several graduates.

- **Iraq**

Immediately after the first Gulf war NAAMA arranged for the first *Medical Mission* to Iraq, providing emergency medical supplies to pediatric hospitals throughout the country. Much needed medical equipment and supplies were also shipped to hospitals and clinics. NAAMA also donated computers and software to medical schools in Baghdad and other Iraqi cities.



- **Lebanon**

NAAMA has made numerous contributions to universities in Lebanon, ranging from textbooks to the *Lebanese University* to donations to *University of Balamand*.

NAAMA also supported the Samih Alami Medical Students Scholarship Fund at the *American University of Beirut* and the *Ghassan Kanafani Cultural Foundation*. NAAMA was the first to conduct a research study on growth and nutritional status in children living in Lebanon refugee camps. In response to 2006 war on Lebanon, NAAMA members and chapters nationwide contributed to the Lebanon Medical Relief Fund to offer assistance to the Lebanese Red Cross as well as other charitable organizations working in Lebanon.

- **Syria**

Emergency medical supplies were donated to Syria after the collapse of the country's fourth largest dam in 2002. NAAMA has also arranged for special training opportunities for Syrian professionals in centers in the United States.

- **Palestine**



Over the past few years, NAAMA has delivered ambulance vehicles, pharmaceuticals, and medical supplies to Palestinian communities in response to dire conditions.

With NAAMA's support, a burn unit was established in *Makased Hospital in Jerusalem* as well as *Rafidia Hospital in Nablus*.

A Pediatric Intensive care unit was established in *Al Watani Hospital in Nablus* in addition to establishing or upgrading emergency rooms and ICUs in *Ramallah* and *Hebron*.

The most recent project in Palestine is the new Diabetes Center that will be established with the help of other charitable organizations. Physicians from NAAMA together with Physicians for Peace and other organizations carry out humanitarian missions to Palestine on regular basis.

- **Arab American Communities**

In the United States, NAAMA has supported several *Arab American Organizations*, such as ACCESS in Michigan and Ohio and the American Arab Anti Discrimination Committee (ADC).

NAAMA has also responded swiftly to natural disasters. Teams from the



Southern Chapters graciously helped evacuees of hurricane Katrina. Contributions were made by NAAMA to *Katrina and Rita Hurricane Funds*. NAAMA's *Tsunami Relief Fund* was also established to contribute to Southeast

## NAAMA MEMBERSHIP:

The word *medical* includes those holding degrees which allow them to practice medicine in North America (MD, DO) or degrees in Dentistry, Podiatry, Optometry, Pharmacy or Chiropractic. NAAMA membership also includes those who are scientists in the medical field (PhD., DSc), researchers or teachers at recognized institutions.

### Membership Categories

- *Active*: Licensed medical professionals
- *Associate*: Students, residents and fellows
- *Affiliate*: Allied health professionals
- *Corresponding*: Medical professionals abroad
- *Auxiliary*: Friends and families of members

*To become a member please visit [www.naama.com](http://www.naama.com) and apply online or download an application form.*

*For more information please call:  
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or e-mail [naama@naama.com](mailto:naama@naama.com)*