

APRIL 2020

NAAMA Newsletter



A Message from NAAMA President

Dear members,

As we are experiencing unprecedented hardship during the Coronavirus pandemic, NAAMA National and its chapters have been taking great steps to combat it. I am proud of all the work that has been done so far. I give my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for putting your lives at risk to fulfill the oath you took.

NAAMA formed a COVID-19 Task Force, headed by Dr Omar Lattouf, Foundation Chair. Useful information is posted regularly on our website and social media outlets. In addition, NAAMA is teaming up with other organizations to form a Coalition for Medical Education with the goal of offering scientific lectures in multiple disciplines and on-line CME. The first lecture will take place on May 2nd, 2020. Stay tuned for a separate detailed email on this subject.

Finally, NAAMA Foundation has launched a COVID-19 Giving Campaign to support communities that are most affected by this pandemic in the US and the Arab World. Please consider donating.

NAAMA can only grow and fulfil its mission of education and philanthropy with your support. Please [renew your membership](#) and stay connected by visiting our [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

*Sincerely,
Imad Shbeeb, MD, FASCRS*



Letter to The White House

On April 23, 2020 NAAMA sent an appeal to President Donald Trump asking him to temporarily lift the imposed sanction on all sanctioned countries during the Coronavirus pandemic.

[Click to read the letter](#)

NAAMA Foundation

GRANTS APPROVED TO COMBAT CORONAVIRUS IMPACT IN THE US AND THE ARAB WORLD:

1. A \$5,000 grant to Questscope in Syria to help in their efforts to assist over two million internally displaced persons to secure, food, shelter and sanitation.
2. A \$10,000 grant to ANERA to support medical institutions' response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Gaza Strip.
3. A \$10,000 grant to ANERA to support a youth jobs program in Lebanon that is focused on the production of masks for use by Syrian, Palestinian and Lebanese people in vulnerable communities.
4. A \$20,000 grant to support merit and need-based scholarships for 3 Arab-American medical students and one Arab-American dental student, as part of NAAMA's NextGen initiative.
5. A \$10,000 grant to the Arab-American Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) in Dearborn, Michigan to support 800 refugee families in Southeastern Michigan who have been impacted by the economic crisis. ACCESS is providing food support, help to find jobs, and other social services.

PLEASE HELP US CONTINUE OUR MISSION AND DONATE GENEROUSLY.

Donate to COVID-19 Giving Campaign

NAAMA NextGen

Third National NAAMA NextGen Summit: February 8th, 2020

Over 100 attendees, distinguished speakers, two panel discussions, research segment with poster and platform presentations from undergraduate and medical students.

NAAMA NextGen COVID-19 Volunteering:

- Test drive of COVID-19 conducted at ACCESS community clinic, in Dearborn, MI.
- Virtual science tutoring for high school students by NextGen members.
- "COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall" NAAMA NextGen-University of Michigan in collaboration with UNICEF UNITE April 17th, 2020. Panel: Safwan M. Badr, MD, MBA, Professor & Chair of Internal Medicine, WSU; Usamah Mossallam, MD, MBA, Emergency Medicine, Henry Ford Health System; Fouad Batah, MD, Michigan Premier Internist, William Beaumont Hospital.

[Click here to read more details about NextGen activities.](#)

[Click here to watch the "COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall".](#)

[Click here to follow NAAMA NextGen News.](#)



Chapters' News

Michigan Chapter:

- “Coronavirus Updates”, a lecture by Dr Bishr Ujayli, March 4, 2020.
- One Million Pulse Oximeter Challenge launched on March 28, 2020.
- “Ramadan and Pregnancy”, a virtual presentation by Drs Leila Hajjar and Majid Shaman, April 25, 2020.

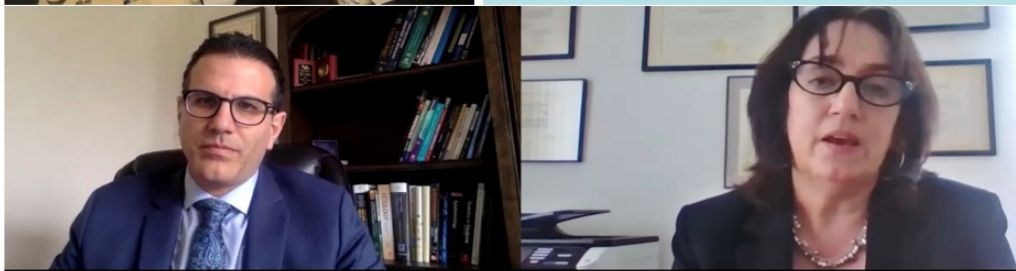

For more follow [Michigan Chapter Facebook page](#) and [website](#).



One Million Pulse-Oximeter Challenge

Help us reduce emergency room visits
And preserve PPE

We are seeking volunteers to provide virtual medical screening and help distribute pulse oximeters



San Diego Chapter

- San Diego Chapter has supported a Community Outreach Program to assist local residents most affected and at risk of COVID-19. This

program is designed for our older adults who are isolated and/or practicing social distancing. It is an ongoing program and NAAMA volunteers are helping with this program and providing assistance with grocery and basic needs shopping for elderly in the community.

- In response to shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE), the San Diego Chapter organized community fundraising to purchase PPE to be distributed to front-line healthcare workers at different hospitals in San Diego.
- San Diego Chapter celebrated April as the Arab American Heritage Month by honoring Arab American front-line healthcare workers and research scientists fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. The contributions of our members were acknowledged on social media like Facebook and YouTube with other grass root Arab American organizations like Arab American Anti- discrimination Committee (ADC) and National Arab American Professionals (NAAP).

[Watch the YouTube video.](#)

For more info visit the [San Diego Chapter website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

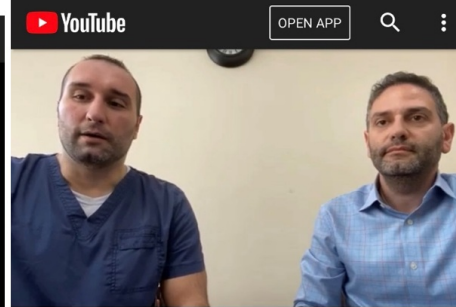


Saint Louis Chapter

- Medical Liability Lecture, March 6, 2020.
- The Saint Louis Chapter Food Drive benefited St. Raymond Maronite Church and Dar Ul Salem Mosque on Wideman, March 22-28, 2020.
- Launched [YouTube channel](#) to post information about COVID-19 in Arabic. Check out the 1st episode with Dr Jad Khoury, Infectious Disease specialist, interviewed by Dr George Mansour, Internal Medicine, April 3, 2020.
- **Follow Saint Louis Chapter [Facebook Page](#) and [YouTube Channel](#).**



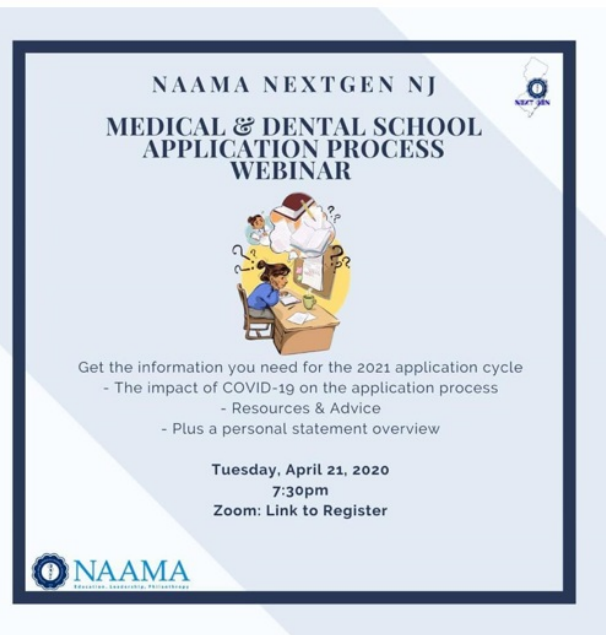
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738 views



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New Jersey Chapter

- NAAMA NextGen New Jersey Mentorship Program, Feb 5, 2020.
- Suturing Workshop with Dr. Amro Elnakib, Feb 23, 2020.
- Medical & Dental School Application Process webinar, April 21, 2020.
- [BBC Arabic interview with Dr Mahmoud Aqel](#), NJ Past president, NAAMA National Secretary, April 21, 2020.
- Providing Care during COVID-19 webinar, April 28, 2020.
- **Follow the New Jersey Chapter on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).**



Los Angeles Chapter

- Feb 14, 2020, LA Auxiliary Social.
- Feb 28, 2020 dinner/lecture: Navigating Financial Markets.
- Established NextGen CA chapter, ca-naama-nextgen.com.
- Membership Drive campaign.
- Coming soon: LA Chapter Facebook page.



New York Chapter

An informal meeting took place by volunteers interested in reactivating the chapter.

Stay tuned for more news.

Upcoming Events:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the following NAAMA National events are on hold until further notice:

- **NAAMA International Medical Convention-** Morocco
- **NAAMA National Medical Convention-** California

[Click to renew your membership](#)

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