

Dear APPNA colleagues,

You have shown dedication to your profession and service for the people who depend on your expertise. To further your motivation, APPNA has established the Healthcare Clinic committee to help members realize their desire to provide quality medical care at low or no cost to needy patients.

I was appointed the Chair of this committee a few months ago, and it has been my privilege and honor. Upon meeting a lot of physicians during the APPNA Strategy Meeting 2018 in Miami, I found enthusiasm among our members to give back to communities which have welcomed them and support their practices. The United States of America is a land of beauty, hospitality for immigrants, and justice, and we would like to give back by providing healthcare with our skills and experience gained over decades and in multiple nations.

As physicians, we bring knowledge, hard work, care and love for people suffering from illness. The best way to provide free or low-cost service is by establishing Free Medical Clinics. To this end I offer my services and experience which I gained in helping my friends set up a free clinic in Florida. This clinic operates on Charitable donations as a 501(c)(3) organization giving tax benefits to donors. Expenses are kept at a minimum by efficient use of office space and utilities, volunteer physicians, nurses and office staff, free EHR and agreements with labs and imaging for discounted rates for patients seen at the Free Clinic. Sovereign immunity is provided by the State on a per provider basis while practicing at our Free Clinic. As our community grows, I see no limits to expansion.

Over the last few weeks I have developed a blueprint or framework outlining all the steps necessary from inception to the first patient seen. This is being finalized and shall soon be made available in a section of www.APPNA.org | **Projects | APPNA Free Clinic and Medical Camp**.

With my fellow committee members, I will next establish a database of State requirements for Free Clinics on a State by State basis. This will help any chapter interested in establishing a Free Clinic. Information will be available not just about legal and regulatory needs but also

- Phone numbers and links to the respective State Board of Health and County Health Departments.
- Forms needed for providers and patients.
- Malpractice coverage options or Sovereign Immunity if offered by a particular State.
- Possible legal assistance and general ByLaws for Not-for-Profit corporations to run the clinic.
- Other helpful ideas and a forum for providers to seek answers quickly and from experienced sources.
- Please feel free to forward ideas and start a discussion, this is a community effort.

The goal of our Free Clinic effort is **33 Chapters 33 Clinics**.

I look forward to working with my committee and providing service in establishing this humanitarian effort of APPNA for our homeland. Please look out for updates and feel free to roll up your sleeves. We are about to start a most gratifying and enjoyable journey.

Thank you,

Unser Khan, MD
Chair, Committee of Healthcare Clinics

Mubasher Rana, MD Coordinator
Shahnaz Ahmed, MD

Aftab Khan, MD Co-Chair

Zaffar Iqbal, MD Co-Chair
Zahid Sheikh, MD