



# ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF PAKISTANI DESCENT OF NORTH AMERICA

## APPNA STL SPRING MEETING



The Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America -Greater St. Louis Chapter held its Spring Meeting on Saturday March 6, 2010 at the Living World exhibit at the St. Louis Zoo. The program was conducted by Dr. Mohammed Haseeb, Secretary of the Greater St. Louis APPNA chapter.

There were 130 audience members at the business meeting, including residents and interns from training programs in St. Louis and Kansas City. Dr. Mujtaba A. Qazi, MD, Director of Clinical Studies at Pepose Vision Institute, began the meeting with a presentation on the diagnosis and management of dry eye syndrome and ocular allergies. Dr. Shahid Badar requested further donations to the APPNA Haiti Fund (visit [www.mo-appna.org](http://www.mo-appna.org) for mailing address). Dr. M. Umair Ali provided an update on the Annual Canned Food & Clothing Drive (visit [www.mo-appna.org](http://www.mo-appna.org) for deposit sites), which will be distributed to new immigrant families in St. Louis. Dr. Nadeem Ahmed, Past President of APPNA STL, reviewed the events of 2009, including the 1st Annual Picnic and formation of the Young Physicians Committee.

Dr. Mujtaba Qazi, President of APPNA STL, provided an update of the APPNA St. Louis free clinic at Masjid Bilal, for which documents for state certification were being submitted. He also announced the initiation of a Skills Transfer Training Program, which sponsors travel and registration fees for continuing education seminars in the United States for physicians from academic medical centers in Pakistan. Dr. Qazi thanked the National Health Forum (NHF) for sponsoring the first round of coursework planned in June, 2010. Dr. Naseem Shekhani reviewed additional NHF ventures (visit [www.nhfus.org](http://www.nhfus.org)), including financial support for a Childrens Cancer Hospital in Pakistan. Along the same lines, Dr. Sadiq Mohyuddin outlined the need for developing nursing education in Pakistan.

The business meeting closed



with a bevy of community announcements including an invitation to:

SAWERAA, which assists South Asian women in St. Louis who have suffered from domestic abuse, fundraiser in Ballwin, MO on March 19th

([www.saveraa.org](http://www.saveraa.org)).

KEMCAANA retreat on March 19-21 at Baltimore Harbor, MD ([www.kemcaana.org](http://www.kemcaana.org))

**Human Development Foundation Fundraiser & Fashion Show in Chesterfield, MO on March 28 ([www.hdf.com](http://www.hdf.com)).**

DOGANA retreat on April 23-35 in St. Louis, MO ([www.dowalumni.com](http://www.dowalumni.com)).

The second half of the program was headlined by the famous Pakistani singer, actor and composer Arshad Mehmood, who sang ballads in Urdu, Panjabi and Sindhi. He closed with a lively tune that brought audience members to the stage for traditional dancing. He was accompanied by Omkar Deshpande, a finalist on Indian Idol 1, and Uma Karia, a female singer from Chicago. The musical program was open to

all members of the St. Louis Pakistani community. Further information and photographs of the Spring Meeting are available at [www.mo-appna.org](http://www.mo-appna.org).





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