

Guide for Starting a Chapter of Ghana Physicians and Surgeons Foundation

A chapter may be formed by members of adjoining states or a single state. There should be at least ten members to qualify to form a chapter.

Every chapter must be approved by the executive Board of GPSF.

The Ghana Physicians and Surgeons Foundation of North America (GPSF) was established to support the mission of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons (GCPS) which was established by an Act of Parliament in 2002 to provide quality postgraduate training in Medicine in Ghana. It also serves as an advocacy group to influence health policy and educate the general public about numerous health care issues in Ghana and Africa. The foundation supports all non-profit health initiatives in Ghana by Ghanaian and other health professionals in North America.

GPSF was founded in 2002 following a visit by Prof. Nyame, the first Rector of the newly created postgraduate college to the US to meet with an ad hoc group of Ghanaian physician leaders in the US to discuss how Ghanaian physicians in the US could collaborate with the college. GPSF was registered as a 501(3) c corporation

Mission

To promote specialist training and professional development in Medicine, Surgery and related disciplines in Ghana.

To promote professional growth of its members through educational opportunities that offer CMEs (continuing medical education credits) in Ghana and the USA.

To promote altruism, professionalism and scholarship among its members

To identify and coordinate medical missions to underserved areas both here in the USA and in Ghana.

Provide the platform for dialogue with regards to promoting health in Ghana

To seek collaborative research opportunities in the medical community and contribute to improved health care in Ghana

To provide a platform for social interaction and networking opportunities for members.

1. New Chapter set up
2. Contact the GPSF executives to attain approval

3. Review the By-laws, mission and vision as well as Policies of the organization
4. Identify and contact Ghanaian physicians, residents, fellows and medical students in your region-you may use social media, LinkedIn. The GPSF secretariat will prepare flyers and contact key members in the region to join recruitment team
5. Identify a time and venue for inauguration
6. Sponsorship for logistics should be obtained, the National secretariat will help line up supporters
7. Inform executives of inauguration date and whenever possible one of the executives or past executives will attend and update attendees on current issues
8. Elect executive board members – at minimum, president, vice president, organizing secretary - at the inauguration and also collect a list of all members in attendance and post inauguration. Make this list available to the GPSF secretariat together with the minutes of the program
9. Discuss membership dues and maintain routine lines of communication with members both on national and local level
10. Schedule an executive committee meeting and come up with activities for the year e.g. Health fares, family picnics, Christmas dinners, mentoring residents, medical students and fellows in your group, establish mentor/mentee relationships. Plan ahead and determine means to sponsor these activities.
11. All chapter heads/execs schedule periodic meetings (every 3months) with President –Elect and Vice President. President Elect will schedule conference call meeting time with all chapter heads collectively to allow for exchange of ideas, updates etc.