NASMDA
North American Sikh Medical and Dental Association

NASMDA 2025 Annual Meeting

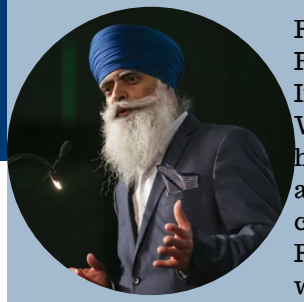
Engage, Embolden, Enlighten, Empower

January 17th – 19th 2025

SPEAKERS BIOS

Ravi Singh

CEO and Founder of Khalsa Aid International



Ravi Singh is the CEO and Founder of Khalsa Aid International, established in 1999. With over 20 years of experience, he has led humanitarian missions across 25 countries, responding to conflicts and natural disasters. Ravi has built strong partnerships with local NGOs, providing both immediate relief and long-term support.

Dr. Rajwant Singh

Founder and President of EcoSikh

Dr. Rajwant Singh is the founder and President of EcoSikh, a global organization addressing the climate crisis. He co-founded the National Sikh Campaign to raise awareness of Sikh identity and serves as Chairman of the Sikh Council on Religion and Education (SCORE). He organized the first Guru Nanak birth anniversary celebration at the White House in 2009. He is a practicing dentist and has four dental clinics in the Washington DC area.

Dr. Swaiman Singh

President at 5 Rivers Heart Association

Dr. Swaiman Singh is a transformative physician committed to humanitarian and social causes, through his organization, the 5 Rivers Heart Association. His work focuses on healthcare for underserved communities, particularly through crisis intervention. The Association is leading medical outreach in Punjab, building a hospital in Faridkot, and planning a STEMI center by 2028.

Harinder Singh

Member of the UK Sikh Diaspora

Harinder Singh, a member of the UK Sikh diaspora in Leicester, is an author and speaker. He has written children's books for the BBC, co-authored a play on India's Partition for BBC Radio 4, and scripted 3D films on Maharaja Ranjit Singh for Sikhlens USA. As head of Sikhlens UK and Festival Director, he promotes Sikh heritage, including through his book "Jewels from Sikh Wisdom".

Jonisha Pollard

Branch Chief of the Research Branch at the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL)

Jonisha Pollard is the Branch Chief of the Research Branch at the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL). As Branch Chief, she ensures NPPTL maintains a responsive research portfolio that supports the needs for research and guidance to improve the design, performance, and usability of personal protective equipment and technologies.

Dr. Prabhjot Singh

renowned physician, author, and global health innovator

Dr. Prabhjot Singh is a renowned physician, author, and global health innovator who has dedicated his career to improving healthcare systems and championing health equity.

Dr. Jasmeet Bains

Medical Director at Bakersfield Recovery Services

Dr. Bains serves as Medical Director at Bakersfield Recovery Services, overseeing substance abuse, addiction, and mental health rehabilitation; she was appointed by Governor Brown to the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission and received the 2019 Hero of Family Medicine award and the 2021 Beautiful Bakersfield Award.

Mandheer Singh

Host of the Sikh podcast

Mandheer Singh, (aka the Net Nihung), is the host of the Sikh podcast, The Net Nihung's Arena, featuring a variety of Sikh professionals. He is a real estate broker and investor by profession, but has volunteered at Sikh camps, retreats, and local programs for over 30 years.

Dr. Manmeet Bedi

Board-certified anesthesiologist

Dr. Manmeet Bedi, a board-certified anesthesiologist in Phoenix, is also a DJ performing as BEDI, blending his medical career with a passion for electronic dance music. With degrees in anthropology and clinical services, he credits music, a passion since high school, for maintaining his work-life balance and mental health.

Gurbakhash Kaur, M.D.

Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center

Dr. Gurbakhash Kaur, M.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center, specializing in stem cell transplantation, CAR T-cell therapy, immunotherapy, and treating multiple myeloma and plasma cell disorders. She is involved in clinical trials to develop novel therapeutics for multiple myeloma.

Dr. Sagina Hanjrah

Dr. Sagina Hanjrah practices in the Department of Family Medicine at UI Health. Dr. Hanjrah is interested in all areas of family medicine, especially chronic illnesses. She is passionate about medical education, immigrant and refugee health, and global health. Dr. Hanjrah also serves as the Director of Medical Education in the Department of Family Medicine.

Dr. Harminder Singh

Clinician scientist, epidemiologist and practicing gastroenterologist

Dr. Harminder Singh, a clinician scientist, epidemiologist, and practicing gastroenterologist, is currently an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Manitoba. He co-leads the Manitoba Hereditary GI Cancer Clinic and formerly served on the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care.

Dr. Ammundeep Tagore (NJ)

Emergency Physician with a subspecialty in EMS & Disaster Medicine

Dr. Ammundeep Tagore is an Emergency Physician specializing in EMS and Disaster Medicine, with roles including Tactical and Flight Physician, Adjunct Faculty at Rutgers, and Clinical Advisor for the NJ Hospital Association.

Harleen Singh

Harleen, a renowned documentary filmmaker, creates narratives that inspire audiences to transcend their limitations. Her films have earned recognition at over 100 international film festivals, winning nine awards and airing on PBS. Notably, she highlights Sikh individuals in leading roles, and has been honored as one of the 50 prominent Sikhs in the USA.

Gursimran Kochhar, MD

Division Chief, Director of Interventional Endoscopy at Allegheny Health Network's Allegheny General Hospital

Dr. Gursimran Kochhar, MD, is Division Chief and Director of Interventional Endoscopy at Allegheny Health Network's Allegheny General Hospital, specializing in interventional inflammatory bowel disease and advanced therapeutic procedures. His research on IBD management has been published in leading gastroenterology journals, and he is also board certified in Nutrition.

Dr. Suneet Kaur

Associate Program Director and Clinical Assistant Professor at Atrium Health

Dr. Kaur, board certified in internal medicine with a focus on women's health, is the associate program director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program and a clinical assistant professor of medicine at Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center. She researches quality improvement and has received awards for compassionate care and teaching.

Armaan S. Johal

Armaan S. Johal is passionate about applied AI, with interests and experience in clinical machine learning, generative AI for business growth, healthcare interoperability, digital health, entrepreneurship, and global healthcare policy, currently focusing on leveraging LLMs like ChatGPT, GPT-4, and LLaMA to improve patient care and business impact.

Karandeep Singh (CA)

Jacobs Chancellor's Endowed Chair and Chief Health AI Officer at UC San Diego Health

Dr. Karandeep Singh is the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Chancellor's Endowed Chair in Digital Health Innovation at UC San Diego, where he serves as Chief Health AI Officer, leading AI initiatives and strategy for the health system.

Dr. Baljinder Bathla

ACGME-accredited fellowship-trained pain management physician

Dr. Baljinder Bathla is an ACGME-accredited, fellowship-trained pain management physician, board-certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Pain Management, specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of pain conditions.

DR. Rohit Mehta (NC)

cardiac electrophysiologist at Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute

Dr. Rohit Mehta is a cardiac electrophysiologist with expertise in complex cardiac procedures and a passion for sudden cardiac arrest care and CPR awareness, serving as co-chairman of the Omar Carter Foundation and a former board president of the American Heart Association.

Sehej S. Johal

Co-founder of Sikh Health Network

Sehej S. Johal is a micobiology student at UC Davis and he is passionate about healthcare and medicine especially as it relates to community care. He is the co-founder of Sikh Health Network, a US non-profit committed to enabling Sikh Gurdwaras to start and maintain a free health clinic.

Taran Singh

Co-founder of A Little Happiness Foundation

Taran Singh is a poet, executive leader, and explorer born and raised in the lap of the Himalayas; currently resides in California, where many of his creative & social endeavors take their first shape. He is a Retail business leader and co-founder of A Little Happiness Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to raising education and professional skills for the community.

Giselle Klapper

Legal Director of the Sikh Coalition

Giselle Klapper, the Legal Director of the Sikh Coalition, a role she assumed after serving as Interim Legal Director. She joined the organisation as a Legal Fellow in October 2017 and advanced through roles as Staff Attorney, Senior Staff Attorney, and Deputy Legal Director. Trained as an international human rights lawyer, she previously worked at the Law Firm of Tina Foster.

Bicky Singh

Technology entrepreneur

Bicky Singh, a technology entrepreneur, founded Future Computing Solutions in 1991 and later established Sikhlens to promote Sikh awareness through film and Sikh-centric film festivals. Over 25 years, Sikhlens has produced hundreds of films, supported Sikh nonprofits, and provided scholarships to filmmakers. Bicky also organizes heritage tours to Pakistan and has served on the Board of Governors at Chapman University.

Dr. Anila Chadha

Obesity Medicine Physician at Dignity Health Medical Foundation

Dr. Anila Chadha, a medical graduate from India and UCI-affiliated Kern Medical Center, is board-certified in Family Medicine. She specialises in obesity management and related conditions like diabetes, hypertension, sleep apnea, and arthritis. Since 2014, she has been with Dignity Health Medical Group-Bakersfield.

Harman Singh

Executive Director of the Sikh Coalition

Harman Singh is the Executive Director of the Sikh Coalition, having previously served as Policy & Education Director, leading advocacy on issues like hate crimes and workplace discrimination. Before joining the Sikh Coalition, he worked in higher education as a PhD Program Coordinator & Academic Auditor at the University of Michigan and as an Academic Advisor at Wayne State University.

Dr. Ramanpreet Singh

Research Physician

Dr.Ramanpreet Singh M.D. is a physician. Worked in field of Gurbani Music and Neuroscience and coordinating Medical Education and Services implementation strategies.

Harbir Bhatia

CEO of the Silicon Valley Central-Chamber-of-Commerce

Harbir, CEO of the Silicon Valley Central Chamber of Commerce and founder of multiple Sikh organizations, has over 20 years of experience in Sikh awareness, civic leadership, and SAAM proclamations. She has served as City Commissioner, advocates for civic engagement, and has earned recognitions like the Civilian Medal of Honor from Kharkiv, Ukraine, and the SC County Community Hero Award.

Rana Singh Sodhi

Sikh community leader and advocate

Rana Singh Sodhi, a Sikh leader and community activist, advocates against hate crimes and holds leadership roles with the Sikh Council on Religion and Education, the National Sikh Campaign, and the Global Sikh Alliance. He has received several awards, including the Anti-Defamation League Shelly K. Award and the Martin Luther King Jr. Living the Dream Award.

Preetmohan Singh

Sales, Marketing, Media Consultant

Preetmohan Singh, runs Preet Singh and Partners in Silicon Valley. He collaborates with startups and established firms on marketing, sales, and media. He has worked with Nvidia, Meta/Facebook, Google, Costco, Dixon golf, and various nonprofit organizations. He co-produced PBS' "A Dream in Doubt" and "The Sikh Next Door".

Manka Dhingra

Washington State Senator

Manka Dhingra, Washington State Senator for the 45th Legislative District and former Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, is an award-winning PTSA mom, anti-domestic violence advocate, and mental health expert. She collaborates with law enforcement, courts, and mental health professionals to improve criminal justice outcomes.

Pritpal Singh

Physician Executive at Cigna

Dr. Pritpal Singh is a Physician Executive at Cigna, where he mentors Health Management teams, providing clinical insight and healthcare solutions in areas such as population management, wellness, disease prevention, and claims resolution. He is also a board member of the Sikh Research Institute (SikhRI), which offers educational resources to help Sikhs lead a Guru-inspired life.

Ms. Kiran Kaur Gill

Executive Director of the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF)

Ms. Kiran Kaur Gill, Executive Director of SALDEF, oversees programs on policy, education, and civic engagement, chairs the DHS Faith Based Security Advisory Council, has advised the White House and Congress, previously ran a successful consulting firm, and co-founded Inspiring South Asian American Women (ISAAW).

Harpreet Singh Sandhu

Board-certified pulmonary specialist

Dr. Sandhu is a board-certified pulmonary specialist with nearly 30 years of experience, offering comprehensive care for conditions like asthma, COPD, and lung cancer. Originally from India, he immigrated to the U.S. in 1989 for further training and is fluent in both English and Punjabi.

Dani Kaur

High School Senior | Aspring Neurosurgeon

Dani Kaur is a high school senior interested in psychiatry, neuroscience, and behavioral sciences, aspiring to become a neurosurgeon and entrepreneur. She is passionate about helping people achieve their best selves through productivity, discipline, and a growth mindset. With strong ambition, focus, and time-management skills, Dani is dedicated to fully pursuing her goals and purpose.

Bhajleen Kaur

Sophomore anesthetist nurse aspirant

Bhajleen Kaur is a sophomore pursuing a career as an anesthetist nurse. Starting college at 16, she has shown a strong commitment to driving change in the medical field, particularly within her community. As a team lead at GHMC, she plays a proactive role in enhancing the well-being of the Sikh community at Fremont Gurdwara Sahib and is passionate about bridging language barriers to ensure equitable healthcare access for the Punjabi/Sikh community.

Gurjote Singh

Managing Partner of Hukam Capital

Gurjote, Managing Partner of Hukam Capital, leads a family office focused on growing wealth for immigrant and first-generation families through commercial real estate investments. Specializing in walkable downtowns and student housing, Hukam Capital aims to leave communities better than it found them. Gurjote brings expertise in M&A, tech, and real estate development to the role.

Tegbir Singh

Sophomore Neuroscience major at Johns Hopkins University

Tegbir Singh is a sophomore at Johns Hopkins University majoring in Neuroscience on the pre-med track. His work at GHMC inspired him to provide equitable healthcare to underserved communities and bridge cultural divides for effective care.

Rav Singh

Co-founder and principal at Spur Equity

Rav Singh, co-founder and principal at Spur Equity, is a seasoned real estate broker with expertise in hotels and syndications across North America. As a CCIM designee and KW Commercial's Hospitality Division Leader, he offers passive investment opportunities to help investors build generational wealth.

Bani Kaur

Third-year Human Biology major at UC, Davis.

Bani Kaur is a third-year Human Biology major at the University of California, Davis, on the pre-med track. She is passionate about increasing healthcare accessibility for underserved populations and serves as the President of the Bhagat Puran Singh Health Initiative chapter, organizing mobile clinics in Sacramento. Bani has been with the Guru Harkrishan Medical Clinic since 2022.

Jaskeerat Gulati

Internal Medicine physician at UT Southwestern Medical Center

Dr. Jaskeerat Gulati is an Internal Medicine physician at UT Southwestern Medical Center and currently serves as Chief Resident in the department of Internal Medicine at UT Southwestern.