

The Christian Medical & Dental Associations The Richmond Chapter Constitution

It becomes every man who purposes to give himself to the care of others seriously to consider the four following things: First, that he must one day give an account to the Supreme Judge of all the lives entrusted to his care. Secondly, that all his skill, and knowledge, and energy, as they have been given him by God, so they should be exercised for His glory, and the good of mankind, and not for the mere gain or ambition. Thirdly, and not more beautifully than truly, let him reflect that he has undertaken the care of no mean creature, for, in order that we may estimate the value, the greatness of the human race, the only begotten Son of God became himself a man, and thus enabled it with His divine dignity, and far more than this, died to redeem it. And, fourthly, that the doctor being himself a mortal man, should be diligent and tender in relieving his suffering patients, inasmuch as he himself must one day be like a sufferer.

Thomas Sydenham (1624-1689)

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Christian Medical & Dental Associations (CMDA), with this local chapter being known as the Christian Medical and Dental Associations of Richmond, Virginia (RCMDA).

ARTICLE II: STATEMENT OF FAITH

While each of us holds fast to additional beliefs important to our relationship with God, the following statement outlines the tenets that provide a foundation for our fellowship and participation in the Christian Medical & Dental Associations.

We Believe:

1. In the divine inspiration, integrity, and final authority of the Bible as the Word of God.
2. In the eternal God revealed in Holy Scripture as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. In the unique Deity of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of the Father whose death and resurrection provide by grace through faith the only means of our salvation from our sins and sinful nature.
4. In the transforming presence and power of the Holy Spirit in helping us to become more like Christ.

ARTICLE III: MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Section 1. *CMDA's National Mission* CMDA educates, encourages, and equips Christian healthcare professionals to glorify God. Christian healthcare professionals glorify God by following Christ, serving with excellence and compassion, caring for all people, and advancing biblical principles of healthcare within the Church and throughout the world.

Section 2. *CMDA's National Vision* Bringing the hope and healing of Christ to the world through healthcare professionals.

Section 3. *CMDA Richmond's Mission* Facilitates gatherings for students to fellowship with like-minded peers and with Christian graduate professionals to build relationships that promote growth professionally and personally.

ARTICLE IV: CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be open to five groups: Students, Residents and Fellows, Doctors (practicing and academic), Associates (all other healthcare workers), and Non-Healthcare individuals

Section 2. Classification of Membership

1. Active Members
 - a. Pay national dues
 - b. Are in agreement with the statements of Faith, Mission and Vision
 - c. Take part in and support our local programs and ministries
2. General Members
 - a. Pay no dues
 - b. Are in agreement with the statements of Faith, Mission and Vision
 - c. Attend at least one CMDA national or CMDA Richmond event during the year

ARTICLE V: COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Council membership is open to all active members who commit to attend at least 50% of monthly meetings.

Section 2. Council members who miss more than 50% of meetings within a six month period of time will be notified by the executive committee for re-evaluation of council membership.

Section 3. Student ministry leadership is strongly encouraged to have at least one student leader participate in the monthly Council meeting.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. All officers of this organization must be members of the national organization.

Section 2. The term of each officer will be two years, renewable without limit.

Section 3. The elected officers of this organization shall be: a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer or secretary/treasurer.

ARTICLE VII: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The executive committee shall consist of the officers and such others as the chapter may add from time to time.

The responsibilities of this committee are:

1. To carry out the mission, vision, general policies and programs of this organization as efficiently as possible.
2. To organize and evaluate the yearly program of the chapter, to determine yearly the active members in the area and propose yearly budget for the local ministry.
3. To call the annual meeting for the election of officers and for the submitting of reports of the various activities of the year.
4. To be responsible for the continuance of this organization from year to year.

ARTICLE VIII: NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The Nominating committee shall consist of the officers, who shall present to the members their slate of nominees.

Section 2. The Nominating committee shall also receive nominations from any member of the chapter. The nominations shall be submitted in writing to the committee prior to the annual business meeting.

Section 3. The officers shall be responsible to see that all nominees subscribe to the statement of faith as herein provided and are members of the national organization.

Section 4. All nominations shall be presented to the members a week in advance of the annual business meeting for their prayerful consideration. Officers shall then be elected at this meeting by a majority vote of the members present.

ARTICLE IX: MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings for the transaction of business shall be called by the Executive Committee or upon the request of three members. One week's notification shall be given to all members present and voting. Motions will be passed by a simple majority.

Section 2. There shall be at least one business meeting annually. The annual business meeting shall be held during the month of June, the new year beginning July 1st.

Section 3. Other meetings for the discussion and presentation of matters pertaining to the accomplishment of the purpose of this chapter stated herein shall be held as occasion demands.

ARTICLE X: ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This constitution shall be adopted upon receiving a three-fourth vote of the Council membership.

Section 2. This constitution may be amended by a three-fourth vote of the council membership, providing that no change is made in Article 2 and Article 3.

Section 3. Amendments to the Constitution shall not become valid until a copy of said amendment has been placed in the office of the Vice President of Campus and Community Ministries of the Christian Medical and Dental Associations.