



SAMS 18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Istanbul, Turkey • June 28-30



Anhadarora

Challenges of Delivering Medical Relief in a Protracted Conflict Zone

Effects on the vulnerable population & medical neutrality



INTERCONTINENTAL
ISTANBUL

Gala Dinner June 29

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SYRIAN AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY 18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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John Dautzenberg

Nada Jabri

CONFERENCE AND GALA LOCATION



INTERCONTINENTAL
ISTANBUL

Intercontinental Istanbul

Dolapdere Taksim Caddesi No:1

Istanbul, Turkey

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY JUNE 28

5:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.: Registration (*Dolmabahce Foyer*)

6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.: Opening Ceremony (*Dolmabahce Ballroom*)

7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.: Social Reception (*Dolmabahce Foyer*)

FRIDAY JUNE 29

7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.: Registration all day (*Dolmabahce Foyer*)

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM (*Dolmabahce Ballroom*)

8:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.: Session 1: Syrian Healthcare Structure and Updates: From Relief to Governance

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.: Session 2: International NGO's Response to the Crisis

1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.: Session 3: The Impact of a Protracted War on Childrens' Health and Development

4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.: Session 4: The Impact of a Protracted War on Women: Health, Suffering & Resilience

7:30 p.m.–8:00 p.m.: Gala Reception (*Dolmabahce Ballroom*)

8:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m.: Gala (*Dolmabahce Ballroom*)

SATURDAY JUNE 30

7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.: Registration all day (*Dolmabahce Foyer*)

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM (*Dolmabahce Ballroom*)

8:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.: Session 5: Violations of International Law and Attacks on Healthcare Facilities

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.: Session 6: Surgery in a Protracted Conflict Zone & Under Siege

1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.: Session 7: Chronic Diseases in a Protracted War Zone

4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.: Session 8: Research and Medical Education in a Conflict Zone

FRIDAY JUNE 29

7:00am–
5:00pm

REGISTRATION

SESSION 1: SYRIAN HEALTHCARE STRUCTURE AND UPDATES: FROM RELIEF TO GOVERNANCE

Part 1: Syrian NGOs on the Ground

Moderators: Amjad Rass, MD & Zedoun Alzoubi, PhD

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| 8:00–8:10 | SAMS Success Story: 2017 Year in Review, Amjad Rass, MD |
| 8:10–8:20 | Governance without Government: Governance as a Humanitarian Intervention, Zedoun Alzoubi, PhD |
| 8:20–8:30 | The Role of NGO's in Health Education: Future Vision, Mahmoud Aswad, MD |
| 8:30–8:40 | Syrian Refugees Become Expat Staff in Other Crises: PAC Project, Mohamed Zahed Almasri, MD |
| 8:40–9:00 | Q&A Panel discussion |
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Part 2: Healthcare in Syria: Challenges & Outlook

Moderators: Munzer Al Khalil, MD & Mazen Kewara, MD

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| 9:00–9:10 | Development of the Health Sector in Idlib Governorate, Munzer Al Khalil, MD |
| 9:10–9:20 | The Reality of Medicine in the Liberated Areas of Syria, Muhammad Feras Aljundi, MD |
| 9:20–9:30 | Ghouta before the Displacement: Difficulties and Challenges, Mohamad Imad Kabbani, MD |
| 9:30–9:40 | Response of the Hama Health Directorate, Maram Alsheikh Moustafa, MD |
| 9:40–10:00 | Q&A Panel discussion |
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10:00–10:30 Coffee break

FRIDAY (CONT.)

SESSION 2: INTERNATIONAL NGO's RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS

Part 1: Protracted Conflict

Moderators: *Ahmad Tarakji, MD & Jennifer Leaning, MD SMH*

- 10:30-11:00** The Impact of Protracted Conflict on Issues of Identity and Status, *Jennifer Leaning, MD SMH*
- 11:00-11:15** The Complexities of Supporting the Health System Response in a Protracted Crisis for Affected Syrian, Palestinian and Lebanese Communities in Lebanon, *Enrica Leresche, RN, MPH*
- 11:15-11:30** Employment Status of the Syrian Refugees in the Jordanian Workforce, Formalization Restrictions, and Challenges, *"Rania AlQenneh, MBA*
- 11:30-11:45** Issues of Integration and Sustainability of Refugees from Syria in the Context of Turkey, *Alper Küçük*
- 11:45-12:00** Rebuilding Health Systems in Protracted Conflicts: The Case of Syria, *Camilo Valderrama, MD, PhD, MPH*
- 12:00-12:15** Challenges the UN is Facing in Syria, *Mohan Ramesh Rajasingham*
- 12:15-12:30** Q&A Panel Discussion
- 12:30-1:30** Lunch Break

FRIDAY (CONT.)

SESSION 3: THE IMPACT OF A PROTRACTED WAR ON CHILDRENS' HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Part 1: Neonatology, Pediatrics, and Beyond

Moderators: Mohamad Al-Hosni, MD, FAAP & William J. Keenan, MD

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| 1:30-1:40 | Science and the Displaced Child, William J. Keenan, MD |
| 1:40-1:50 | SAMS Neonatal Services Inside Syria, Mohamad Al-Hosni, MD, FAAP |
| 1:50-2:00 | The Maternity Hospital in Idleb: Pumani CPAP Experience, Faeiz Jrad, MD |
| 2:00-2:10 | Pediatrics Under Siege: Stories from Ghouta, Amani Ballor, MD |
| 2:10-2:30 | Q&A Panel Discussion |
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Part 2: Child Abuse, Early Labor, & Education

Moderators: Fadi Alhalabi, MD & Annie Sparrow, MD MBBS MRCP FRACP MPH

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| 2:30-2:40 | TNPS's Experience with Syrian Refugees, Orhan Derman, MD |
| 2:40-2:50 | Building On Resilience, Seham Alnajjar & Yassar Kanawaty, MD |
| 2:50-3:00 | Alhamdulillah: Syrian Mother's as a Guide to Healing, Iyad Alkhouri, MD |
| 3:00-3:10 | Innovative Approaches to Education During Crisis: Case Studies from Lebanon, Fadi Alhalabi, MD |
| 3:10-3:30 | Q&A Panel Discussion |
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3:30-4:00	Coffee break
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FRIDAY (CONT.)

SESSION 4: THE IMPACT OF A PROTRACTED WAR ON WOMEN: HEALTH, SUFFERING & RESILIENCE

Part 1: Women's Health in a Protracted Conflict Zone (Medical)

Moderators: Adeeb Alshahrour, MD FACOG & Farida Almouslem, MD

- 4:00-4:10** Repercussions of Crisis: The Reality of War on Syrian Women, ***Ikram Habosh, MD***
- 4:10-4:20** Aleppo, then Idlib: Challenges & Difficulties, ***Farida Almouslem, MD***
- 4:20-4:30** SAMS Involvement in Womens Health: Inside and Outside Syria, ***Adeeb Alshahrour, MD, FACOG***
- 4:30-4:40** Global Agreement on Priorities Concerning Women's Health During Humanitarian Emergencies, ***Nadine Cornier***
- 4:40-5:00** Q&A Panel Discussion
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Part 2: Women Empowerment

Moderator: Iyad Alkhouri, MD

- 5:00-5:10** Social Support of Syrian Women Refugees in Lebanon, ***Majd Chourbaji***
- 5:10-5:20** Action for Women, ***Gabrielle Tay***
- 5:20-5:30** What Are Women Capable of?, ***Lubna Kanawaty***
- 5:30-5:40** Use of the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in the Syria context, ***Elsa LE PENNEC***
- 5:40-6:00** Q&A Panel Discussion
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7:30-8:00 Gala Reception (*Dolmabahce Ballroom*)

8:00-11:00 Gala (*Dolmabahce Ballroom*)

SATURDAY JUNE 30

7:00am–
5:00pm

REGISTRATION

SESSION 5: VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ATTACKS ON HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Moderators: Ken Roth, JD & Leonard S. Rubenstein, JD & Mohamad Katoub, DDS

- 8:00–8:20** The Challenges in Tracking Attacks on Health Facilities and the Methodologies Developed Toward That Goal, **Leonard S. Rubenstein, JD**
- 8:20–8:40** Strategy: Where do we go from here?, **Ken Roth, JD**
- 8:40–8:55** Chemicals Attacks: Before and After the UNSC resolutions and OPCW and GIM Reports, **Fadel Abdul Ghany**
- 8:55–9:10** Challenges of Collecting Evidence: Accountability & Documentation, **Bassam Alahmad**
- 9:10–9:30** SAMS Experience: Attacks on Healthcare Facilities, **Ahmad Tarakji, MD**
- 9:30–10:00** Q&A Panel discussion

10:00–10:30 Coffee break

SATURDAY (CONT.)

SESSION 6: SURGERY IN A PROTRACTED CONFLICT ZONE & UNDER SIEGE

Part 1: Trauma & Orthopedic Surgery

Moderators: Muheeb Muhammad Qaddour, MD & Ahmad Tarakji, MD

10:30-10:40 Idlib Central Hospital: Surgical Experience & Case Study, **Mohammad Abrash, MD**

10:40-10:50 The Health Reality in Jisr Al Shughour & its Countryside: Challenges & Outlook, **Ahmed Ghandour, MD**

10:50-11:00 Akrobat Hospital: The Story of a Dream, **Muheeb Muhammad Qaddour, MD**

11:00-11:20 Q&A Panel Discussion

Part 2: Surgery Under Siege

Moderators: Rodwan Rajjoub, MD FACS & Hamza Syed Hasan, MD

11:20-11:30 Difficulties in Practicing Neurosurgery in Besieged Areas, **Jalal Najjar, MD**

11:30-11:40 The Challenges of Medical Work Under Siege & Fire, **Hosam Hamdan, MD**

11:40-11:50 Double Whammy: War, Siege, & Anesthesia, **Mohammad Khair Taifoor, MD**

11:50-12:00 Spinal Cord Injury, **Rodwan Rajjoub, MD, FACS**

12:00-12:10 Medical Reality in Eastern Ghouta During the Syrian War, **Hamza Syed Hasan, MD**

12:10-12:30 Q&A Panel Discussion

12:30-1:30 Lunch Break

SATURDAY (CONT.)

SESSION 7: CHRONIC DISEASES IN A PROTRACTED WAR ZONE

Part 1: Selected Topics in Medicine & Dentistry

Moderators: *Sadeq Qara Mohammad, MD & Basel Termanini, MD*

- 1:30–1:40** Innovation in Providing Oral Health for Refugees in the Camps, *Othman Shibly, DDS, MS*
- 1:40–1:50** GI Endoscopy Needs in Northern Syria: SAMS Response, *Sadeq Qara Mohammad, MD*
- 1:50–2:00** Peripheral Vascular Disease: Experience & Innovations, *Haytham Albizem, MD, FACP, FACC*
- 2:00–2:10** Saving Lives One Heart at a Time: SAMS Cardiology Missions & Future Plans (presented by Dr. Termanini), *Dr. Zaki Lababidi FACC, FSCAI*
- 2:10–2:30** Q&A Panel Discussion
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Part 2: Challenges of Delivering Cancer Care in a Conflict Zone

Moderators: *Mufaddal Hamadeh, MD*

- 2:30–2:45** Managing Pediatric Oncology Care in Displaced Populations in Settings with Limited Resources, *Raya Saab, MD*
- 2:45–3:00** Challenges Faced by Syrian Refugee Children Suffering From Cancer in Lebanon: Karma Association as a Response, *Layal Issa, MD*
- 3:00–3:15** Cancer Care During Crises and War: The Syrian Example, *Bassel Atassi, MD*
- 3:15–3:30** Q&A Panel Discussion
- 3:30–4:00** Coffee break

SATURDAY (CONT.)

SESSION 8: RESEARCH AND MEDICAL EDUCATION IN A CONFLICT ZONE

Part 1: Academic Contributions to Medical Relief

Moderators: Samer Jabbour, MD & Bassel Atassi, MD

- 4:00–4:10 The Lancet Commission on Syria, **Samer Jabbour, MD**
- 4:10–4:20 Avicenna Journal of Medicine; Past, Present, and Future Directions, **Bassel Atassi, MD**
- 4:20–4:30 Managing and Mining Health Data to Improve Patient Outcome, **Hassaan Ebrahim**
- 4:30–4:40 Medical Education in Turkey, **Rumeyza Turan Kazancioglu, MD**
- 4:40–4:50 Mental Health Issues in the Refugee Children Population: AUB's Experience, **Rabih Shibli, MD**
- 4:50–5:00 Q&A Panel Discussion
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Part 2: Pre- & Post-Graduate Medical Education in Syria

Moderators: Lina Murad, MD & Mahmoud Hariri, MD

- 5:00–5:10 Surgical Postgraduate Training in Syria, **Mahmoud Hariri, MD**
- 5:10–5:20 Medical Specialties in Syria: Postgraduate Training, **Lina Murad, MD**
- 5:20–5:30 Medical Education in Syria & Beyond: SAMS Experience, **Basel Termanini, MD**
- 5:30–5:40 Pregraduate Medical Education: Free Aleppo University Experience, **Mazen Saud, MD**
- 5:40–6:00 Q&A Panel Discussion

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS & ADDITIONAL MEETINGS

THURSDAY JUNE 28

All Day: The Future of Health in Syria: Dialogue Among Syrians (Workshop)

2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.: Board Meeting

4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.: Media Press Conference

FRIDAY JUNE 29

11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.: Women Health Committee

12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.: Women's Leadership Meeting

6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.: Residency Workshop (Led by Dr. Bassel Atassi)

SATURDAY JUNE 30

10:30 p.m.–12:30 p.m.: EHR Focus Group with Hikma Health

6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.: EkoSmart Presentation & Dinner

SUNDAY JULY 1

8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.: Educational Workshop (Led by Dr. Lina Murad)

CME STATEMENTS

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- Describe key points in current and future United States healthcare reform, and describe impact of healthcare
- Describe what it is like to deliver healthcare under siege, specifically areas like Ghouta and Idleb as case studies for overcoming challenges in medical supply shortages
- Describe innovative approaches to overcoming child abuse, early labor, and childhood malnutrition as a result of prolonged crisis
- Describe violations of international law and attacks on healthcare facilities and the impact this has on delivering consistent medical care to patients in conflict
- Recall new breakthroughs in medicine related to general and specialty surgery, cardiac care, postpartum hemorrhage, oncology care in refugee populations, treatment of diabetes, GI, and renal care.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT



This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of Indiana University School of Medicine and the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS). The Indiana University School of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

DESIGNATION STATEMENT

Indiana University School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 16.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

FACULTY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

In accordance with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Standards for Commercial Support, educational programs sponsored by the Indiana University School of Medicine must demonstrate balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor.

There are no relevant financial relationships with ACCME-defined commercial interests for anyone who was in control of the content of this activity.

The course evaluation will be sent electronically via email. Credit will be awarded within 30 days following the activity. Instructions will be emailed with how to obtain proof of your participation in an IUSM CME activity. For questions and concerns, please contact IU School of Medicine, Division of Continuing Medical Education at **cme@iu.edu**.



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Dr. Mohammad Saleh

Dr. Hend Azhary

SOME OF OUR SPEAKERS

Fadel Abdul Ghany

Mr. Abdul Ghany is the Founder and Chairman of the Syrian Network for Human Rights, a prominent Syrian human rights group and a primary source used by the UN in analyzing the victims of the conflict in Syria. Abdul Ghany was a speaker on the Syrian issue in a wide range of international and regional events, including at the United Nations General Assembly, where he talked about the matter of accountability via universal jurisdictions. He also talked about the state of human rights in Syria during the twenty-fourth and thirty-fourth sessions of the UN's Human Rights Council. He worked as an advisor on human rights during a number of rounds of Syrian Peace Talks in Geneva. Moreover, he trained a large number of Syrian opposition factions on the rules of the customary humanitarian law, as well as groups of local human rights activists on human rights activism and its various areas. He wrote and contributed to many research projects and investigations on Syria and has appeared on tens of local and international media outlets.

Mohammad Abrash, MD

Dr. Abrash is a General Surgery and Endoscopic Surgery graduate of the University of Aleppo in 1990. He has more than 28 years of experience, adding war surgery experience to his portfolio since the beginning of the revolution in 2011. He worked at Idleb Central Hospital under SAMS since its establishment in 2015. He also has experience in tumor surgery and obesity.

Bassam Alahmad

Bassam Alahmad, is a Syrian human rights defender and he is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Syrians for Truth and Justice-STJ, He is also working as a consultant with the International Federation of Human Rights FIDH. Formerly at the Violations Documentation Center in Syria VDC. He graduated from Damascus University, where he studied Arabic literature and started working in the field of human rights in 2005, with a special focus on the issue of Kurdish minority in Syria. In 2012, Bassam started working for the Violations Documenting Center in Syria (VDC). He served as the VDC's spokesperson and its Director of Research and reports. He held that position for more than four years. Bassam is based in Istanbul, Turkey. He did a fellowship with the Maxwell school at Syracuse University in New York City in the US, as a part of the program "Leaders for Democracy" (LDF).

Haytham Albizem, MD, FACP, FACC

Dr. Albizem specializes in vascular and interventional cardiology with over 22 years of experience. He completed his cardiology fellowship at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, University of Pennsylvania. He holds five board certifications including Cardiology, Interventional Cardiology, Electrophysiology (NASPEXAM), Nuclear Cardiology and Internal Medicine. After he completed his cardiology and vascular training, he founded Heart and Vascular Care Consultants LLC. In 2012, g\he founded Monitor Health company which became a world leader in Telehealth. Haytham has been named in 2017 as one of “America’s Top Cardiologists” by the Consumer Research Council of America, an independent firm based in Washington, DC. He also awarded 2017 Starinieri Award for Community Excellence in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is a Fellow in the American College of Cardiology, American College of Physicians and a member of the American Society of Echocardiography and the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology.

Fadi Alhalabi, MD

General Director & founder of MAPS. Neurosurgeon, now completing a Masters in Business Administration at Lebanese International University. He has worked as an expert & consultant in NAFS-ESCWA-UN (National Agenda for the Future of Syria).

Mohamad Al-Hosni, MD, FAAP

Dr. Al-Hosni is a neonatologist/pediatrician practicing in the United States and also a Foundation board member for SAMS.

Muhammad Feras Aljundi, MD

Dr. Muhammad Feras Aljundi is a general practitioner from Aleppo. He manages his private hospital that offers free of charge services to the people in rebel-held areas. He has been the Minister of health in the Syrian Interim Government since 2016 until today.

Munzer Al Khalil, MD

Dr. Al Khalil is an orthopaedic surgeon from Idlib Governorate. He worked as an orthopaedic surgeon between 2011 and 2013. He has been Idlib’s Health Director since 2013 until today. He will present the development of the health sector in Idlib.

Iyad Alkhouri, MD

Dr. Alkhouri is the medical director of Aetna Behavioral Health in Chicago, Illinois; he is a diplomat of the American board of psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry and addiction psychiatry. He is a consultant for Presence Health System for evaluation and treatment of impaired health professionals, and has a private practice in Chicago suburbs. Dr. Alkhouri main interest is in cross cultural psychiatry and enhancement of public understanding of mental illness and community resilience.

Mohamed Zahed Almasri, MD

Dr. Almasri completed a European Master in Disaster Medicine (EMDM) in 2016, specializing in protection mainstreaming. He joined PAC Global as Head of the Sudan Office in 2006, and later worked as Head of PAC Mission in Syria, PAC Global between 2012–2014. He also worked as PAC-CEO in Turkey (2015–2017), and currently serves as the Director of International Relations and Missions Affairs for PAC Turkey. He was born in Daraa, Syria, and is married with four children.

Farida Almouslem, MD

Dr. Almouslem is originally from Aleppo, and a graduate of Aleppo University. She completed her specialty as an OBGYN doctor from Aleppo University Hospital in 2007. She began work in rebel-held areas from the beginning of 2012 and was the only female doctor in eastern Aleppo for several years. Dr. Almouslem was displaced to Idlib after the Aleppo siege and is now living in Idlib countryside working in Sarmada and Al Atareb Hospital and Midwifery Institute.

Seham Alnajjar

Ms. Alnajjar is a social worker from the Basmet Amal Program.

Adeeb Alshahrour, MD, FACOG

Dr. Alshahrour is an obstetrics & gynecology specialist in Chicago, IL and has been practicing for 14 years. He graduated from Aleppo Medical School in 1994 and specializes in obstetrics & gynecology.

Rania AlQenneh, MBA

Rania is currently the Senior Programs Manager for the Syrian American Medical Society Foundation (SAMS) in the Regional Office in Amman, Jordan.

Rania oversees SAMS health and medical relief programs in Jordan urban areas and refugees' camps in addition to cross border programs in Southern Syria and Rural Damascus. She supervises two offices inside Syria, as well as manages the day to day programmatic operations for a country programs portfolio of nearly 10 million USD value. Rania graduated with honors from The Hashemite University, earning a B.A. in International Business Administration with honors (2006) and a Master's Degree in Business and Operations Management (2010). Her post graduate thesis was about the impact of Strategic Planning on organizational performance. As part of her professional development, she attended Urban Humanitarian Emergencies course at Harvard University, and Emergency Team Leadership Program administered by UNHCR.

Mahmoud Aswad, MD

Dr. Aswad a graduate of Aleppo University. He completed his residency in Orthopedic Surgery. He is currently the Health Administration Manager and Deputy CEO of SEMA's Turkey office.

Zedoun Alzoubi, PhD

Dr. Alzoubi is a pacifist activist from Syria. He is the CEO of the Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations (UOSSM). Zedoun's responsibilities go further at various levels; he is engaged in the civil society sector inside and outside Syria, investing in networking, youth engagement, humanitarian support mechanisms, conflict resolution and mediation. Apart of his engagement, he took the responsibility to facilitate several initiatives for the Syrian civil society including the Ethical Charter for Syrian Media, Ethical charter for Syrian Medical Organizations, Bokra Ahla, and Women Advisory Board for Mr. De Mistura. Dr. Zedoun Alzoubi holds a PhD Degree in Management, received from the Arab Academy for Finance and Banking Sciences; he has also completed his post-doctoral studies at the Technical University in Berlin.

Bassel Atassi, MD

Dr. Atassi is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine, Chicago Medical School and practices Internal Medicine, Hematology and Clinical Oncology at The Cancer Center at Little Company of Mary Hospital. He is also the Chair of SAMS Hematology Oncology committee.

Zedoun Alzoubi, PhD

Dr. Alzoubi is a pacifist activist from Syria. He is the CEO of the Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations (UOSSM). Zedoun's responsibilities go further at various levels; he is engaged in the civil society sector inside and outside Syria, investing in networking, youth engagement, humanitarian support mechanisms, conflict resolution and mediation. Apart of his engagement, he took the responsibility to facilitate several initiatives for the Syrian civil society including the Ethical Charter for Syrian Media, Ethical charter for Syrian Medical Organizations, Bokra Ahla, and Women Advisory Board for Mr. De Mistura. Dr. Zedoun Alzoubi holds a PhD Degree in Management, received from the Arab Academy for Finance and Banking Sciences; he has also completed his post-doctoral studies at the Technical University in Berlin.

Amani Ballor, MD

Dr. Ballor was born in Damascus and is from Eastern Ghouta. She graduated from Damascus University in 2012, specializing in children in 2013, in conjunction with working in the field hospitals in Ghouta. She's worked in several medical centers and hospitals as a pediatrician, and is Director of the Central "cave" Hospital. She was forcibly displaced to the Liberated North in March 2018.

Majd Chourbaji

Majd Chourbaji is a Syrian activist and the founder and manager of Basamat for Development in Lebanon. She has been working on women's rights in Syria since before the nonviolent resistance began in 2011 and ran peacebuilding workshops for women prisoners while a prisoner herself. She works to support Syrian refugee women and women's empowerment within Syria. In 2015, Majd was awarded the U.S. State Department's International Women of Courage Award, for her work with women and human rights advocacy in Syria.

Nadine Cornier

Ms. Cornier is the Humanitarian Advisor on Reproductive Health for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). She is Head of Office in Gaziantep, Turkey.

Orhan Derman, MD

Dr. Derman is a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, Adolescent Medicine Section at Hacettepe University Medical School in Ankara, Turkey. He is an executive member of Turkish National Pediatric Society.

Hassaan Ebrahim

Hassaan Ebrahim is an educator and social justice activist focused on improving outcomes for children around the world. The son of immigrants, he was born and raised in San Jose, California. He studied neuroscience at the University of Southern California. After graduation, he joined Teach for America and returned home to San Jose where he teaches high school math. He has been focused on using technology to implement a personalized learning model in his classroom which allows every student to achieve success. Hassaan has been involved with a number of non-profit organizations, and is an education policy fellow with the Urban Leaders Fellowship. Additionally, he serves as the Partnerships Director for Hikma Health, a health technology organization focused on serving refugee populations around the world.

Ahmed Ghandour, MD

Dr. Ghandour is a General Surgeon. Getting arrested prevented him from finishing his heart surgery specialization. He worked in many field hospitals in Aleppo City, Rural Aleppo and Rural Idleb where he did many major surgeries. He is currently the chairman of Al Rahma Hospital.

Ikram Habosh, MD

Dr. Habosh completed her medical training at Aleppo University. She has taken additional courses in Newborn Recovery and Infection control. She is currently the Director General of AlMajd Hospital.

Hosam Hamdan, MD

Dr. Hamdan is a General Surgeon and Director of Hamdan Hospital in Eastern Ghouta.

Mahmoud Hariri, MD

Dr. Hariri is a Syrian surgeon who was one of the instrumental organizers of the medical and surgical relief effort in Aleppo, Syria, during the recent siege. He graduated from Aleppo University Faculty of Medicine in 1990 where he completed his training in general surgery in 1995. Thereafter he completed additional training with the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland. With the start of the war in Syria, Dr. Hariri found himself at the epicenter of what the UN has called the “greatest humanitarian disaster of our times.” Despite an exodus of the medical work force, he remained to help coordinate a massive relief effort as hospitals, ambulances and medical personnel were explicitly

targeted. Dr. Hariri and his team operated on thousands of adult and pediatric patients during the war from 2012-2016. He recently completed a research fellowship through the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative “Scholars at Risk” Program and is currently working in Turkey to establish a way for medical students and residents to finish their education with the creation of the Syrian Board of Medical Specialties.

Hamza Syed Hasan, MD

Dr. Hamza was born in the countryside of Damascus in Arbin, East Ghouta. He graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Damascus in 2006. He holds a postgraduate degree in ENT, Head & Neck, and Surgical Diseases. He is also Arabic board certified in ENT and Head & Neck diseases. He is a practicing physician in Arbin Surgical Hospital and Director of the SAMS Ghouta Office.

Layal Issa, MD

Dr. Issa is a Pediatrics Hematologist and Oncologist and graduated from the Lebanese University in 2017. She completed 3 years of Fellowship in Zahraa Universtiy Hospital, Rafik Hariri University Hospital and Lebanese Geatawi Hospital. She is the Medical Activity Manager of Thalassemia and Pediatrics with Médecins Sans Frontières, Operational Center Paris, Zahle project and President of Karma Association.

Samer Jabbour, MD

Samer completed a medical degree (MD) at Aleppo University Faculty of Medicine (Syria) and a Master in Public Health (MPH) degree at Harvard School of Public Health (US). He trained in internal medicine at McGaw Medical Center, Northwestern University and in cardiology at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School. Samer pursues dual work in public health as an Associate Professor of Practice in the Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, and in medicine as a cardiologist. He is a Co-Chair and Convener of the “Lancet-AUB Commission on Syria: Health in Conflict.”

Faeiz Jrad, MD

Dr. Jrad is a pediatrician working with SAMS in Northern Syria.

Mohamad Imad Kabbani, MD

Dr. Kabbani is a vascular surgeon from Damascus. He was the only vascular surgeon in Eastern Ghouta for more than seven years where he saved many lives with his skills in war surgery and he trained other doctors in the besieged war zone.

Lubna Kanawaty

Ms. Kanawaty is the Country Manager for Women Now for Development, a non-governmental organization who's mission is to initiate programs led by Syrian women that protect Syrian women and children across socio-economic backgrounds, and empower women to find their political voice and participate in building a new, peaceful Syria that respects and safeguards equal rights for all its citizens.

Yassar Kanawaty, MD

Dr. Kanawaty is a Psychiatrist from Atlanta, GA and is on the SAMS Committee for Mental Health.

Rumeyza Turan Kazancioglu, MD

Dr. Kazancioglu is an active member of the Turkish Society of Nephrology and also serves on the advisory board of the Turkish Kidney Foundation. She continues her work at Bezmialem Vakif University as a dedicated educator and she has many national and international publications. She received the best abstracts presented by young authors award of European Renal Association and European Dialysis and Transplant Association Congress Wien, Austria 2001 with her ISN project. Thereafter she worked in many fields of nephrology, mainly focusing on peritoneal dialysis teaching as a mission transferred from ISN. Lastly she received an ERASMUS grant to teach at SCHaaR institute, Sheffield, UK. She served as a disaster relief coordinator locally in many earthquakes and worked as a member of the work group and translated the recommendations to Turkish.

William J. Keenan, MD

Dr. Keenan is Professor of Pediatrics at Saint Louis University and Executive Director at the International Pediatric Association. He completed his medical training at Loyola University, and his residency at Boston City Hospital and Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Alper Küçük

Mr. Küçük Deputy Director General of the Turkish Red Crescent.

Dr. Zaki Lababidi FACC, FSCAI

Dr. Lababidi is the founder of Gilbert Cardiology, has over 15 years of experience in cardiovascular medicine. He is board certified in cardiovascular disease and has specialized in interventional cardiology, a subspecialty of cardiology dedicated to the diagnosis, medical and catheter-based therapy of patients with acute and chronic forms of cardiovascular disease. Dr. Lababidi also specializes in treatment of patients with congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, heart attack, abnormal heart rhythms, peripheral arterial disease (PAD), and varicose veins.

Jennifer Leaning, MD SMH

Jennifer Leaning, MD, SMH, is the Director of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University and the FXB Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights at Harvard School of Public Health. As Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, she is a faculty member in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Prior to her current appointment in 2010, Dr. Leaning served for five years as co-director of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative. From 1999 to 2005, Dr. Leaning directed the Program on Humanitarian Crises and Human Rights at the FXB Center. Her research interests focus on issues of public health and international law in response to war and disaster, early warning for mass atrocities, and problems of human security in the context of forced migration and conflict. She earned her A.B. magna cum laude from Radcliffe College, her Masters of Science from Harvard School Public Health, and her M.D. with honors from the University of Chicago Pritzker School Of Medicine. She trained in internal medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital and is board certified in Emergency and Internal Medicine.

Elsa LE PENNEC

Mrs. Elsa Le Pennec is the Human Rights Adviser to the Deputy Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Syria Crisis (OHCHR Syria Country Office) since September 2015 in Gaziantep. Prior to this position, she served as human rights officer with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the context of a number of peace-keeping, peace-building missions and complex emergencies in Sudan/Darfur, Central African Republic, Iraq, Haiti, Mali. She has undertaken and coordinated dozens of field missions on the protection of

civilians, Conflict Related Sexual Violence and Children Affected by Armed Conflict related issues, as well as large scale human rights cases.

Enrica Leresche, RN, MPH

Enrica Leresche is a Registered Nurse (RN, 1999) with a Post-graduate diploma in Tropical Medicine and Public Health (Antwerp IMT, 2003) and a Master in Public Health (MPH, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 2010). Her experience includes clinical nursing in Switzerland (1999-2004) in pediatric oncology and psychiatry; her international experience since 2002 includes DRC with Médecins du Monde and field work with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as Health Delegate in Angola, Burundi, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Liberia, Nigeria and Libya in acute conflict and post-conflict settings. She also was a consultant for Médecins-du-Monde France in Madagascar to assess a community first aid project linked to Disaster Risk Reduction (2011) and Country Health Director for Medical Emergency Relief International (MERLIN) in Nepal (2012-2013) working on Disaster Risk Reduction and preparedness programs in Kathmandu Valley. Currently she is the Health Coordinator for ICRC in Lebanon managing ICRC health programs since 2016, including pre-hospital care and First Aid, Physical Rehabilitation, Mental Health and Psycho-social support, Primary health care and Hospital support programs both for emergencies and reconstructive surgery.

Maram Alsheikh Moustafa, MD

Dr. Moustafa is the Director of the Hama Health Directorate. He is a vascular surgeon who graduated from Aleppo University in 2000. He worked in establishing many hospitals in Hama countryside, north of Syria, Sham Hospital, and Hama Central Hospital. Dr. Maram worked as a director of Hama Central Hospital in addition to his work as a vascular surgeon.

Lina Murad, MD

Dr. Murad is a nephrologist in Colmar Manor, Maryland. She received her medical degree from Damascus University Faculty of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years. Dr. Murad is an active member of SAMS and participates in the Turkey and Northern Syria Medical Relief Committee and Nephrology Committee.

Jalal Najjar, MD

Dr. Najjar is a neurosurgeon from Homs. He completed a skull based and microneurosurgery research fellowship. Additionally, he's led several hands-on

courses for aneurysms and brain tumors in the US. He worked in the besieged old city of Homs and in rebel-held northern Rural Homs.

Sadeq Qara Mohammad, MD

Dr. Sadeq Qara Mohammad is a graduate of medicine from the University of Aleppo. He is certified in internal medicine, with a specialty in digestive diseases which he completed at Al Assad University in 2005. He's worked in both private practice and hospitals of the Ministry of Health. He is currently practicing in Bab Al Hawa Hospital and Amal Hospital, and serves as SAMS GI Coordinator.

Muheeb Muhammad Qaddour, MD

Dr. Qaddour was born in Damascus, and graduated from the Faculty of Medicine in 1998 as a General Surgeon from the Department of Rehabilitation Surgery. He was a lecturer at Al-Kindi Hospital in Aleppo, and Founder of Akrobat Hospital. He is also a member of the board of trustees of the Idleb Health Directorate.

Mohan Ramesh Rajasingham

Mr. Mohan Ramesh Rajasingham is the Deputy Regional Coordinator for the Syria Crisis. Before this he was the Director of the Secretariat of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on the Global Response to Health Crises. Prior to this he was the Head of Office of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in the occupied Palestinian territory. In previous assignments he was the focal point for OCHA on the implementation of the Humanitarian Reform program launched in 2005 to improve coverage of humanitarian response gaps in emergencies. While he has primarily worked with OCHA, he has also worked with UNICEF for several years. He has served with the United Nations in the field of humanitarian affairs for over 25 years in crisis countries such as Afghanistan and Bosnia Herzegovina as well as at Headquarters. At headquarters, he has been involved in policy development on issues ranging from early warning and contingency planning to durable solutions for internally displaced persons. He is an economist by training having studied in the United Kingdom and the USA and comes from Sri Lanka. He is married with two children.

Rodwan Rajjoub, MD, FACS

Dr. Rajjoub is the Medical Director of Neurosurgery at UPMC Susquehanna. He is a graduate of Damascus University School of Medicine, and a Neurosurgery graduate from George Washington University in Washington, DC.

Ken Roth, JD

Kenneth Roth is the executive director of Human Rights Watch, one of the world's leading international human rights organizations, which operates in more than 90 countries. Prior to joining Human Rights Watch in 1987, Roth served as a federal prosecutor in New York and for the Iran-Contra investigation in Washington, DC. A graduate of Yale Law School and Brown University, Roth has conducted numerous human rights investigations and missions around the world. He has written extensively on a wide range of human rights abuses, devoting special attention to issues of international justice, counterterrorism, the foreign policies of the major powers, and the work of the United Nations.

Leonard S. Rubenstein, JD

Leonard S. Rubenstein is Director of the Program in Human Rights, Health and Conflict at the Center for Human Rights and Public Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and a core faculty member at the Berman Institute of Bioethics and the Center for Humanitarian Health at Johns Hopkins University. He has engaged in extensive research and writing on human rights, health and national security. His current work focuses on health services in volatile environments. His writings have appeared in professional journals and in op-eds in major media such as the New York Times and Washington Post. Mr. Rubenstein is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Board of Directors of the Global Health Council and Healing Across the Divides.

Raya Saab, MD

Dr. Raya Saab is the acting director of the Children's Cancer Institute at the American University of Beirut Medical Center in Beirut, Lebanon, which is affiliated with St Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN, USA. Dr. Saab is a physician- investigator, and her basic research focuses on pediatric solid tumors, while her clinical work focuses on pediatric solid tumors. Dr. Saab is the scientific director of the Pediatric Oncology East and Mediterranean Region POEM group, which aims to improve outcome of children with cancer across countries in the region through collaborative work. Since 2012, Dr. Saab has led the management of a humanitarian response program—developed as a collaboration among St Jude Children's Research Hospital in USA, the Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon, and the American University of Beirut Medical Center—for providing pediatric oncology care and access to specialized medical services for refugee children with cancer in Lebanon.

Mazen Saud, MD

Dr. Saud is Dean of the Medical School at Aleppo University. He completed his Orthopedic Surgery Training at Aleppo University and has teaching experience in the areas of Anatomy and History & Principles of Medicine. He also served as Director of the Doctors without Borders Hospital in Maaret Al-Nu'man, and prior to that was Head of Surgery at Maaret Al-Nu'man Hospital.

Rabih Shibli, MD

Rabih Shibli is the Director of the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS) at the American University of Beirut (AUB) since September 2015. He joined AUB in 2006 as a lecturer in the department of Landscape Architecture and as an associate director at CCECS where he supervised the design and implementation of a number of community-based projects among which are: (a) Reclaiming Rainwater Harvesting Practices in Rural South Lebanon, (b) Urban Agriculture in Ein Elhilwi Palestinian Refugee Camp, (C) Upgrading Sabra Market, (d) Animating the Pedestrian Trail in Karem Elzaytoun, and (e) Ghata/ Bringing Education to Syrian Refugees in Informal Tented Settlements. Rabih served as the moderator on the Protracted Crisis theme in the Global consultation forum, conducted by OCHA in preparation for the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit. He has published two policy papers tackling the Syrian refugee crisis entitled: (a) "Reconfiguring Relief Mechanisms" (IFI-Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy; 2014), and (b) "A Protracted Stay on Mired Grounds" (ORIENT-Herausgegeben vom Deutschen Orient-Institut in Berlin; 2016).

Othman Shibly DDS, MS

Dr. Shibly, Clinical Professor, is currently the Director of Post Graduate Program in Periodontics, Coordinator, International Advanced Dental Education Scholar Program and Associate director for the Center for Dental Studies at the School of Dental Medicine at University at Buffalo. Dr. Shibly's professional education started at Damascus University in Syria, where he received his DDS degree in 1982. He then received his Certificate of Specialty in Periodontics in 1986. Since the crisis in Syria started in March 2011, Dr. Shibly participated in medical missions to help Syrian refugees in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. He established two dental clinics in Turkey. In the 16th International Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS) conference at Sarajevo, Bosnia July 22- 24, 2016, Dr. Shibly was awarded: "SAMS Ibn Al Nafees Outstanding Achievement Award" for innovation and outstanding achievements in oral care for forced immigrants (Syrian refugees). Dr. Shibly is the consultant and supervisor of more than 16 Schools in war areas suburb of Damascus.

Annie Sparrow, MBBS, MRCP, FRACP, MPH, MD

Annie Sparrow is a medical doctor and assistant professor at the Arnhold Global Health Institute at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York.

Mohammad Khair Taifoor, MD

Dr. Taifoor is an anesthesiologist from Douma. He worked as head of the Anesthesia Department at Rif Dimashq specialized hospital and at Free Aleppo University's medical institute in Eastern Ghouta. There he also taught in the Faculty of Medicine.

Ahmad Tarakji, MD

Dr. Ahmad Tarakji is the President of the Syrian American Medical Society, a non-profit, non-political professional and medical relief organization that provides assistance to Syrians in need and represents thousands of Syrian American medical professionals in the United States. Dr. Ahmad is also a current Board member of the SAMS Foundation. He is a cardio-thoracic surgeon in California, and a former clinical assistant professor at Stanford University. At SAMS, Dr. Ahmad spearheads and participates in numerous initiatives, including providing trauma and critical care courses for Syrian physicians and nurses and oversees SAMS's advocacy work.

Gabrielle Tay

Ms. Tay is the Founder & Program Director in Greece for the non-profit organization Action for Women.

Basel Termanini, MD

Dr. Basel Termanini is a gastroenterologist in Steubenville, Ohio and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including East Liverpool City Hospital and Harrison Community Hospital. He received his medical degree from University of Aleppo Faculty of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years. He is Vice President of SAMS Society, and participates in Turkey and Northern Syria Medical Relief Committee, Gastroenterology and Hepatology Committee, Supplies Chain and Medication Subcommittee, and the Fundraising Committee.

Camilo Valderrama, MD, PhD, MPH

Dr. Valderrama is a medical doctor, with a Master in Public Health and PhD in Development Studies with more than twenty years of experience in health planning and programming in conflict and post conflict countries in Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East. He has contributed to the reconstruction and strengthening of health services in post conflict countries including Nicaragua, Mozambique, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of Congo, Pakistan, Kosovo, Nepal and Myanmar. For the last six years he has worked in the Middle East in Jordan, Iraq, Yemen and cross border health programs in Syria. More recently he worked with the World Health Organization as Health Cluster coordinator, coordinating the health response of different actors for internally displaced populations and host populations in northern Syria. Currently he manages GIZ health program in conflict affected areas in Syria.

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- Syrian Forum is a nonprofit organization established in 2011 registered and headquartered in Istanbul, Turkey.
- A consortium of six organizations each with its own focused area of work.. and Employs 906 dedicated staff members.
- Comprises 19 offices in seven countries—Syria, Turkey, Austria, Switzerland, the United States, Qatar, and Lebanon.

Our Impact since Establishment through March 2018



26,514,027
Services Provided to Beneficiaries



338
Total Number of Projects



73,976
Total Beneficiaries



14,371
Employed



7,965
Trainees



4,728
Training Hours



401
Sports Activities



177
Cultural, Social & Service Activities



3,230
Studies and Reports



636
Conferences & Media Appearances



25,992,722
Page Views



55,396
Media Products

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Balanced

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Our team has created a synergetic model that is sustainable and will provide a balance between creating value for the shareholders and producing products that are friendly to the environment.

ekosmart is investing in the manufacturing of enhanced Organic Fertilizer using "nano" technology, (that is as effective as chemical fertilizers), Silver Nano Particles, Natural / Organic Plant Growth Catalyst, Bull and Steer fattening and Organic Animal feed.

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KILINC LAW & CONSULTING AND ZARZOUR LAW LLC. PARTNERSHIP ADVERTISEMENT

Kilinc Law & Consulting is a Turkish law firm based in İstanbul founded by Att. Levent Lezgin KILINC serves in private law, public law and government relations. Kilinc Law & Consulting offers the legal services both in domestic and international areas to numerous local and foreign companies that are strong players in various sectors. The foremost areas that Kilinc Law and Consulting serves to its clients are Energy Law, Immigration Law and Commercial Law that including corporate law, mergers and acquisitions and etc. In addition, The Firm offers high quality litigation and consultancy services to its clients in all areas of law, especially Maritime Law, Labor Law, Aviation Law, Dispute Resolution, Competition Law and Government Relations. The Firm's professional goal is to offer preventive precautions and/or to generate solutions to any kind of legal issues of the respectable clients with its professional team comprising of experienced attorneys who are fluent in English, Russian, Azerbaijani and Swedish languages.

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Recently, our law firm has partnered with Zarzour Law LLC. based in the United States of America, which is focused among other areas of practice on advising and assisting U.S. individuals and companies in entering the Turkish market. Senior of Counsel M. Yaser Tabbara, Esq. leads the work of Zarzour Law LLC., with his vast expertise and knowledge of corporate international law as well as broad network both in U.S. and Turkey.

**Best Regards,
Kilinc Law & Consulting**

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SAVE THE DATE



Save The Date

Syrian American Medical Society

2018 SAMS 5th Annual Symposium

September 21-22 2018
Detroit Marriot at the
Renaissance Center

2019

Feb. 15-17

SAVE
THE
DATE

SAMS 8th National Conference

Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort
Phoenix, Arizona





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