

**New Mexico Citizens for the Protection of Alternative Health Care
(NM-CPAHC)
By-Laws**

Article I: NM-CPAHC

Section 1) Our Organization

- a. New Mexico Citizens for the Protections of Alternative Health Care (NM-CPAHC; also referred to as “The Organization”) is in the process of becoming a 501(c)(4) non-profit social organization designed to represent the alternative health care needs of the citizens of the state of New Mexico.

Section 2) Mission

- a. The mission of NM-CPAHC is to create a standard of governed protection for all unlicensed traditional and alternative health care practitioners within the state of New Mexico. The Organization works to protect the public’s right to have access to traditional and alternative health care and to develop a broad, more integrative approach among all healing traditions and modalities.

Article II: Members

Section 1) Eligibility

- a. Membership is open to all non-licensed alternative healthcare practitioners and all community members who support the mission of The Organization.
- b. Current members must provide The Organization with a valid e-mail address solely for the purpose of receiving up-to-date information pertaining to NM-CPAHC activities and membership affairs. Exceptions may be made on an individual basis.

Section 2) Membership Fee

- a. Membership dues shall be required annually in order to keep a membership current and active. An individual’s annual membership dues shall be based upon the following sliding scale:

<u>Practitioners</u>	
1-9 active clients	\$25
10-19 active clients	\$35
20+ active clients.....	\$50

Non-Practitioners
\$15

- b. Each current member who is a practitioner will receive a free listing on NM-CPAHC's "Supporters" page with name, address and contact information, if desired. Each current member may also have the opportunity to include a maximum 150-word paragraph describing their practice with their listing, along with a link to their website, if available, by doubling the amount of their annual membership fee.
- c. Members who keep their annual membership fees current shall remain current members of The Organization.

Article III: Membership Meetings

Section 1) Notification

- a. Notification of membership meetings shall be posted on the NM-CPAHC website and sent via e-mail to each current member at least 60 days prior to all annual meetings.
- b. In the event of any special meetings, notification will be sent via e-mail and/or communicated via telephone as soon as possible.

Section 2) Membership Input

- a. In the event a member should have an issue pertaining to NM-CPAHC business that they would like to discuss on an individual and/or group basis, the pertinent issue shall be taken into consideration at the subsequent board meeting for board discussion.

Section 3) Quorum

- a. The general membership is required to pass all decisions voted upon by a two-thirds or greater majority rule.

Article IV: Board of Directors

Section 1) Qualifications

- a. Board members must be supportive of the practice of alternative and traditional health care within the state of New Mexico, the United States and beyond.

Section 2) Responsibilities

- a. Have a broad interest in and understanding of the purpose of The Organization and the role it plays in the state of New Mexico and beyond.

- b. Become acquainted with the philosophy, mission, projects and goals of The Organization by reading the materials provided to me.
- c. Attend monthly Board meetings. If a board member misses three (3) consecutive meetings without unusual circumstances prevailing, he/she will be considered to have resigned from his/her role of Board Member and all responsibilities required of him/her.
- d. Maintain confidentiality. Board members will not discuss board or committee proceedings outside the board membership.
Communication of Board decisions is through a common channel, not through individual members.
- e. Give some level of support in The Organization's fundraising efforts by helping with events, helping to obtain personal donations, helping to obtain foundation connections or private grants, and giving a personal annual financial contribution.
- f. Agree to a minimum time commitment to The Organization of a one (1) year, renewable term (upon approval by the Board).
- g. Serve on at least one Board committee or mission project at all times, during a term.
- h. Avoid personal conflict of interest. If a Board Member has a personal interest in the organization, he/she will keep that interest in perspective and focus on the long-term needs of the organization. If a board member's personal interests outside of the organization directly conflict with the purpose, mission and/or goals of the organization, he/she may choose to cease that conflict of interest, or resign from his/her position as Board Member.
- i. Support the decisions of the Board. Dissent should be expressed in writing, or verbally during the Board meetings.
- j. Support the integrity of the administration by referring questions and concerns regarding operations from community or staff to the Board Director.

Section 3) Composition

- a. The board will be comprised of at least 1 board member and no more than 5 board members.
- b. If there are less than 2 active board members, all decisions will have final approval by the executive board.

Section 4) Terms of Office

- a. A board member term is one year.

Section 5) Vacancies

- a. Vacancies are filled by an election of a NM-CPAHC general member to a single term at the next regular membership meeting following the vacancy, or
- b. By appointment from the Board of Directors to a term that expires at the next regular general membership meeting, or
- c. The Board of Directors may elect not to fill a vacancy.

Section 6) Replacement/Recall

- a. A board member not attending three (3) consecutive board meetings shall be considered to have resigned from the board, unless extenuating circumstances exist, as determined on an individual basis.
- b. Any board member may be recalled by a two-thirds majority vote from the general membership.

Section 7) Meetings

- a. Regular meetings shall be held monthly and shall be open to all current NM-CPAHC members.
- b. Special meetings may be requested by any board member. Contact should be made with The Organization's president who will then contact the entire board to determine if a majority of the board believes a special meeting is necessary.

Section 8) Quorum

- a. A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the board members.

Section 9) Decision Making

- a. All decisions shall be based on consensus. A second meeting shall be held if no consensus is met during the previous meeting. If consensus is still not met, then a final decision shall be made according to majority rule.

Section 10) Governing Style

- a. The executive board shall be required to maintain day-to-day activities pursuant to the mission and goals of The Organization.
- b. The board of directors shall provide directive leadership for The Organization.
- c. Input may be given by any current member of The Organization.

Article V: Executive Board of Officers

Section 1) Election of Officers

- a. Officers shall be elected by a current executive board member and approved by the Board of Directors for a term of one (1) year, or until the successors are elected.

Section 2) Vacancies

- a. A vacancy in any office for any reason will be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 3) Positions and Responsibilities

- a. President – Prepares monthly agendas and chairs monthly meetings.
- b. Vice President – Fulfills presidential duties in the absence of the President.
- c. Secretary – Ensure that minutes from board meetings are recorded and provided to all board members in time for review before the following meeting. Also ensures that any changes to CPAHC’s articles of incorporation are timely reported and filed with the appropriate national, state, city and/or county agencies.
- d. Treasurer – Ensures the timely preparation of financial reports for the Board of Directors and the preparation of a financial overview for each regular general membership meeting.

Article VI: Rules and Procedures for Ceasing Operations

Section 1) Dispersing Profits & Assets

- a. All remaining profits shall be given to a like-minded health freedom organization chosen by the Executive Board and approved by the Board of Directors.

Article VII: Amendments

Section 1) Approval of Proposed Amendments

- a. A proposed amendment may be generated by a general member, board director, or executive board member.
- b. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors at least 30 days prior to the general membership meeting.
- c. All proposed amendments shall be announced at a subsequent board meeting and thereafter announced to all other members with request for each member’s vote decision and any feedback and/or suggestions.
- d. Members may choose at their discretion to submit a single vote with or without comments regarding the proposed amendment no later than 1

week prior to the next scheduled board meeting. All votes received by the deadline indicated shall be considered valid.

- e. The proposed amendment must be approved by at least two-thirds majority of the general membership in order to be considered valid.