

## The First Two Years (2007-2008)



Sara Gabriel, MSN, MBA, RN, one of the seven founders was elected the first president of NAINA for the term 2007–2008. The foundation and all related building blocks of the organization were established during this period. The inaugural function, held in Houston in May 2007, stands as a historic and memorable event that formally announced the birth of NAINA to the global community.

The first national educational conference of NAINA was held in Chicago in September, 2008. More than 400 nurses from across the US and other countries participated in the three-day event making it a resounding success. NAINA grew tremendously during this period, and new chapters were formed in California, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Michigan. NAINA became the second-largest, ethnic minority organization in United States and gained recognition from other professional organizations, such as the American Nurses Association (ANA), the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Organization (NCEMNA), Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) and the National Council of State Board of Nursing (NCSBN).

During this time, NAINA was invited to participate in the national task force to develop fair practice standards to offer recruitment of foreign educated nurses in the United States. Over the years, this task force was incorporated as a nonprofit organization known as the Alliance for Fair International Recruitment of Foreign-Educated Nurses, and our continued contributions enabled NAINA to attain a permanent seat in the board of this organization. The standards for Ethical Recruitment for Foreign-Educated Nurses (The CODE) were developed and Mrs. Sara Gabriel, one of the authors of this code, had the opportunity to present it as a panelist with other delegates from the ANA, CGFNS and NCSBN, at the International Council of Nurses Conference in Durban, South Africa, in 2009.