

## *What is an Herbalists Without Borders Chapter?*

Chapters are regional branches consisting of a circle of volunteer members working under the umbrella of the Herbalists Without Borders non-profit organization.

Chapters are dedicated to the organization and implementation of innovative projects that make a difference in overall health and wellness within their communities, states, provinces or countries.

## *Who Belongs to an Herbalists Without Borders Chapter?*

Herbalists Without Borders (HWB) is an international network of herbalists, traditional healers, Complementary Alternative Medicine (CAM) practitioners, botanical medicine makers, botanical tradespeople, herb growers, farmers, ecologists, students, humanitarian aid workers, street medics, activists and others interested in the vital roles that plants play in primary health care, sustainable agriculture, trade and ecological preservation.

All chapters have a Chapter Coordinator, Chairperson or collective who is responsible for organizing Chapter activities and communicating with the National/International HWB office and our Membership at large via social media.

Additionally, each Chapter must have at least one member who has current paid member status each year. We encourage all volunteers to become HWB members (see various membership categories and rates posted on the HWB website). Official HWB Chapters in good standing are eligible for a variety of membership benefits. For info on those benefits, please contact our HWB Membership Coordinator: [membershipHWB@gmail.com](mailto:membershipHWB@gmail.com)

## *What activities do HWB Chapters engage in?*

To begin, HWB Chapters assess what needs and resources exist within their region and begin to organize innovative solutions to pressing health and wellness problems and health justice concerns using the available resources identified.

Some potential HWB Chapter events and activities include; Botanical Medicine and Related Health & Wellness Education, Nourishing Community Herb Gardens, Medicinal Seed Saving Libraries, Community Herb Apothecaries, Wellness Days, Borderless Medicine Projects, Natural Medicine/ Health Care Social Justice (access and affordability issues), People's Clinics (mobile, free/sliding scale clinics, street medic tents, etc.), and other Community and Cross Cultural Volunteerism

Issues and activities vary from chapter to chapter. Some chapters are organized around a geographic bioregion, while others organize around a specific project.

Choices can be made based on the unique nature of each chapter and the needs of the people they serve. Herbalists Without Borders simply asks that chapters abide by our Vision, Mission and Values at all times. (see official HWB website for details)

## *Want to Create a New Chapter?*

Let's get you started.

- Send us your HWB Application and fee (download application at the JOIN US page of our website: [www.herbalistswithoutborders.weebly.com](http://www.herbalistswithoutborders.weebly.com))
- Identify the Coordinator(s) of your new Chapter
- Send us the Coordinator's name and email (to be posted on our website)
- Create a name for your new HWB Chapter (see the CHAPTERS page of our website for ideas)
- Identify the specific region your HWB Chapter will serve (locale, state, province, country)
- Plan your monthly, quarterly or annual activities for the next 12 months after your first several meetings with others.

## *Other HWB Chapter Activities to Consider:*

- Encourage **all** of your volunteers to also join as official Herbalists Without Borders Members to support our all-volunteer humanitarian healing work
- Write a short 100-200 word article or update for our quarterly e-newsletter about your upcoming Chapter events
- Join our Herbalists Without Borders Coordinators Closed Circle Facebook page to network with other HWB Chapter Coordinators (email our office: [officeHWB@gmail.com](mailto:officeHWB@gmail.com))
- Create a Free People's Clinic or other unique project that aligns with our Values
- Every HWB Chapter must submit a required HWB Chapter Quarterly Reporting Form about their activities (request form: [officeHWB@gmail.com](mailto:officeHWB@gmail.com))
- Stay in touch. Send our office regular emails, post on our HWB Facebook page, send us quarterly updates on sustainable solutions or projects that you are engaging in. We'll be sure to let the world know!

Thank you for all that you contribute to the healing of humanity!

In peace, healing and solidarity,

Gigi Stafne MH, ND  
Executive Director

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