

September 18, 2024

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
Former President of the United States
Trump for President
P.O. BOX 13570
Arlington, VA 22219

Dear Mr. Trump:

Congratulations on securing the nomination of the Republican Party for the office of the President of the United States. Your strong leadership is necessary to help unify perspectives and meet the shared vision of better health for everyone, everywhere.

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is the voice of Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)-accredited academic public health, representing over 150 schools and programs of public health across the country. Our mission is to strengthen the capacity of our members by advancing leadership, excellence, and collaboration for academic public health. The Association is committed to assisting our national leaders in successfully addressing public health challenges and opportunities, and our member institutions are trusted resources in their state and local communities. We would welcome the opportunity to prepare for you and your staff for:

- Personnel suggestions as you complete your transition team and identify federal appointees and nominees.
- Details on the Association's policy agenda and its rationale.
- Briefings and white papers on key issues of interest by faculty experts.

Presidential Leadership Needed

The Association urges you and your nominees and appointees to commit to leading the nation and world in addressing public health emergencies and in creating an environment in which public health can support optimal health for our communities and our nation, which will both assist in our country's security and bolster the economy. To do so, we must have federal leadership that:

- Nominates and appoints individuals with public health training to key leadership and advisory positions.
- Communicates clearly and in concert with federal agencies and key stakeholders.
- Encourages strengthened coordination across federal public health agencies.
- Works to restore trust in federal science agencies.

The Challenges Ahead: Opportunities to Make a Lasting and Deep Impact

As President, you have an extraordinary opportunity to shape federal public health policy that can benefit a generation – saving lives, improving our health security, and creating a culture of wellness, all of which ultimately strengthen the economy. We urge you to use your second term to unveil creative legislative and regulatory initiatives and shape the priorities of federal agencies. Areas in which you can have a major impact include combating the opioid and fentanyl crisis, addressing veteran suicide rates, and investing in America’s public health workforce.

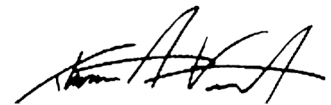
The importance of strong, predictable federal investment in the public health system is critical, as you demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our nation must be prepared and ready to respond to future emerging health risks. By building the core public health infrastructure of states, localities, tribal governments, and territories, as well as core health agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and National Institutes of Health (NIH), the nation will be better prepared for the next threat.

Mr. Trump, the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health pledges to work with you and your Administration to surmount the many public health challenges facing our country. In the interim, please do not hesitate to have your teams contact Tim Leshan; tleshan@aspph.org, 202-296-1099 ext.132 if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Laura Magaña, PhD, MS
President and CEO
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health



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