



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER™

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

June 16, 2019

Dear Team,

As I head to Geneva for a WHO GOARN Steering Committee meeting, I want to wish everyone a safe, happy PRIDE.

Fifty years ago this month, a brave group of LGBTQ+ people fought for their rights after police officers raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York's Greenwich Village. While this was not the first time patrons were harassed, assaulted, and arrested, something very different happened. Enough was enough and demonstrations went on for days. It was the beginning of a movement that's still in progress; all these decades later the LGBTQ+ community still experiences discrimination.

Many things happened as a result of those brave fighters of equity, including the first Gay Pride march in NYC. Over time, the focus of Gay Pride events didn't just focus on LGBTQ+ rights, but equity for all. Our College's and University's stance on diversity and non-discrimination is clear. We are welcoming to all.

As with all equity issues, we can celebrate how far we've come, as long as we acknowledge how far we have to go and take part in the advancement of those who are marginalized. There are many places in this country and around the world where LGBTQ+ persons are still discriminated against, and even worse, killed for who they are. We must remember to never stop listening, learning, and becoming engaged in advancing equity for all. Check out UNMC's LGBTQ+ and Employee Alliance, attend a PFLAG meeting, learn about GLSEN, attend Heartland Pride the weekend of June 28, and celebrate the community.

Always listening,

ask

Ali S. Khan, MD, MPH

Retired Assistant Surgeon General, USPHS

Dean and Professor

College of Public Health | Office of the Dean