

November 22, 2020

It's easy to miss public health successes and the accompanying accolades – we cannot see the years added to the lives of those who quit smoking, or the flu death avoided because of vaccines. Even today, in the midst of a pandemic when your role is the lynchpin to containing this disease, some public health officials have been poorly treated. However, the UNMC College of Public Health remains a thriving population of students, faculty, staff, and guests that rely each day on many individuals and organizations who work to promote public the health, safety, and wellness of populations in Nebraska and beyond. Every preventable early death, every life, matters – to you and our communities.

Public Health Thank You Day, a national campaign celebrated each year on the Monday of Thanksgiving week, provides an opportunity to recognize public health professionals of all sorts and across the globe –in communities, clinics, research laboratories, health departments and many other settings – who dedicate their lives to helping people around the world achieve the highest attainable standard of health.

To you, for not missing an academic beat when COVID shut down our campus. To you, who stepped up to increase your research activities on this deadly plague. To you, who increased your service and protection activities to our affected communities. Thank you! To all who have dedicated their careers as Guardians of Health to help people live their lives to the fullest, thank you!

I wish you all a healthy and happy Thanksgiving.





Always listening and learning,

ask

**Ali S. Khan, MD, MPH**

Retired Assistant Surgeon General, USPHS

Dean and Professor

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