FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 5, 2022

ASPPH Statement of Commitment to Address the Climate Change and Health Crisis

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is committed to taking urgent action to address the climate change crisis and its negative impacts on the health of populations worldwide.

Climate change is one of the most significant challenges of the 21st century, with the potential to irrevocably alter the planet unless significant and immediate action is taken. Its negative impacts on health are already being felt and will only worsen over time. If we take urgent and decisive actions, we can lessen the impacts and learn to adapt to those that cannot be reversed.

However, we also cannot allow ourselves to become overwhelmed by the challenge. We must draw hope from the significant innovations and effective solutions currently being implemented, with more awaiting necessary technological advancements or funding.

We in public health have an essential role to play in mitigating and adapting to the health impacts of climate change. In 2021, in the face of these increased impacts on our global climate, ASPPH formed a Task Force on Climate Change and Health to address this issue from an academic public health perspective. With the launch of the task force’s new report, Responding to the Climate Change and Health Crisis: A Framework for Academic Public Health, we are furthering our commitment to working with our members and partners to address this critical public health issue.

There is much we can do together as a public health community – and in partnership with other disciplines and sectors – to improve health and wellbeing for everyone now and into the future.

To that end, ASPPH is committed to:

- Promoting and contributing evidence, best practices, and expert guidance that address climate change and health within the US, regional, and global public health systems for evidence-based solutions
- Advocating for policies that advance urgent action on climate change and health, especially those addressing environmental justice
- Fostering models for interdisciplinary engagement of our member schools and programs
- Developing resources to educate and train students and professionals – in the health professions and beyond – on climate change and health issues
- Enabling our members to make a commitment to implement the recommendations of the framework
The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is a 501c3 membership organization located in Washington, DC. ASPPH’s mission is to strengthen the capacity of our member schools and programs by advancing leadership, excellence, and collaboration for academic public health. Our members are CEPH-accredited schools and programs of public health as well as schools and programs in applicant status for CEPH-accreditation.

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