



Dear IAPHS Community,

IAPHS leadership has been carefully watching the progress of the COVID-19 pandemic in relation to our annual conference, scheduled to be held September 30th – October 2nd in Minneapolis. While there are some hopeful signs of improvement, risks associated with disease transmission are still very real and not likely to significantly abate by late September. Due to the current state of the pandemic, therefore, we do not feel it would be an acceptable risk to hold an in-person conference.

Because of our deep commitment to supporting each other and furthering the science of population health through in-person networking, conversations, and shared research, **IAPHS will move the 2020 Annual Conference to a virtual event. We will hold the virtual meeting during the already-set dates for the conference, September 30th – October 2nd. Please continue to plan to attend the conference!**

The IAPHS leadership and program committee are working diligently to ensure that the format of our virtual conference lives up to the high-quality of the content and the importance of population health research. **Because of our commitment, our 2020 annual meeting will not be simply a matter of holding a traditional conference via Zoom. Currently, we are doing everything possible to make the conference engaging and meaningful in new and novel ways. Stay tuned to learn more about how we will make this happen!**

Details relating to registration and the conference program will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. We will include our previously selected panel presentations, plenary sessions, oral presentations, and poster sessions. We will also be incorporating new content to make our move to a virtual space exciting and thought provoking. **Notices will be sent shortly regarding abstract acceptance.**

Many thanks for your patience during this transition. The IAPHS Board of Directors and Program Committee are committed to providing a robust virtual conference where we can discuss and highlight the work our members.

We are looking forward to in-person conferences again in Baltimore in 2021 and Minnesota in 2022.

Please stay safe and stay engaged. The horrific effects of both Covid-19 and structural racism present enormous challenges for our communities. They are also opportunities for everyone in population health to contribute to the solutions we so urgently need. Our 2020 conference will be an important and meaningful occasion to join with you all virtually to hear about your experiences, your research, your ideas, and your actions.

Sincerely,

IAPHS Officers
on behalf of the IAPHS Board

Frederick Zimmerman, President
Kathleen Harris, President-Elect
Ana Diez-Roux, Past-President
Cynthia Colen, Treasurer
Andrew Fenelon, Secretary
Suzanne Bevan, Executive Director