

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ASPPH Statement on the Colorado Springs Shooting

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is devastated by the recent shootings in Charlottesville, VA, and most recently at Club Q, an LGBTQ nightclub in Colorado Springs, CO. The weeks before Thanksgiving should never need to be a time of mourning.

While the motive for the Club Q shooting is still being investigated, in recent years, the LGBTQI+ community has been faced with a multitude of hate crimes. ASPPH stands by this community as we champion social justice, equity, and health for all.

Our hearts break for the victims and families of those who were killed and injured in these recent tragedies, as well as those traumatized by these events.

As President Biden said about the Colorado Springs shooting, “We must address the public health epidemic of gun violence in all of its forms.”

We agree, and that is why over the summer we launched our Gun Violence Prevention Task Force in response to the gun violence epidemic that has devastated communities across the country. As the voice of academic public health, this Task Force is developing a framework, which will be released in January 2023, that will help guide academic public health institutions as they engage in the issue of firearm violence prevention.

We hope others join us in our commitment to do more to end these unacceptable acts of gun violence. We urge everyone to reach out to their members of Congress to pass additional legislation to prevent these violent acts and end this public health epidemic.

We can and must do better. Students. Nightclub goers. Everyone deserves to live as they choose without the threat of violence.

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is a 501c3 membership organization 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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