



# News Release

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## Recognizing National Public Health Week in Washington

*Join us in celebrating the outstanding public health work happening in Washington*

**OLYMPIA** – Today marks the beginning of National Public Health Week, a time to celebrate the dedicated people working to improve public health across the country and here in Washington state. “It has become apparent now more than ever how vital public health is for our community and our world. It is a privilege to recognize the incredible service of Washington’s public health workforce,” said Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health. “They work tirelessly to protect their communities now and always.”

This year’s theme is “[Public Health is Where You Are](#),” recognizing the many ways we can make our communities healthier and stronger. Each day this week, the Washington Department of Health will focus on various issues crucial to promoting better health and wellness, including [accessibility](#), [combating climate change](#), dealing with the ongoing public health crisis of [systemic racism](#), and understanding the [strain](#) the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on public health workers.

The Department of Health will be spotlighting the outstanding work done by local health jurisdictions and Tribal public health partners across Washington, who are key to the success of our public health system. “From the shores of Puget Sound to the summit of Mount Rainier, our public health workers protect and improve the health of all people and places,” said Dr. Anthony L-T Chen, Director of Health at Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department. “Where we live, work, learn, pray, and play determines our health. Together, we strive for healthy people in healthy communities.”

All this week, look for stories on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). You can also take part in several [online events](#) throughout the week.

-More-

National Public Health Week

April 4, 2022

Page 2

All of us at the Department of Health look forward to celebrating public health colleagues around the state and all they do to serve our communities.

The [DOH website](#) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. [Find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#). Sign up for the DOH blog, [Public Health Connection](#).

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