

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY
4103 LIFE SCIENCES BUILDING
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April 15, 2020

Dear Public Health Graduate,

On behalf of the faculty in the Department of Public Health, congratulations on reaching the milestone of completing your degree at Brigham Young University! We are truly proud to have you as an alumnus of our program. At the same time, we are also saddened that we cannot celebrate with you in person—as is typical. Please look forward to receiving through the mail a congratulatory gift and expression of our appreciation. As you move forward, we invite you to stay optimistic, stay true, and stay connected.

Stay optimistic. As you navigate our new reality with COVID-19, our hope is that you consider not just the thorns (difficulties) associated with this new challenge, but also the roses (positive highlights) and the buds (future opportunities). These considerations might be applied both personally and professionally. Part of the silver lining professionally is that greater attention is being paid to public health, providing new opportunities and, hopefully, resources to follow in the future. You are well prepared to be a part of impending public health solutions.

Stay true. Graduating from BYU Public Health means that you have achieved many important learning outcomes. It means you have developed a set of skills that can be translated into the job market, further education, and/or work with your own family and community. However, your future success will not be measured by what you have learned academically through our program but rather through who you have and will continue to become. President Worthen has reminded, “As important and as powerful as it is to learn some truth or to do some good act, it is much more important to *be* true and to *be* good.” You are well prepared with a firm understanding of the purpose and meaning of life to guide your future directions.

Stay connected. BYU Public Health faculty have not only invested a lot of energy in developing a state-of-the-art curriculum but have also worked to establish strong relationships with you. As such, we hope that you will stay connected with us. Periodically, we will give you an opportunity to provide us with feedback about our program. We hope you will! We also hope you will stay connected with individual faculty members and with your public health peers. You are well prepared with a strong BYU public health network to help you along the way.

Finally, thank you for choosing BYU Public Health and learning and growing with us. May our Heavenly Father bless you as you go forward pursuing your dreams and making a positive difference in the lives of others.

Sincerely,

Carl Hanson, PhD
Department Chair and Professor