

Mollie Mahany, MPH
Senior Public Health Advisor
Office of the Director, National Center for Environmental Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4770 Buford Highway, Atlanta, GA 30084 USA

Dear Award Administrator,

As a professional in the public health field of disaster risk reduction, it is my profound honor to nominate my colleague, Dr. Mark Keim, for the prestigious Sasakawa award. As a true visionary in the field, Dr. Keim's courage, leadership, and scientific contributions make him an outstanding candidate for this year's theme, "Shaping the Future."

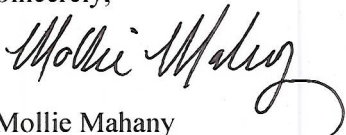
During the entirety of his career, Dr. Keim has worked to advance the public health approach to disaster management through science, policy, and practice. Through his mission of helping people all over the world understand the relationship between health and disaster risk, Dr. Keim empowers others to lead a movement to protect themselves, their families, their businesses, and their communities. Accordingly, while there is no one project or piece of work to put forward for this nomination, I instead submit the entirety of his career.

Dr. Keim pioneers the global movement for disaster risk reduction for health. Over the years I've heard Dr. Keim described as scientist, leader, innovator, teacher, and mentor, to name a few. It is through this combination of skills that he demonstrates his unique gift to inspire a diverse audience with the message of disaster risk reduction, from key leaders and decision makers to community members and individuals. Dr. Keim is widely appreciated as a mentor and educator with excellent communication skills and a special ability to convey complex messages to a broad range of audiences. He is a prolific author and speaker, frequently called upon to provide expertise and convey the principles of disaster risk reduction. I've been in the room on countless occasions when Dr. Keim spoke, both to individuals and large groups, and observed the excitement as people understood how they can apply simple principles to protect the things that matter to them most.

During his career, Dr. Keim has focused on the integration of evidence-based science into decision making for disaster risk management. The suffering and loss he observed while responding to several dozen major environmental disasters, both domestically and abroad, compelled him to examine causal factors of risk rather than focus only on the inevitable impacts of a disaster. His focus on risk also led to his foresight on climate risk management before the issue became a global priority. Not only has Dr. Keim, influenced policy at the global level through his work with WHO, but he has also provided a voice for those who often go unheard. One of his most unique and enduring contributions has been as a tireless advocate for improving the public health of the highly vulnerable (and often overlooked) Pacific Islands and developing countries regarding the environment, risk and health.

Dr. Keim is first and foremost a great humanitarian. His passion and tireless commitment has impacted lives and policies around the globe from the community practice to international policy. He brings to environmental health a unique blend of keen scientific insight, new practice, and a contagious, lasting legacy that will make the world a safer home for millions of people worldwide.

Sincerely,



Mollie Mahany

Funding statement Mark Keim nomination

In less than 100 words, please describe how the nominee's work is funded.

In the absence of any internal CDC line-item funding for disaster risk reduction activities, Dr. Keim has been able to leverage funding for his work through a diverse range of sources. At different times over the course of his career, Dr. Keim's work has been supported by: international organizations (IO) such as the World Health Organization (WHO), US Federal agencies (US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), direct support from international governments, such as Thailand and the Republic of Palau, as well as academic institutions (Tulane University and the Johns Hopkins University).

Please note: Once you have nominated an individual or institution for the award, your nominee must provide supporting documenting to be considered for the award.

Please fill out this section only if you are nominating an individual

Nominee's name Mark Edward Keim, MD, MBA

Nominee's address 141 Chantilly Lane, Lawrenceville, GA 30043 USA

Email mjk9@cdc.gov Nationality USA

Date of birth March 6, 1959 Place of birth Canton, Illinois USA Sex Male

Education Master's of Business Administration (MBA): Emory University, Goizueta Business School 2014

Doctor of Medicine (MD) Medical School: Southern Illinois University School of Medicine 1991

Bachelor of Science in physiology: Southern Illinois University 1987

Present position of nominee Senior Science Advisor, Office of Environmental Health Emergencies (OEHE)

National Center of Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Current job description of nominee Serves as a national and international expert for the translation of intramural and extramural response and prevention research findings into policy and prevention action. Works with local, regional and international partners to define the theory of disaster risk reduction as applied to health (DDR/H), to employ and communicate it through practical applications, and to develop world and regional policies that would make these best practices sustainable. Responsible for scientific oversight and clearance of all scientific publications and releases for CDC National Center for Environmental Health, Office of the Director, Office for Environmental Health Emergencies.

Nominee's previous posts and functions

Senior Science Advisor – Provided scientific and technical guidance and oversight to senior management within the National Center for Environmental Health. Provided expert medical and prevention input into CDC response activities as they relate to emergency medicine, epidemiology, and surveillance, including that related to trauma mitigation, toxic exposures, radiation, natural and technological disasters. Developed and implemented methods to measure the effectiveness of response programs at the international, national, state and local levels.