December 10, 2020

Dear Partners,

We hope that you continue to find this newsletter to be a helpful resource during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are thankful for the information and events you have been sharing with us over the past year.

This month, Monroe County is providing free, rapid COVID tests for residents who are asymptomatic. Click here to find a location and register. Anyone experiencing symptoms should still contact their healthcare provider or call the Monroe County COVID Hotline at (585) 753-5555.

Testing is available to all New Yorkers. You do not need to be symptomatic or an essential worker to get a test. Test sites run by New York State are free. In Monroe County, the state-run test site is at Monroe Community College. Test sites operated by private companies (pharmacies, medical practices, not-for-profits) may charge fees. Click here to view sites throughout the state.

Volunteers are needed to help at local test sites. If you are interested in picking up a volunteer shift, click here for more information.

LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

540WMain, Inc. presents "Introduction to Implicit and Unconscious Bias," from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 12. Implicit bias refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner. How do we understand implicit bias, unpack it and understand how our backgrounds, upbringing, and society shape how we interact with each other in virtual spaces and beyond?

This online class, facilitated by Community Educator Calvin Eaton, will teach participants how to understand implicit bias at a personal and social level and leverage this understanding in meaningful ways. Click here for more information and to purchase tickets.

Don't miss the next WXXI Live Forum, airing at 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 17. Pfizer and Moderna recently announced that their COVID-19 vaccines appear to be more than 90 percent effective and
could be available by the end of the year. In this live forum, scientists leading local vaccine trials discuss what you need to know about the vaccines and the latest in COVID-19 research and treatment. Additional experts will address distribution plans, how to ensure the vaccine reaches underserved populations, and more. This forum will also simulcast on AM 1370 and stream on WXXINews.org and @WXXINews on Facebook Live.

Registration will open soon for Action for a Better Community’s 2021 Signature Event. “Racism is a Public Health Crisis - Attacking the Two Pandemics,” proudly presented by the Health Foundation, ESL, and Key Bank, takes place on January 14th, 21st and 28th.

The virtual conference features keynote speakers Bryan Duncan, Board Chair at the National Community Action Partnership; Denise Harlow, CEO of the National Community Action Partnership; Wade Norwood, CEO of Common Ground Health; and Dr. Joy DeGruy, CEO at Joy DeGruy Publications, Inc.

Click here for more information.

The Division of Diversity and Inclusion at Rochester Institute of Technology invites the community to attend the 39th annual Expressions of King’s Legacy, at noon on Thursday, January 28. The virtual event, “Education, Civil Rights and Equality: Cornerstones For Our Future,” features keynote speaker Bakari Sellers.

Sellers made history in 2006 when, at just 22 years old, he defeated a 26-year incumbent State Representative to become the youngest member of the South Carolina state legislature and the youngest African American elected official in the nation. He earned his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College, where he served as student body president, and his law degree from the University of South Carolina.

Sellers has received numerous accolades including being named to TIME Magazine’s 40 Under 40 list and “The Root 100” list of the nation’s most influential African-Americans. He has provided commentary and analysis to CNN and MSNBC including multiple appearances on Hardball with Chris Matthews and Morning Joe. He now currently serves on AIPAC’s National Council. Sellers is the author of “My Vanishing Country: A Memoir.” Register here.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS NEEDED

Childcare Needs Survey:

Our partners at Common Ground Health are working with the United Way of Greater Rochester’s Child Care Task Force, Finger Lakes Community Schools, and the Schools Reopening Safely Task Force to gauge where parents and caregivers are now, and what they may need moving forward in the winter.

Caregivers in Monroe and Wayne Counties are encouraged to lead the response to how organizations support kids by participating in a short, anonymous survey to help task force members gain a better understanding of current needs, wants and desires for child care and out of school time care, and learn what resources and supports they need for kids to have safe, accessible and quality child care during COVID-19.

Share or complete the survey in English or Spanish.

RMAPI Community Check-In Survey

Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative (RMAPI) is collecting information via a “pulse check” survey to inform the collective’s work to reduce poverty and increase self-sufficiency. Information collected in the survey will help RMAPI understand the needs of the community and gaps in available resources in real-time decision making and crisis response by collecting community voice to understand major concerns, challenges, and opportunities related to income and basic needs. Click here to access the survey.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

New York State Health Foundation: Patients as Partners: Advancing Equity
The New York State Health Foundation has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to support projects that seek system improvements, practice innovations, or interventions designed to give patients of color a meaningful role in their health care at the individual and systems levels. Click here to learn more and apply.

Brave of Heart Fund continues to accept applications for grants to support eligible family members of frontline healthcare workers and volunteers who lost their lives to COVID-19 while caring for others. Click here for more information.

Farash Foundation’s COVID-19 Relief Fund provides unrestricted support to non-profit organizations located in Monroe and Ontario Counties that have a mission specific to arts and culture, education, or entrepreneurship/workforce development. Learn more and apply here.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation is looking for game-changing ideas to advance racial equity through its $90 million #RacialEquity2030 challenge. Learn more here.

Through a call for proposals, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, under its Policies for Action program, will fund research that addresses systemic racism in public policy. Click here to learn more.

Greater Rochester Health Foundation Funding Resource Page
Community Crisis Fund activated by the United Way and Rochester Area Community Foundation
COVID-19 Related Funding Compiled by GrantStation
Council on Foundations' list of Global Response Funds

**COVID-19 RESOURCES**

CV19 CheckUp screening tool presented by the New York State Office for the Aging
COVID-19 Test Site Locator
NYS School Covid Report Card
CDC Resources for K-12 Schools and Childcare Programs
NY Micro-Cluster Focus Zones
CDC Guidance on holiday celebrations small gatherings
State travel notices

County-specific information related to COVID-19:

Genesee
Livingston
Monroe
Ontario
Orleans
Seneca
Wayne
Wyoming
Yates

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

(click on the graphics below for more information)
GOW Opioid Task Force Receives Award

Congratulations to our partners at the GOW (Genesee - Orleans - Wyoming) Opioid Task Force for being honored with a 2020 Community Star Award from the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health.

The Community Star Award acknowledges the efforts of the hundreds of people in the tri-county area who volunteer their time and work together to help end opioid addiction and overdose.

The GOW Opioid Task Force is comprised of more than 400 members from across the region. Members represent various sectors of the community, including public health, mental health, human services, local government, substance use disorder treatment and recovery agencies, law enforcement, EMS, faith-based groups, health systems and medical practitioners, education, businesses, concerned individuals, families, and individuals in recovery.

Click here to access the 2020 Community Stars e-book publication featuring the full story.

ATTENTION PARTNERS & GRANTEES:

Do you have a story, event, resource or funding opportunity to share with us? We'd love to hear from you!

Call (585) 258-1799 or email Communications Officer Tiana Stephens.

SHARABLE PUBLIC HEALTH RESOURCES

[Image with text]
The mission of the Greater Rochester Health Foundation is to pursue and invest in solutions that build a healthier region where all people can thrive.