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greater rochester
Health
foundation

July 9, 2020

Dear Partners,

Over the past week we've been encouraged and inspired to see so many community members and groups working to build a better Rochester through education, advocacy, and support of Black-owned businesses.



We wanted to give a shout out to two groups in particular, the [ROC FREEDOM RIDERS](#) and [Rochester Black Young Professionals](#).

The ROC FREEDOM RIDERS, a new group created by Rashad J. Smith and Devin Anglin, led a group of bicyclists on a five-mile ride on the 4th of July to commemorate Frederick Douglass's 1852 speech "[What, to a Slave, is the Fourth of July,](#)" and to educate the community about the importance of supporting black-owned businesses. Cyclists rode in the spirit of the original [Freedom Riders of the 1940s and 1960s](#). The next ride is scheduled for Saturday, July 18. Follow their [Facebook page](#) and [Instagram @RocFreedomRiders](#) for details on this and other events.

Congratulations to Taren Greenidge and Roni Dasher of the Rochester Black Young Professionals for organizing a successful [Black Restaurant Week](#)! The event has been featuring a different Black-owned restaurant each day of this week -- and every day, businesses have been selling out of meals! Click [here](#) to view the locations for the rest of the week if you'd like to participate.

Together these events are inspiring examples of interconnections between health, social justice, and economic vitality, and remind us of even the small ways we can take action in our daily lives to counteract structural racism and support historically disinvested and marginalized communities of color.

Here are a few more opportunities for engagement and action in Rochester and beyond that you may be interested in:

- Community members in Monroe County who are inspired to help make lasting change and work towards dismantling systemic and institutional inequities across our community are encouraged to apply to be a member of the Racial and Structural Equity (RASE) Commission. RASE is charged with examining current local laws, and developing new, local policies and legislation that seek to dismantle systemic and institutional inequities across Monroe County. Applications for the Commission are due Friday, July 10. Learn more and find the application [here](#).

- The Urban League of Rochester has extended the deadline for its INTERRUPT RACISM collective impact equity platform, asking community members to help develop and prioritize ideas that the community can tackle that may move the needle on racism, heal our community, and propel Rochester forward. The survey will close on Sunday, July 12. Please share widely with your networks, and help the Urban League create a more equitable community at www.interruptracism.com.
- You can also help our region by filling out your Census. Census data affects the allocation of funding for our community's public resources, how we plan for the future, and our voice in government. Monroe County and the City of Rochester are partnering to host a job fair and information session for the 2020 US Census. Register [here](#) for the live event on Wednesday, July 15 at 1 p.m. (You can take the Census survey from this link, too).

As always, we are continuously looking to learn and grow, and share learning opportunities and resources with you. Please reach out to us with your event details or if you have any questions about our work or the efforts of our dedicated partners.

Sincerely,



[Matthew A. Kuhlbeck](#) (He/Him)
President & CEO

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



The [Center for Disaster Philanthropy](#) presents [COVID-19: Support for Mental Health, Bereavement and Grief](#), at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14.

As the pandemic continues, serious mental health needs are emerging, including mental illness, depression, anxiety and suicide risk. This webinar is designed to help raise awareness of the intersection of mental health and COVID-19. The discussion will include what professionals are seeing as individuals, families and communities endure the stresses of uncertainty, illness,

death and the economic impacts of the pandemic; the role of cultural sensitivity in addressing the traumas of disaster; how funders are responding to the enormity of the losses; and opportunities for innovative and collaborative grantmaking.

[Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce](#) is hosting a webinar with NYS Director of Workforce Development, Madhuri Kommareddi from **10 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, July 16**

Ensuring that we are able to retain, attract, and grow talent is critically important for the future of our region, and Director Kommareddi will offer insights on current efforts and what is to come. Register [here](#).



Recommended Reading

From NPR: [4 Ways Racial Inequity Harms American Schoolchildren](#)

From the Atlantic: [A Better Fall Is Possible](#) : States with low rates of the virus are in a position to reopen their schools this September—but they should do so very carefully, and with a focus on younger kids.



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Healthi Kids Play Kits Available!

Are you interested in distributing "play kits" in your neighborhood?

Our friends at [Healthi Kids](#) and the City of Rochester [Department of Youth Services](#) continue to assemble thousands of play kits for kids and families in Rochester.

Play is important to kids physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development. During times of stress, and especially now, play is critical to our kids' overall health and well-being by providing a way for them to heal and have fun!

If your neighborhood group, school, camp, or community organization is interested in kits, please fill out this [form](#) and share this information!

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NEW: [Farash Foundation's](#) COVID-19 Relief Fund provides unrestricted support to non-profit organizations located in Monroe and Ontario Counties. General operating support is intended to invest in an organization's mission and impact, to help support the infrastructure and operational needs of an organization, rather than a specific project or program. Learn more and apply [here](#) . The Fund is restricted to organizations with a mission specific to one of the following funding areas:

- Arts and Culture
- Education
- Entrepreneurship/Workforce Development

[Community Crisis Fund](#) activated by the [United Way](#) and [Rochester Area Community Foundation](#)

[Federal, State, and Local Financial Assistance](#) compiled by the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce

[COVID-19 Related Funding Compiled by GrantStation](#)

[Council on Foundations' list of Global Response Funds](#)

[Greater Rochester Health Foundation Resource Page](#)

RESOURCES



[NY Forward](#) Reopening resources and guidance from New York State.

[New York Forward Book: A Guide to Reopening New York and Building Back Better](#)

[Find a COVID-19 Testing Site](#)

[ROCCOVID.org Symptom Tracker](#)

[Face Covering FAQ](#)

[Job Portal for Essential Businesses and Job Seekers](#)

[Public Assistance, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, HEAP & HERR, Food & Childcare](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS



No Más Rochester invites the community to come help beautify and clean up North Clinton Avenue at its [Mini "Clean Sweep"](#) event, this Friday, July 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. starting at [821 N. Clinton Ave.](#)

The clean-up will be focused along the North Clinton Ave. corridor and side streets in the surrounding area.

During the Mini Clean Sweep, social distancing measures and proper precautionary steps will be in effect. Participants must wear masks, and hand sanitizer and wipes will be used to clean shared equipment.

The ¡No Más! movement is a Social Awareness Campaign created by Project CLEAN (Community, Law Enforcement, and Assistance Network). Project CLEAN is a federally funded effort administered by [Ibero-American Development Corporation](#). Read more [here](#).

(Click on below graphics for event details)

**BLACK NURSES 4 BLACK LIVES
RALLY AND VIGIL**

SATURDAY 7/11/20 @ 3PM
LOCATION: MLK PARK

COME JOIN THE ROCHESTER BLACK NURSES ASSOCIATION, AS WE "CALL IN"
RACISM AS A PUBLIC-HEALTH CRISIS, INEQUITIES IN HEALTHCARE AND "NO
NURSE LEFT BEHIND"

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL NURSES,
NURSING STUDENTS,
HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND
THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.

WEAR YOUR MASK AND BRING YOUR STETHOSCOPES!



ROC THE FUTURE P.E.C.A.N

JULY PUBLIC MEETING:
A LEARNING COLLABORATIVE ON

**Connecting with
New RCSD**

**Superintendent
Lesli Myers-Small**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

6:00-7:30 PM

Stipends of \$25 per family
provided for participation.

To RSVP, and to join, register
here:

<https://bit.ly/july-pecan>



PUBLIC HEALTH MESSAGES TO SHARE



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.

