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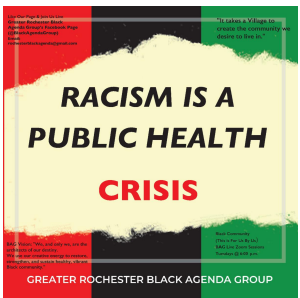


May 28, 2020

Dear Partners,

We hope this message finds you and your families doing well.

This week has been a tumultuous time for our state and our nation. As we pass 100,000 COVID-19-related deaths nationally, and 200 locally, the additional impacts of structural racism have also been elevated by this virus and by actions across several communities. Structural racism and its impact on health outcomes are widely known. However, change in these systems has been slow to non-existent.



At the Health Foundation, we hold equity as a central value and believe that to achieve justice and fairness in health resources and outcomes, we need to disrupt the conditions that result in racial and other health inequities. We are excited to share that a group of committed community advocates are leading efforts to elevate awareness of the effects of racism in the region.

Founded in 2015, the [Rochester Black Agenda Group](#) (BAG) states that it committed to the uplifting and improvement of Black people in the Greater Rochester area. Last week, the BAG issued a document declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis and asks that community members, organizations, and government officials endorse the declaration.

Some highlights from the declaration:

- *Race is a social construct with no biological basis.*
- *Racism is a system that creates structures of opportunity and assigns value based on the social interpretation of how one looks, that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities, while unfairly providing advantages to other individuals and communities, and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources.*
- *Racism causes persistent racial discrimination in housing, education, health care, employment, criminal justice, business, and economic mobility.*
- *Racial health disparities in the Black Community have existed since racial health data has been collected and analyzed. Racial health disparities in diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, and mental health are prevalent and growing.*

Read the full declaration [here](#) .

The Health Foundation is proud to support the Rochester Black Agenda and we encourage organizations working toward equity to review the declaration and [share your endorsement](#) with the BAG.

With Gratitude,

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

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



We've teamed up with [WXXI](#) to support live, virtual town halls related to COVID-19.

The latest WXXI Live Forum: " Restarting the Economy ," featured industry leaders and business owners who answered questions about the guidelines for reopening the region, discussed the different phases of process, and talked about how local businesses are being impacted by the pandemic. Watch the program [here](#) .

The [Child & Adolescent Psychiatry division at UR Medicine](#) is hosting a webinar at **noon on Friday, May 29** focused on Practical Tips for Family Wellness during COVID-19. UR experts will participate in a virtual town hall-style meeting to discuss practical parenting tips, strategies for family resilience and more. Register [here](#) .

[GrantSpace by Candid](#) is offering [free training](#) and self-service tools and resources to help nonprofits write successful grant applications and build strong, sustainable organizations. Training topics include Introduction to Finding Grants, Introduction to Proposal Writing, Diversity and Inclusion: Walking the Talk, and more.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NEW: [U.S. Department of Agriculture Coronavirus Food Assistance Program](#) (CFAP): This \$19 billion program includes support to agricultural producers as well as the Farmers to Families Food Box Program. CFAP provides assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-

percent-or-greater price decline or who had COVID-19-related supply chain disruption losses. Click [here](#) for details.

[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

[Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#)

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

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

[Greater Rochester Health Foundation Resource Page](#)

RESOURCES

New York Forward has created a [Business Reopening Safety Plan Template](#) to help businesses develop a written safely plan that is required by the State for businesses to reopen. Plans must outline how the workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19. This plan does not need to be submitted to a state agency for approval but must be retained on the premises in the event of an inspection.

[CDC Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes](#)

[Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce](#) is sharing resources to help businesses make informed decisions and undertake responsible, fact-based planning for continuity during the pandemic and as businesses prepare to re-open. Visit the resource page [here](#) .

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

Linda Alpert Gillis at [Pediatric Behavioral Health and Wellness at the University of Rochester](#) has created a comprehensive list of behavioral health resources for anyone working with youth and families on behavioral health challenges to use and share during the COVID-19 crisis. Download the resource [here](#) .

The [Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative](#) has been collecting feedback from the community to inform how the Rochester and Monroe County community responds to COVID-19 to support households experiencing poverty. View the feedback [here](#) .

The Mental Health Association of Rochester/Monroe County's [webpage](#) lists local and national resources (including video chats) to support those who are feeling anxious or overwhelmed.

Visit the Rural Health [Information Hub](#) for resources, events and COVID-19 news related to rural communities.

County Health Departments:

[Genesee](#)
[Livingston](#)
[Monroe](#)

[Ontario](#)
[Orleans](#)
[Seneca](#)

[Wayne](#)
[Wyoming](#)
[Yates](#)

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

ROC the Future Launches "Doctors are Open" Campaign

Vision and hearing screenings, speech screenings and immunizations are critical to school success.

To get this important message out, our partners at [ROC the Future](#) have launched its “Doctors Are Open” campaign to raise awareness about the importance of preventive health visits and reassure parents of safety while traveling to and from their doctor’s offices, clinics, and hospitals amid COVID-19.



If your organization works with kids and families, ROC the Future is asking you to help spread the word. Access the toolkit [here](#) to find shareable resources in English and Spanish, including transportation support for families.

You can also help boost the message that #DoctorsAreOpen by using the hashtag and tagging @rocthefuture in your posts.



Matchstick Prize Rewards Change-makers

Has a small nonprofit in Greater Rochester impacted you or someone you know?

Consider nominating them for Causewave Community Partners' \$5,000 [Matchstick Prize](#) (by Monday, June 3).

Causewave Community Partners, the Credit Union Collective, Two Point Capital Management and the Democrat & Chronicle have partnered for the fifth year to offer this unique prize to local nonprofits that are "small but mighty" in our community and have demonstrated results in achieving meaningful community change in the Greater Rochester region.

In addition to the cash prize, the winner of the 2020 Matchstick Prize will receive donated media space in the Democrat & Chronicle, valued at \$25,000!

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Trillium Health Opens COVID Respiratory Evaluation & Testing Area


Staff at [Trillium Health](#) have rapidly operationalized a COVID Respiratory Evaluation and Testing Area (RETA) where patients and members of the community can be evaluated and tested for COVID-19.

Check out their video for a behind-the-scenes look at the new area.



Trillium has also created a dedicated COVID-19 hotline at (585) 545-7292 for community members who lack access to a primary care physician and are experiencing symptoms of the coronavirus such as fever, shortness of breath, or cough.

WAYS TO HELP



COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Program: Donors Needed!

Plasma Needed to Help Fight COVID

In coordination with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Red Cross is seeking people who are fully recovered from the novel coronavirus to donate plasma to help current COVID-19 patients through its [COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Program](#) .

People who have recovered from COVID-19 have antibodies in their plasma that can attack the virus. This plasma is being evaluated as treatment for patients with serious or immediately life-threatening COVID-19 infections, or those deemed by a healthcare provider to be at high risk of progression to a severe or life-threatening condition.

In addition, the Red Cross is encouraging people who have not had COVID-19 to [schedule](#) and keep appointments to donate blood or platelets to ensure a stable blood supply during this pandemic.



Reminder: Do What Counts!

Completing the census is a relatively easy way we can help our community during the pandemic. It only takes about 10 minutes to complete.

The coronavirus outbreak has led the U.S. Census Bureau to delay the timeline for sending people door-to-door to count everyone who does not respond online. Original deadlines for completion have been [extended](#) .

Responding to the census is our right and civic duty; it affects the allocation of funding for our community’s public resources, how we plan for the future, and our voice in government. To learn more and to respond online, visit [2020census.gov](#) .



JOIN OUR TEAM!

At the Health Foundation, we seek to effect change in health outcomes and disparities shaped by inequitable policies, systems, and environments, with [values centered in equity](#) , stewardship, partnership, innovation and integrity.

We’re looking for a Finance and Grants Manager to join our dedicated team as we serve diverse communities and work with dynamic partners to help improve health outcomes in our nine-county region.

To learn more about this opportunity, click [here](#) .

