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September 3, 2020

Dear Partners,

We thank you for the strong interest we've received in our newest grant opportunity -- a [Call for Ideas](#) to address unmet needs within populations such as communities of color/indigenous communities, children and adults impacted by poverty, persons with disabilities, LGBTQIA persons, rural residents, immigrants, refugees and older adults.

**Idea Proposals to be considered for October 2020 are due tomorrow, September 4.**

If you were unable to attend our recent webinar where we answered questions about the funding process, you may watch the recorded meeting [here](#). You may also download a list of frequently asked questions and answers [here](#).

Organizations may still submit Idea Proposals after Friday, as the submission period is rolling. Click [here](#) to learn more about this program and our new submission process. We welcome and encourage you to contact Monica Brown, Senior Program Officer, at (585) 258-1710, or via email at [ideas@thegrhf.org](mailto:ideas@thegrhf.org) to discuss your ideas before submitting your Idea Proposal.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

View funding opportunities posted to our [Greater Rochester Health Foundation Resource Page](#). This list is updated regularly.

[Community Crisis Fund](#) activated by the [United Way](#) and [Rochester Area Community Foundation](#) continues to support nonprofit operations experiencing financial hardship because of costs associated with reopening or maintaining safe operations with a focus on equity.

[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, and 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 arts and culture, education, or entrepreneurship/workforce development. Rolling applications are being accepted throughout 2020.

## HEALTH FOUNDATION NEWS

August marked the end of an era for the Greater Rochester Health Foundation as our friend and colleague Tom Wesley retired as Chief Financial Officer at the end of the month.



Tom has been with the Health Foundation since our inception and played a pivotal role in stewarding the Foundation's resources to ensure we are able to maximize the support we provide to the community. In addition to overseeing the financial and operational aspects of the Foundation, Tom was a passionate advocate for improving health in the Finger Lakes Region and approached every day with a smile and an unyielding positive outlook on the region's future.

His presence and perspective will be missed, but we know he will continue to make an impact on our community.

We are fortunate that as Tom approached retirement, he also diligently prepared for our future by mentoring and training a fellow team member.

We are proud to announce that Justin Rand, formerly our Director of Accounting and Administration, has been appointed our new Chief Financial Officer.

Again, we wish Tom well as he spends more time with family and the organizations he's passionate about supporting and are thankful for his leadership. We're excited for Justin and his future with the Health Foundation and his leadership in continued stewardship of our resources to ensure we can maximize the support we are able to provide in our region.



## RESOURCES

As schools in the Finger Lakes area navigate the unprecedented process of reopening in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, a new task force convened by [Common Ground Health](#) is working to ensure the physical and emotional health and safety of students and their families, education professionals and the community. The Finger Lakes Reopening Schools Safely Task Force will ensure that local decisions are guided by the latest scientific findings about COVID-19. The Task Force is committed to continuity of learning for all students, including those who live in poverty, lack internet access or have special needs. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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While the children's behavioral health crisis we were already facing in communities across the nation has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, there is hope to help children --and ourselves-- build resiliency and cope more effectively with the challenges we are all facing. Dr. Michael Scharf, Chief of [Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Rochester](#) and Health Foundation board member, gave a presentation on youth mental health in challenging times last week. Click [here](#) for a video of the event.

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The Rochester Chamber of Commerce's [Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources for Business](#) page includes links to government, legal, HR, and general interest items that businesses can use to educate themselves and their employees to make informed decisions on continuity during the pandemic.

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The [Mental Health Association's](#) Self-Help Drop-in location has been relocated to 344 N. Goodman St. to better serve the community during COVID-19. The center is open seven days a week from 5 to 9 p.m. to support individuals who need immediate, after-hours support. Click [here](#) for additional supports and services.

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Roc The Future has compiled an extensive [COVID-19 Resource Page](#) for Families as well as a spreadsheet for district reopening plans in our area. Click [here](#) to view the sheet.

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Rochester City School District [reopening plans](#) for individual schools and [COVID-19 resources](#)

Children's Institute [Racial and Social Justice Resources](#)

The City of Rochester's After School in the Park Program will now operate as a full-day program certified through the Office of Children and Family Services.



The program is open to youth in kindergarten to 6th grade (\$100 per week for youth who live in Rochester; \$85 per week for siblings). Click [here](#) to learn more.

**Recommended Reading:** Minority Reporter: [Black Agenda Group Declares Racism a Public Health Crisis](#)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Young Black Leaders

Rochester Business Journal is hosting a discussion on the challenges and opportunities facing our region at 11 a.m., Wednesday, September 9. The virtual event features Black leaders in nonprofits, business, government and law enforcement who are helping to shape our community's response to racial inequity. For more information and to register, click [here](#).



### A Summit to End Hate

Registration is now open for "Brave Spaces - Rochester's Summit to End Hate," created by the [Levine Center to End Hate](#).

This virtual event features a day of education, dialogue, and positive action with a keynote address by nationally-renowned civil rights expert Eric Ward. Interactive workshops will be led by local thought leaders and community members from across the region.

Click [here](#) to register for this free event.

### WORK WITH US!

We're looking for a dynamic partner to work with on a new Health Foundation website.

We've shifted our focus, strategies and priorities throughout the years and at the start of 2020, we updated our mission to communicate more explicitly what we strive to accomplish.

Preference will be given to MWBE (women-owned or minority-owned business enterprises) within our 9-county area of service.



Download (and share) the RFP (Request for Proposals) [here](#). Please direct any questions to Communications Officer, [Tiana Stephens](#).

## PUBLIC HEALTH MESSAGING RESOURCES



**NEW:** [The Public Health Communications Collaborative \(PHCC\)](#) created by the CDC Foundation, the de Beaumont Foundation, and Trust for America's Health, was launched this week to coordinate and amplify public health messaging on COVID-19 issues to increase Americans' confidence in health guidance by communicating the best available science and by quickly correcting misinformation. Access resources and learn more about this effort on the new PHCC [website](#).

The site includes a "tough questions" Q&A, messaging about issues like school re-openings and masks use, and other resources. This website will be a real-time information hub, updated as COVID-19 issues evolve.

**PROTECT YOUR CIRCLE**  
STAY HOME & SAVE LIVES



*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.*

