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greater rochester  
**Health**  
*foundation*

April 29, 2020

Dear Partners,

As we continue to be "on pause," our thoughts are with the first responders and essential workers of our community, our colleagues, and you.

We're proud to share with you that we've joined hundreds of our peers in philanthropy who have answered the [Council on Foundations'](#) call to hold ourselves accountable by making a commitment to:

- Listen attentively – especially to those communities least heard, lifting up their voices and experiences to inform public discourse and our own decision-making.
- Support, as appropriate, partners advocating for public policy changes to fight the pandemic and deliver an equitable and just emergency response for all.
- Communicate proactively and regularly about our decision-making and response to provide helpful information while not asking more of grantee partners.
- Learn from emergency practices and share what they teach us about effective partnership and philanthropic support, so we might consider adjusting our practices more fundamentally in the future.
- Loosen or eliminate the restrictions on current grants.
- Make new grants as unrestricted as possible, so nonprofit partners have maximum flexibility to respond to this crisis.
- Reduce what we ask of our nonprofit partners, postponing reporting requirements and other demands on their time.
- Contribute to community-based emergency response funds and other efforts.

As always, being responsive and staying connected is our priority. Please [reach out](#) if you have any questions or concerns that you'd like to talk about.

With Gratitude,

**Matthew A. Kuhlenbeck**

President & CEO  
(585) 258-1704

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Join Nonprofit New York, the New York Council of Nonprofits, and the National Council of Nonprofits for a virtual town hall with U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and U.S. Senator and Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, **Wednesday, April 29, from 11:15 a.m. to noon.**

**Nonprofit New York**  
**New York Council of Nonprofits**  
**National Council of Nonprofits**  
present  
**NONPROFIT TOWN HALL**  
Wed. April 29, 2020, 11:15 am

Featuring  
U.S. SENATORS FOR NEW YORK



**Kirsten Gillibrand**   **Charles E. Schumer**

All nonprofits in New York are welcome to join the Town Hall, which features an opportunity to hear from our senators about the CARES Act and plans for future Congressional action, and discuss specific issues and needs of nonprofits. Register for the event [here](#).

**Listen to the URMC Office of Equity & Inclusion's podcast on Health Disparities and COVID-19 .** COVID-19 has had a devastating impact around the world and the toll the disease has taken will be felt for years to come. Recent reports show that the virus is killing Black and Latino Americans at disproportionately high rates. In this episode of *Insights*, Dr. Linda Clark, president of the Black Physicians Network and Dr. Adrienne Morgan from the Office of Equity & Inclusion discuss these health disparities and what's being done to address them. Listen to the podcast [here](#).

**The Urban League of Rochester is hosting a webinar, "Stay Safe & Healthy,"** on Friday, May 1 at 2 p.m. as part of its *Equity & U: Your Survival Matters* series.



Hear from infectious disease specialist Dr. Nadia Kousar who will share her expertise on keeping you and your family safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Watch via Zoom (meeting ID 924 0875 5389) or at [facebook.com/ulrochester](https://facebook.com/ulrochester)

The TRANSFORM Research Center invites you to join its webinar, **Responding to Child Abuse and Neglect: What's Race Got to Do With It?**, Thursday, May 21 from noon to 1 p.m. Dr. Natalie A. Cort will provide information regarding the role of race in screening, assessing, referring and treating child abuse and neglect, and will share strategies for diversifying the professional landscape of adults (e.g., mental health counselors, psychologists) that children interact with. Register [here](#).

**Recommended Reading:** [5 Anti-Racist Actions for White People to Take During COVID - 19](#)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Applications for the Department of Health and Human Services' [Ethnic Community Self Help Program](#) are being accepted until May 11. The program seeks to provide refugee populations with critical services to assist them in becoming integrated members of society. Objectives include strengthening Ethnic Community-Based Organizations' provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate services to refugees and supporting organizational development and engagement in capacity building. Click [here](#) for more.
- Applications for [Rochester Area Community Foundation's Equity Grants](#): Closing Achievement and Opportunity Gaps close on May 18. The Rochester Area Community Foundation is interested in supporting the early childhood community in various ways, detailed [here](#).
- Visit our [resource page](#) to explore funding opportunities that may be a fit for your organization. NEW grants are posted [here](#) each week.
- The [Community Crisis Fund](#), activated by the United Way and Rochester Area Community Foundation, is deploying flexible resources to nonprofits disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. The Health Foundation is proud to participate in this effort and work collaboratively to address both the immediate and long-lasting impact of COVID-19 in the communities we serve.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

### Take 5 for Yourself & Others

Monroe County wants to help people stay optimistic, connected, and healthy as we navigate this unprecedented public health crisis.

[Take 5 Monroe](#) is a new wellness campaign encouraging us all to take five minutes out of each day to care for ourselves and our loved ones.

Through a collaboration with a host of community partners, the campaign features 5-minute videos with relaxation and easy movement activities, messaging on ways to connect with others, and guidance and counseling from local faith-based leaders.

The campaign is part of a state-wide effort promoted by the New York State Association of Counties with the hashtags #Take5Monroe and #Take5ForNY.



### Online Grief Circles

[M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence](#) hosts Online Grief Circles on Tuesdays and Thursdays for community members to share what's heavy on their heart during these uncertain times.

Registration fees are offered on a sliding scale from \$0 to \$40; select the option that works best for your budget. Click [here](#) for Grief Circle schedules and other events.

## RESOURCES

**NY State Emotional Support Hotline:** 1-844-863-9314

**Causewave Community Partners** is offering free [virtual consultations](#) for any nonprofit in the Greater Rochester area to help with their COVID-19 planning and response, as an extension of its free Coffee & Consult program. Topics may cover a wide variety of topics from messaging to donors, funders and program participants, what to do about event cancellations, and a number of HR, finance and other needs. Click [here](#) to schedule a meeting.

**The American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry** has created a [Coronavirus Center](#) as a resource and hub for knowledge sharing for individuals, caregivers, and, in particular, health care workers serving people with Special Needs/ IDD (Intellectual & Development Disabilities).

**The Democrat & Chronicle** has compiled [coronavirus resources for Rochester's deaf and hard of hearing community](#).

**Resource sheets created by Coordinated Care Services, Incorporated :**  
[Preserving the Gains in Telehealth for Behavioral Health](#)  
[Federal Tax Credits Fact Sheets](#)

**The United Way** has created a volunteer and in-kind response [portal](#) where agencies can post needs and volunteers can find in-person and virtual volunteer opportunities.

**Rural Health [Information Hub](#)**

**County Health Departments:**

## AMPLIFY PUBLIC HEALTH MESSAGES

The City of Rochester and County of Monroe are asking organizations and community members to share important public health messages to help keep people safe and slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Visit [ProtectYourCircleRoc.com](http://ProtectYourCircleRoc.com) and [SixFeetSaves.org](http://SixFeetSaves.org) for more information and shareable resources in multiple languages.



## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

### LARC Initiative Makes a Big Impact

A [new study from the American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology](#) shows that a University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) community outreach initiative has helped adolescents in Rochester adopt Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) at a rate far higher than in New York State and the U.S. overall.

The [Greater Rochester LARC Initiative](#) was started six years ago by the Hoekelman Center for Health Beyond Medicine, a unit of the URMC Department of Pediatrics. Primarily funded by the Health Foundation, the Initiative aims to increase access to highly effective methods of birth control, including intrauterine devices and contraceptive implants (LARCs), for adolescents in Rochester.

During the coronavirus pandemic, the Hoekelman Center's [clinical partners](#) continue to offer free and confidential birth control via telemedicine.

Original Research [ajog.org](#)

#### Impact of the Rochester LARC Initiative on adolescents' utilization of long-acting reversible contraception

C. Andrew Alagna, MD, MPH, Richard Pheasant, MD, Jessica L. Vandoo, MPH, Sarah A. Korones, BA, Katherine B. Greenberg, MD

**BACKGROUND:** Preventing unintended teen pregnancy is a national public health priority, and increasing access to long-acting reversible contraception is part of the recommended strategy for the achievement of this goal. Nonetheless, adolescent long-acting reversible contraceptive use across the nation has remained low, even after national and state-level programs increased coverage for cost-constrained youth. One persistent barrier is misinformation about the safety, efficacy, and availability of long-acting reversible contraception for teens. To overcome this barrier, the Hoekelman Center, in collaboration with multiple partners, designed and implemented a community health intervention. The Greater Rochester LARC Initiative disseminated accurate information about contraceptive options with a focus on long-acting reversible methods by delivering interactive lunch-and-learn talks throughout the Greater Rochester, NY area. Audiences included both healthcare providers and adults who work with adolescents in nonmedical community-based organizations.

**OBJECTIVE:** The primary purpose of this study was to evaluate the community-level impact of the Greater Rochester LARC Initiative on adolescent long-acting reversible contraceptive use.

**STUDY DESIGN:** Our evaluation design was pre-post with a non-comparational control group. We used publicly available Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System data from the years 2013, 2015, and 2017 for our intervention site of Rochester, NY; New York City, New York State, and the United States overall. These years cover the time before and after the intervention began in 2014. We used a difference-in-differences methodology to assess the impact of the intervention on long-acting reversible contraceptive use in Rochester relative to the comparison populations.

**RESULTS:** Between 2013 and 2017, long-acting reversible contraceptive use in Rochester rose from 4–20% of sexually active female high school students (P < .001). Over the same period, long-acting reversible contraceptive use in New York State rose from 1.2–4.8%, and in New York City long-acting reversible contraceptive use rose from 2.7–5.7%. In the United States overall, long-acting reversible contraceptive use rose from 1.8–5.3%. Thus, the increase in long-acting reversible contraceptive use in Rochester was larger than the secular trend in the control groups (P < .001).

**CONCLUSION:** Adolescent long-acting reversible contraceptive use increased significantly more in Rochester than in the nation as a whole. This finding is consistent with a substantial positive impact of the Greater Rochester LARC Initiative, which proves that smaller interventions can be useful complements to unaffordable teen pregnancy prevention programs nationwide and might be helpful more generally for the utilization of evidence-based health improvement practices.

**Key words:** adolescent, contraceptive implant, education, long-acting reversible contraception, pregnancy



### JOIN OUR TEAM

We're seeking a Finance and Grants Manager to join our dedicated team at the Greater Rochester Health Foundation, where we offer employees a family-friendly, ethical work environment with competitive pay and benefits.

If you, or someone you know is interested in helping us serve diverse communities and work with dynamic partners to help improve health outcomes and grow as a resource in our region, click [here](#) to learn more about this opportunity.

*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.*

