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greater rochester  
**Health**  
foundation

March 20, 2020

As we navigate and adapt to the dynamic challenges of the rapidly changing COVID-19 situation, we will continue to share resources and updates with you as we adjust to our temporary new normal.

We know you're being inundated with messages and alerts right now, so we promise to only send you important health-related information.

**Please share the following with your constituents and partners:**

**From New York State:**

On Monday, NY State of Health, the State's official health plan Marketplace, announced measures to ensure that healthcare is available to all who need it. A special enrollment period for eligible individuals to enroll in insurance coverage through the Marketplace, or directly through insurers, has been opened through April 15. Individuals who enroll in Qualified Health Plans through NY State of Health or directly through insurers between now and April 15, 2020 will have coverage effective starting April 1, 2020.

Individuals who are eligible for other NY State of Health programs – Medicaid, Essential Plan and Child Health Plus – may enroll year-round at [nystateofhealth.ny.gov](http://nystateofhealth.ny.gov), by phone at 855-355-5777, and by working with [enrollment assistors](#).

New York State is currently preparing for potential staffing shortages during the pandemic. Willing and qualified health professionals (including retired individuals) are asked to submit their information [here](#).

**From Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative :**

As Rochester's leaders come together to address the COVID-19 outbreak, community input is needed now more than ever. Rochester residents are asked to complete a short [survey](#) to help leaders understand and assess the economic impact of COVID-19.

Finally, **to our grantee partners**, we want to reiterate our flexibility during this time:

- Current awarded grant funds will continue to be distributed with minimal disruption.
- We are not holding grantees to original deadlines; please attend to the health and well-being of your families, colleagues and constituents first and foremost.
- Contact your program officer if you need to reallocate existing grant dollars.

As our community continues to support one another in this time of crisis and response, we look forward to continued partnerships and remain grateful for all that you are doing to help. We will work together (virtually, for now) in our efforts to pursue and invest in solutions that build a healthier region where all people can thrive.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions during this unusual time.

With Gratitude,

**Matthew A. Kuhlenbeck**

President & CEO  
(585) 258-1704

**RESOURCES**

- A [Community Crisis Fund](#) has been set up by the United Way of Greater Rochester and Rochester Area Community Foundation for donors wishing to give and for organizations seeking rapid and flexible emergency relief funds.

- 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.
- The United Way and Monroe County are creating a Human Service Hub that will provide resources, information, guidance, and other supports. To learn how you can join the hub, [email the United Way](#).
- Mental Health service providers in Monroe County are listed [here](#).

### BRIGHT SPOT: MEETING EMERGING NEEDS



*Health Foundation staff pack boxes of emergency food.*

(READ: [Rochester community bands together during pandemic](#))

We're grateful for the coordinated efforts of our partners at Foodlink who are working tirelessly to combat food insecurity -- distributing more than 2 million pounds of food to its network of nonprofit partners that includes pantries, shelters, and meal programs.

Foodlink is also working with the City of Rochester and Monroe County to provide meals at [16 sites](#) to school-age children while schools are closed.

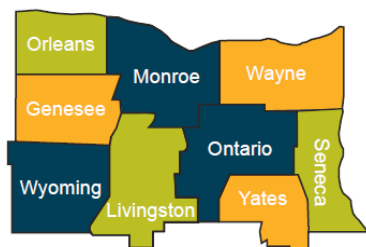
**You can help!** Visit Foodlink's [website](#) for up-to-date information about volunteer and donation opportunities, as well as its Mobile Pantry program, which distributes free food throughout 10 counties.

### COVID-19 RESOURCES

- [NY Coronavirus Hotline 1-888-364-3065](#)
- [New York State Department of Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

### COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Visit the websites below for county-specific information related to COVID-19:



- [Genesee](#)
- [Livingston](#)
- [Monroe](#)
- [Ontario](#)
- [Orleans](#)
- [Seneca](#)
- [Wayne](#)
- [Wyoming](#)
- [Yates](#)

*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.*

