CDC: Most Children and All Teens Can Get COVID-19 Vaccines

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends everyone ages 5 and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to help protect against COVID-19.

Widespread vaccination for COVID-19 is a critical tool to best protect everyone, especially those at highest risk, from severe illness and death. People who are fully vaccinated can safely resume many activities that they did prior to the pandemic. Children ages 5 years and older are able to get an age-appropriate dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. Learn more about what you and your child or teen can do when fully vaccinated.
Find a COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 5 Years and Older

- The federal government is providing the COVID-19 vaccine free of charge to all people living in the United States, regardless of their immigration or health insurance status.


- Check with your child’s healthcare provider about whether they offer COVID-19 vaccination.

- Check your local pharmacy’s website to see if vaccination walk-ins or appointments are available for children.

- Contact your state, territorial, local, or tribal health department for more information.

**Recommended Reading:** From the University of Rochester Medical Center - [Age 5-11 COVID Vaccine: Everything You Need to Know on Safety, Efficacy, and Distribution](#)

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**LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Share Your Input on Anti-Poverty Efforts in Rochester and Monroe County**

The Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative (RMAPI) is looking to expand voice and partnership with community members in anti-poverty efforts. Provide input on the policy agenda [here](#).

RMAPI is a multi-sector community collaborative with a goal to improve quality of life by reducing poverty and increasing self-sufficiency. To do this, RMAPI is focused on increasing income, making basic needs more affordable and accessible, and lowering concentrations of poverty.

**AARP NY Disrupt Disparities: Addressing the Crisis for Rural New Yorkers 50+**

AARP New York, the Health Foundation for Western &
Central New York and the New York State Office for the Aging cordially invite you to participate in a far-reaching dialogue on the challenges facing rural New Yorkers. The virtual event takes place from **9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 9.**

New reports will unveil policy recommendations to address the needs rural New Yorkers face in Accessing Health Services, Caregiving Support, High-Speed Internet and Telehealth.

Experts, policymakers, advocates and academic researchers will join us to share stories about rural New York inequities and what we can do to help. This event is for health professionals working with older adults in rural New York. Register [here](#).

Disrupt Disparities is a multi-year series of reports detailing inequities throughout the state and solid solutions to provide actionable solutions for all New Yorkers.

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**Advancing Behavioral Health Equity: CLAS Standards in Action Webinar**

The [New York State Office of Mental Health’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#) is hosting a webinar, **Advancing Behavioral Health Equity: CLAS Standards in Action**, from **2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 16.**

This webinar, co-hosted by [SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)](https://www.samhsa.gov), will highlight real-world examples of behavioral health service providers using the [National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services](https://www.atsihealth.org/standards.aspx) and the [Behavioral Health Implementation Guide](https://www.atsihealth.org/implementation.aspx). Register [here](#).

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**A Master Plan for Aging - Should New York Be Next?**

From the [Health Foundation for Western and Central New York](https://www.healthy-wcu.org/): By 2030, approximately one out of four New Yorkers will be 60 or older, and there are many opportunities on the horizon to build on existing age-friendly efforts and improve how we meet the needs of older adults in our state.

Is New York poised to join states like California, Texas, Colorado, and Massachusetts in launching a comprehensive, cross-sector Master Plan for Aging?
Join the Health Foundation for Western and Central New York for a webinar and Q&A with experts in aging policy, including those who played key roles in the development of California's Master Plan for Aging from **2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 30**. This is your chance to learn more about how a Master Plan for Aging in New York could improve the lives of older adults, strengthen long-term care, provide better support for family caregivers, and help build healthier communities for all. Register [here](#).

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

- Greater Rochester Health Foundation is accepting Idea Proposals via our Call for Ideas grant opportunity. This [Responsive Grant](#) funding is a resource centered in innovative, partnered work that reimagines systems, programs, and services to disrupt inequities and rebuild stronger, healthier communities. **Proposals are due by 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021.** Click [here](#) to learn more about this grant opportunity and access a recent question and answer session recorded via Zoom.

- **NEW:** The [Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS) Age-Friendly Health Systems Action Community](#) supports hospitals, health systems and other providers as they implement evidence-based interventions to transform care for older adults, using the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's [Age-Friendly framework](#). Participating health systems may apply for a $10,000 stipend to support projects designed to improve care for older adults. Enrollment is open for the 2021-2022 Age-Friendly Health Systems New York State Action Community. HANYS will be awarding stipends of $10,000 to up to 20 sites to support this work. **Proposals are due Nov. 15.** Click [here](#) to learn more.

- Grant Opportunities from [Rochester Area Community Foundation](#)

- Additional grant opportunities curated and posted on the Greater Rochester Health Foundation [website](#)

**PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**

Congratulations to United Way Leadership Development Program Graduates

Last week, [United Way of Greater Rochester and the Finger Lakes](#) celebrated the culmination of its 2021 [Leadership Development Programs](#), recognizing more than 60 graduates from four of its programs.
United Way hosts and supports a total of seven leadership development programs to infuse and provide diversity and inclusion in local leadership positions, on boards and committees, and in volunteer service positions. More than 2,000 local people have graduated from these programs over their 30-year history.

Greater Rochester Health Foundation is proud to sponsor these transformative programs. "It's not enough to have voices at the table," said Health Foundation President and CEO Dr. Matt Kuhlenbeck. "We must also ensure that the table is set so that it encourages, celebrates, and promotes shared power and influence."

Congratulations to the 2021 Latino Leadership, African American Leadership, Pride Leadership and Emerging Leaders Development Program graduates!

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**
Centered in equity, 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.