Dear Friends,

In honor of Black History Month, we're sharing events created by some of our Racial Health Equity grantees and community partners who we work alongside to support solutions that build a healthier region where all people can thrive.

As you may be aware, we launched our Racial Health Equity strategy in 2020 to take greater action toward disrupting the unjust policies, systems and conditions driving the public health crisis of racism. Through this endeavor, we seek to strengthen and expand an ecosystem of racially and culturally representative and responsive health services,
resources and supports that center the voice, assets and needs of the communities. Click here to learn more about this strategy, developed with community guidance.

Resources included in this newsletter were curated by our Racial Health Equity program team members Chiara Smith and Hannah Stark. We hope you find these events engaging and educational. Please feel free to share!

LEARN, ENGAGE, CELEBRATE!

540WMain: The Douglass Women: Another Look at Anna Murray and Rosetta

When you think about the legacy of Frederick Douglass, what comes to mind?

Perhaps your first thoughts have to do with his vastly important role in the abolitionist movement, his speeches and written works, or even the newspaper he published in Rochester. Few people, however, will consider how instrumental the women in his life were to his many accomplishments.

This virtual panel discussion takes place from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 10 and will uncover the “hidden” contributions of Douglass' daughter and wife, Rosetta and Anna Murray Douglass, to the success of his endeavors, and shed light on the underreported efforts of modern Black women as they work towards building a better future.

Learn more and register here.

Black Women Walking in Purpose & Power: Positioned to Bring Change

Eleversity invites the community to a free ColoRise "lunch and learn" event from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 17.
This virtual events features Black women who are walking in “Purpose and Power” and committed to being ambassadors for change. The speakers, including Health Foundation Program Officer Chiara Smith, will share their unique messages --from a multi-generational perspective-- about this season that has transformed the workplace and career pathways. Register [here](#).

Black History Month Educational Series to Address Mental Health in the Black Community

From [BIPOC Parent & Caregiver Mental Health Movement](#): Mental health experts, faith leaders, parents, community leaders and stakeholders will convene online to address important topics of interest each Saturday in February. Remaining sessions are as follows:

- **February 12:** The Impact of the 2 pandemics: COVID-19 & Racism and Managing Chronic Health Issues, Loss, Grief and Trauma
- **February 19:** Diversity of Perspectives and Needs: Children, Black Males, Older Adults, Justice Involved and LGBTQ Education, Engagement and System Change: Where do we go from here?
- **February 26:** Social Determinants,

Register [here](#) for the virtual event series.

Stage Play: A Day Without Black Folks

From [Mentors Inspiring Boys & Girls](#):

Little Alexis awakes from a dream, a dream where there are no Black people in the world. Her mother tells her that that wasn’t a dream but a nightmare and denies her access to all the inventions that African Americans contributed to.

No Black folks?, No Nikes no Timberland’s, and no, you can’t comb your hair because the patent for an improved hairbrush and comb was awarded to a Black woman and man, Walter Sammons, and Lydia O. Newman in the mid and late 1800s.

Learn about amazing Black inventors through this youth-performed stage play. Performances take place 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 and 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25.

Tickets may be purchased at 75 Grover St., weekdays from 2 to 8 p.m.
Healer's Village Offers Support for Parents

Attention parents: The Healer's Village, led by Melanie Funchess, is hosting a series of online discussions during the month of February focused on healing, support, and self care for parents.

Two sessions remain, Saturday, Feb. 12 and Sunday, Feb. 20. Click here to register.

Explore Additional Black History Month Events:
Democratic & Chronicle
University of Rochester

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Second Opinion: Racial Disparities in Health

Second Opinion with Joan Lunden recently examined racial and ethnic differences in health and accessing
healthcare. The episode features Common Ground Health CEO, Wade Norwood, and Dr. Nancy "Nana" Bennett, director of the Center for Community Health and Prevention.

Watch [here](#).

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Brookings Institute: A Policy Agenda for Black Americans in 2022

On February 8, as part of its celebration of Black History Month, the [Brookings Institution](#) hosted a webinar focusing on an inclusive public policy agenda for Black Americans. Brookings scholars assessed the president’s progress on his campaign promises and discussed topics such as access to quality health care, housing, jobs, and education, police and criminal justice reform, reparations for Black Americans, and voting rights. Watch the webinar [here](#).

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Health Affairs: Racism & Health

[Health Affairs](#) has released its [February issue](#), dedicated to the theme of Racism and Health.

You can find information on the related events, podcasts, and a [video interview with Harriet Washington](#), author of [Medical Apartheid](#), on [this page](#).

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COMMUNITY BOARD

**Leadership-Equity-Advancement-Development Mentoring and Coaching Program**

Attention graduates from United Way’s African American and Latino Leadership Development Programs (AALDP/LLDP):

You’re invited to apply for the United Way of Greater Rochester and the Finger Lakes’ Leadership-Equity-Advancement-Development (LEAD) Mentoring and Coaching Program! This is a unique (and free!) opportunity to support your personal and professional growth.
This mentorship program is a partnership between United Way, Greater Rochester Health Foundation, and Beyond Boundaries Consulting. It is the first-ever mentoring and coaching program for alumni of United Way’s AALDP and LLDP. There will be limited capacity, and only NINE graduates will be eligible to participate in this program.

The program will run from April through November 2022. Apply here.

Dec. 6, 2021: Celebration for first graduating class of United Way's LEAD Mentoring and Coaching Program

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.