State of Emergency Declared in Monroe, Wyoming, and Wayne Counties

Last week, Wyoming and Monroe Counties declared a state of emergency due to rising COVID-19 hospitalizations and the strain COVID is having on health care systems.

Currently in Monroe County, there are no broad mandates related to the state of emergency, however Monroe County Executive Adam Bello enacted the first phase of a targeted and focused three-phase approach that takes aim at easing the burden that the increased spread of COVID is having on hospital systems. The approach includes a mask requirement in County-operated facilities, expanded rapid test operations and the reinstitution of a remote work policy for County employees. Read more about the approach and what it entails in the full press release from Monroe County. The County Executive encourages local governments, public and private sector employers to follow suit by instituting masking requirements for their employees who work in close contact with other individuals – and to allow those employees who can, to work from home.

Rebecca Ryan, chairwoman of the Wyoming County Board of Supervisors, explained in a statement that the purpose of declaring a State of Emergency is "to assist in the procurement of goods and services and to render all required and available assistance to the Wyoming County Community Health System, County Health Department, municipalities and school districts that is vital to the security, well-being, and health and safety of the citizens of Wyoming County."

On Monday, Wayne County also declared a state of emergency citing the high rate positivity rate of COVID cases. As of December 6, there were 768 active cases and 94 deaths in Wayne County. Currently, 52 cases are hospitalized. Wayne County Administrator Rick House says that the declaration gives them the ability to issue specific orders expeditiously if necessary, including directing hospitals to postpone elective surgical procedures.

COVID cases around the state are reported and compiled by the New York State Department of Health and updated daily on the State’s COVID-19 Tracker website. Test results data comes from a NYSDOH database that contains reported results from all the
labs testing samples from New York residents and includes pooled/batch tests reported by institutions of higher education.

Find a COVID-19 Vaccine Site


Contact your [state, territorial, local, or tribal health department](#) for more information.

Find a COVID-19 Test Site Near You

Visit the [New York State COVID-19 Test Site Finder](#) to find a test site near you.

Recommended Resource: Monroe County Equity Pop-Up Vaccine Clinics

Monroe County is offering Equity "Pop-up" Vaccine Clinics for smaller, community organizations such as churches, schools, and non-profits. Clinics may also be requested for one-time events hosted by smaller organizations. Learn more and request a clinic [here](#).

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**LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Funding Forward: A Focus on Equity**

Nonprofits are at the heart of every community, and their ability to pursue important missions depends on their ability to attract funding.

In an effort to increase access to financial resources, and with a focus on equity, [United Way of Greater Rochester and the Finger Lakes](#), ESL Federal Credit Union, Farash Foundation, Greater Rochester Health Foundation, [Excellus BlueCross BlueShield](#), and the [Wilson Foundation](#) invite Black, Brown, and Indigenous leaders of Monroe County nonprofits with operating budgets under $1 million to a virtual forum from **8:30 to 10 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 10**.

We want to hear from you and better understand how we can assist you in providing essential services to our community. We’d also like to share with you details about funding application processes for each participating foundation, funders’ strategic priorities, and funding requirements, followed by a Q&A session.

Learn more and register [here](#).

**Towards Inclusion & Anti-Oppression: The Challenge for Leadership**

The [New York State Office of Mental Health’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#) is excited to share the next webinar in its Strategies for Behavioral Health Equity series: Towards
Inclusion & Anti-Oppression: The Challenge for Leadership, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 15.

Join Dr. Tracy R. Whitaker, Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Academic and Student Advancement at Howard University’s School of Social Work for a robust and engaging presentation to discuss the role and power that organizational leadership has in promoting anti-racist practices while also providing tools and strategies to create inclusive and anti-oppressive environments. Attendees will learn how to embrace the uncomfortable and difficult conversations that this work entails and ignite the courage to make real change. Register here.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- **New York State Department of Health's Office of Primary Care and Health System's Management Telehealth Capital Program**: Governor Kathy Hochul has announced a $3 million grant program to invest in new technologies that will improve access and adoption of telehealth in underserved communities. This program will support community health providers to purchase audiovisual and remote monitoring devices and work with other community partners to establish physical telehealth spaces in places such as libraries, homeless shelters, pharmacies and other locations. The grants are intended to provide public-private support for innovations in health care delivery. Applications will open Jan. 4, 2022 and more information can be found here.

- Attention early childhood community coalitions (e.g., Head Start, Infant Circles, Home Visiting, PTA, Perinatal Coalitions) and local school districts: **Preschool Development Birth Through Five (NYSB5) funding** is being provided in 2022 to support additional Kindergarten Transitions Teams - up to $10,000 per team to either present a Kindergarten Transition Summit in their community or to implement an innovative kindergarten transition strategy. Attend an informational event from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 26, 2022 as a requirement for applying for the funding. Register here. Contact Nancy Hampton with any questions.

- **Bob Barker Company Foundation - Grants to strengthen programs for formerly incarcerated individuals**: The mission of the Bob Barker Company Foundation is to develop and support programs that help incarcerated individuals successfully reenter society and stay out for life. The Foundation supports organizations throughout the U.S. that work with the incarcerated community in order to prepare them physically, spiritually, and emotionally for successful reentry into society. Applying organizations must work with a minimum of 100 incarcerated or formerly incarcerated individuals each year. Learn more here.

- **Emergent Fund - Grants Advance Grassroots Organizing for Social Justice**: The Emergent Fund supports grassroots organizing and power building in communities of color throughout the United States who are facing injustice based on racial, ethnic, religious, and other forms of discrimination. Grants are provided to develop innovative strategies to transform our country. The focus is on the following two types of activities: 1) efforts that support emergent strategies that help communities respond to rapidly changing conditions, including resisting new or
amplified threats and building power to move a proactive agenda; and 2) efforts seeking long-term social justice and economic justice in a political and social climate that seeks to dismantle such efforts. Letters of inquiry are accepted on a rolling basis. Click here to learn more.

- From Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - Evidence for Action: Innovative Research to Advance Racial Equity Call for Proposals. This initiative prioritizes research to evaluate specific interventions (e.g., policies, programs, practices) that have the potential to counteract the harms of structural and systemic racism and improve health, well-being, and equity outcomes. Letters of inquiry are accepted on a rolling basis. Learn more and apply here.

- Additional grant opportunities are posted weekly on the Greater Rochester Health Foundation website.

WAYS TO HELP

Volunteer Opportunities & Community Needs

- Find in-kind wish list needs and virtual volunteer opportunities to support local nonprofits via the United Way of Greater Rochester and the Finger Lakes' needs portal here.

- The University of Rochester and Strong Memorial Hospital are seeking secret Santas for Strong's Baby Love Program. Each year, departments, teams, and individuals throughout the University and Strong Memorial Hospital make a difference for hundreds of new families who are enrolled in the Baby Love and Building Healthy Children programs. Click here for more information.

COVID Response - Job Opportunities

- Pediatric Vaccinator COVID - Temporary
- Emergency Medical Technician COVID - Temporary
- Health Clerk Covid - Temporary
- Registered Nurse - COVID Vaccination (POD) - Temporary

PARTNER NEWS

Ibero Scholarship Applications Open

Please share widely! The Ibero-American Action League strongly encourages and supports excellence in education and works with other organizations, businesses and individuals to provide scholarships to college bound Hispanic students in the area. The deadline to apply is March 7, 2022.
Click [here](#) for more information and to view the application.

La Liga de Acción Iberoamericana (Ibero) fomenta y apoya la excelencia en la educación y trabaja con otras organizaciones, empresas e individuos para proveer becas a estudiantes hispanos que están próximos a entrar a la universidad. La fecha límite es el 7 de marzo de 2022.

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**COMMUNITY BOARD**

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**FUNDING FORWARD**

A Focus on Equity

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Nonprofits are at the heart of every community, and their ability to pursue important missions depends on their ability to attract funding.

In an effort to increase access to financial resources, and with a focus on equity, we invite Black, Brown, and Indigenous leaders of Monroe County nonprofits with operating budgets under $1 million to a virtual forum:

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 8:30 A.M. – 10 A.M. ON ZOOM**

We want to hear from you and better understand how we can assist you in providing essential services to our community.

We'd also like to share with you details about funding application processes for each participating foundation, funders’ strategic priorities, and funding requirements, followed by a Q&A session.

Facilitated by Wanda Cooper, Director of Community Impact, United Way.

To register, visit [unitedwaymichigan.org/fundingforward](http://unitedwaymichigan.org/fundingforward)

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**G.O.R.I.S.E**

December Lunch and Learn Theme: “Poised for Networking”

December 16th
11:30am to 1:30pm

Jennifer L. Smith
Wanda Cooper
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.