During Gun Violence Awareness Month, we're uplifting the work of one of our grantee partners, Project CERV. Communications Officer Tiana Flynn and Program Officer Chiara Smith talk in-depth with project director Dr. Irshad Altheimer in this Grantee Spotlight video.

Project CERV -- which stands for Community Engagement to Reduce Victimization, is a collaborative, community-based violence intervention program targeting dispute-related violence. The program, part of the Center for Public Safety Initiatives at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), strives to help safety net providers reach and intervene with gun victims before new victimization events unfold.

Gun Violence Awareness Month is statewide campaign in New York to raise awareness on the severe impact of gun violence in our communities, while promoting conversation and action.

Recommended Resources:
In response to the tragic mass shooting in Buffalo on May 14th, the New York State Office of Mental Health held a statewide community webinar, “Helping Children Youth and Families Cope After Mass Violence.”

The presentation was designed to help parents, educators and other trusted adults to better understand common reactions to traumatic stress in children and youth. The presentation covered things that adults can do and say to help children at various developmental stages and presenters shared coping skills for caregivers. The webinar also provided information about the mental health effects of hate-based violence and racism on children and youth. The recorded webinar may be found here. A copy of the presentation is also available here. Additional resources for New Yorkers impacted by the Buffalo shooting are available here.

**How to Help:** You can help support ongoing community needs and survivors via the Buffalo Together Fund.

The Fund is a collaboration of 14 Buffalo-area funders coordinated by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo and United Way of Buffalo & Erie County. Three general areas of support have been identified for the Fund including providing important support with a focus on Black-led organizations that are working directly in the community; ensuring availability of mental health services; and addressing longer-term, systemic issues of racial justice.

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**LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**A Conversation with Dr. Dave A. Chokshi on the COVID-19 Pandemic: Looking Back and Looking Forward**

From NY Health Foundation: As Commissioner of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Dr. Dave A. Chokshi was celebrated for his calm, science-based, equity-centered approach to managing the City’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a Visiting Fellow at the New York Health Foundation (NYHealth), Dr. Chokshi is now sharing what he learned during his time as Commissioner and continuing his work to build a healthier New York.

Join NYHealth from 2 to 2:45 p.m. on Friday, June 17 for a candid conversation with Dr. Chokshi, moderated by NYHealth President and CEO David Sandman. In addition to discussing the ongoing pandemic, Drs. Chokshi and Sandman will talk about pressing health issues such as the overdose crisis, primary care, racial justice, and veterans’ health. Click here to register for the webinar.

**Tuesday Talks with CCSI: Building Resilient Communities**

From Coordinated Care Services Inc. (CCSI):

CCSI’s Institute for Police, Mental Health & Community Collaboration in partnership with the NYS Office of Mental Health are working to
transform crisis response systems to be less reliant on police officers as first responders to individuals in emotional distress.

Join this webinar at **noon on Tuesday, June 21** to learn about the importance of this program and CCSI’s progress.

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

**Recommended Resource: ACT Rochester’s 2022 Community Report Card**

ACT Rochester, an initiative of [Rochester Area Community Foundation](#), has released its 2022 report card showcasing various data points in the Greater Rochester area that measure indicators such as housing, education, maternal morbidity rates, and more.

ACT Rochester’s purpose is to change the culture of community problem-solving and associated decision making through the use of credible, independent and timely data.

Access the Report Card [here](#).

**COVID RESOURCES**

Latest Recommendations From [New York State Department of Health](#)
• All New Yorkers 5 and older should get fully vaccinated
• All eligible New Yorkers 12 and older should get their booster dose
• If you are experiencing symptoms or were exposed, get tested
• If you test positive, stay home and talk to your healthcare provider about treatment
• Masks are still required in healthcare facilities, nursing homes, correction facilities, domestic violence shelters, and on public transit.
• Travelers, domestic and international should continue to follow all CDC travel requirements

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CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States and has actually been an African American tradition since the late 19th century. The name “Juneteenth” references the date of the holiday, combining the words “June” and “nineteenth.” Juneteenth was declared a federal holiday only last year.

There are many learning opportunities and local celebrations to participate in. Below are just a few for your consideration (Click each graphic for more information).
Additional Event: The Office of Alumni Relations and Constituent Engagement, in partnership with the Black Alumni Network, Institutional Office of Equity and Inclusion and Diversity Advisory Council present "Beyond the darkness of the moment:" Juneteenth 1865-2022 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 23.

Join Dr. Warren Crichlow ’92W (EdD) to reflect on the evolution and significance of June Nineteenth, now “Juneteenth.” Distinctive and complex with remembrance, this newly minted federal holiday symbolizes the past, present, and possible futures of the African American story amid today’s divisive politics and deepening public ambivalence. Explore what it means to celebrate Juneteenth now, and look forward in the face of a moral reckoning in this virtual event. Click here to register.
Pictured: The Juneteenth flag, created by the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation, symbolizes the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

**Recommended Resources:**
- This is Why Juneteenth is Important for America
- Juneteenth: Freedom At Last
- Freedom

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**CELEBRATE PRIDE**

From **ROC Pride Collective**: Check out the Community Pride Events Calendar below for events across the greater Rochester and Monroe County area during June (National Pride Month) and July (Roc Pride Month).

ROC Pride Collective is a community-based coalition dedicated to celebrating LGBTQ+ Pride in the Greater Rochester area. The group was formed in July 2021 in response to the community’s desire to see the Pride Parade return after a two-year absence. The Pride Collective includes volunteers from the LGBTQ+ community and representatives from nonprofits. Money raised by the ROC Pride Collective supports Pride events throughout Rochester, and 10% of the proceeds are donated to support Rochester Black Pride.

For more information and event details, visit rocpridecollective.com.
GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- From the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**: Funds Available to Shelter Pregnant and Parenting Youth: The Maternity Group Home program offers support to provide safe, stable, and appropriate shelter for pregnant or parenting youth. The focus is on youth ages 16 to under 22 and their dependent children for 18 months and, under extenuating circumstances, up to 21 months. Service providers must accommodate for the needs and safety of the dependent children, including facility safety standards for infants and children on the premises. Supported group homes may provide services including, but not limited to, parenting skills, child development, family budgeting, and health and nutrition education. The application deadline is **June 27**. Click [here](#) for more information.

- The **Centers for Disease Control** forecasts a funding opportunity entitled "Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems." This funding is a first of its kind, non-categorical and cross-cutting program, intended to help meet critical infrastructure and workforce needs in the short-term; it should also make possible strategic investments that will have lasting effects on public health agencies across the United States. One hundred sixteen (116) awards are available. The estimated post date is June 16th, with an estimated application date of **Aug. 16**. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **SAMHSA** announces grant funding opportunities through Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs). Each NOFO contains all the information you need to apply for a grant. View [Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Grant Announcements](#). To apply for a SAMHSA grant, register at [Grants.gov](#).

- Health-related grant opportunities are posted weekly on the Greater Rochester Health Foundation [website](#).
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.