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**Health** foundation



**April 2023**

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## APRIL IS NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

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Every April, the [U.S Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](#) and the [Office of Minority Health](#) (OHM) observes National Minority Health month to highlight the importance of improving the health of racial and ethnic minority and American Indian/Alaska Native communities and reducing health disparities.

This year's theme for National Minority Health Month is **Better Health Through Better Understanding**. Find shareable resources to address health literacy, language access [here](#).

## Reducing Racial Inequities in Health: The Fierce Urgency of Now

For National Minority Health Month, the URM Office of Health Equity Research (OHER) is thrilled to welcome one of the world's leading scholars on racial inequity as keynote speaker at its Strategic Planning Retreat, **9 a.m. on Monday, April 10**. David R. Williams, PhD, from Harvard University will share insights on a critical topic – "Reducing Racial Inequities in Health: The Fierce Urgency of Now."

Dr. Williams created the [Everyday Discrimination Scale](#), which is the original and recommended scale for measuring perceived racism in society.

Save the date and register [here](#).

### The URM Office of Health Equity Research

#### Strategic Planning Retreat Keynote Address

Monday April 10, 2023

9:00 - 10:00 AM

Virtual Event

Register Below!



David Williams, PhD

David Williams, PhD, creator of the Everyday Discrimination Scale, which is the original and still recommended scale for measuring perceived racism will deliver the keynote address for the Office of Health Equity Research Strategic Planning Retreat in honor of National Minority Health Month.

Dr. Williams is the Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health and Chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. An internationally recognized authority on social influences on health, his research has enhanced our understanding of the way in which race, racism, socioeconomic status, stress, health behavior, and religious involvement can affect health.

The Office of Health Equity Research, part of the University's Clinical and Translational Science Institute, is an important component of URM's Equity and Anti-Racism Action Plan. The office supports innovative health equity research across URM to foster a deeper understanding of the root causes of health disparities and the burdens experienced by excluded groups, and to facilitate the translation of findings into more equitable care.

[Click HERE to Register](#)



## GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

### Black woman-owned health agency rebrands, expands services for underserved areas

by WHAM | Fri, March 31st 2023, 8:34 PM EDT



EE Pathways, formerly known as Exercise Express, hosted a rebranding celebration event on Friday, March 31, 2023. The agency also announced several other expansions. (Photo by Ben Vahey/WHAM)

### EE Pathways Offers a Neighborhood Resource for a Healthier Lifestyle

Congratulations to [EE Pathways](#), formerly Exercise Express, on a successful rebranding event last week!

EE Pathways, located at 175 Genesee St., in Rochester, is on a mission to “*inspire and energize historically disadvantaged communities to access resources during their physical and mental journey towards happier, healthier lives.*”

The rebranding and expansion of services was recently featured on [13 WHAM News: Black woman-owned health agency rebrands, expands services for underserved areas.](#)

## LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

### April is Child Abuse Prevention Month: Take Action With Bivona Child Advocacy Center

From our friends at Bivona Child Advocacy Center:

*"April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. As experts in child abuse prevention, we urge everyone to show up for kids and support Child Abuse Prevention Month. We all have a responsibility to protect children from harm and ensure that they grow up in a safe and nurturing environment."*

Visit [Bivona's website](#) to find out how you can take action.



### JOIN US IN PERSON OR ONLINE FOR THE 2023 SPEAK LIFE! HEALTH EQUITY CONFERENCE

*¡Acción ahora!  
—Action now!*

With speakers who are experienced at inspiring action, the conference will focus on Latino health as a lens to look at health equity for all people of color in the Finger Lakes.

We will explore how language, skin tone and color can be barriers to health care and other social determinants of health and see how that impacts equitable health outcomes. Together, we'll honor our Community Equity Champions. Reserve your spot today and get ready to take action!

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT TO EXPECT!

8:15 AM	Check-in
8:45 AM	Introduction, Wilma Alvarado-Little
9:00 AM	Fostering Health Equity for Afro-Latinos, Dr. Adolfo Cuevas
10:00 AM	Break
10:15 AM	Latino Health in the Finger Lakes Region, Wade Norwood
10:30 AM	Achieving Holistic Wellness in the Black and Brown Community, Felipe Luciano
12:00 PM	Lunch
12:45 PM	Panel discussion and roundtables on Taking Action for Latino Health moderated by John Rodriguez
1:45 PM	Awards Ceremony
2:00 PM	Closing

#### HEAR FROM OUR 2023 FEATURED SPEAKERS!



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
FELIPE LUCIANO**  
Author of *Never Alone*, *Just a Kid*, *Water and Fire* and *Keynotes of the Young People's Project*

**KEYNOTE PRESENTED BY**  
Greater Rochester  
**Health Foundation**



**SPEAKER  
DR. ADOLFO CUEVAS**

Adjunct Professor,  
Center for Latin American  
Social Justice and  
Public Health at New  
York University



**SPEAKER  
WILMA ALVARADO-  
LITTLE**

Assistant Commissioner, New  
York State Department of  
Health and Director of the  
Office of Minority Health and  
Health Disparities Prevention



**EMCEE  
WADE NORWOOD**

CEO of Common  
Ground Health

#### FEATURING A PANEL DISCUSSION ON TAKING ACTION:

Facilitated by John Rodriguez, award-winning entrepreneur and change agent  
**Dr. Paula Cupertino**, University of Rochester Medical Center Professor of Public Health Sciences and Oncology and Behavioral Cancer Institute's First Associate Director of Community Outreach, Engagement and Disparities

**Dr. Anthony Jimenez**, Assistant Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology Department of Sociology and Anthropology

**Angelica Perez-Deigado**, President/CEO of Ibero American Action League

**Daisy Rivera Algrin**, Director of Neighborhood Service Centers for the City of Rochester and Chair Emerita of Latinas Unidas

**BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR THE 2023 SPEAK LIFE! HEALTH EQUITY CONFERENCE AT [COMMONGROUNDHEALTH.ORG/SPEAKLIFE2023](https://COMMONGROUNDHEALTH.ORG/SPEAKLIFE2023).**

### 2023 Speak Life! Health Equity Conference

From our partners at [Common Ground Health](#): The Latino and African American Health Coalitions, (convened by Common Ground Health), will host their annual Speak Life! Health Equity Conference on **Thursday, April 27.**

*"As we come together both in person and online for the first time in four years, let us listen to the experiences of our Latino families and then take action."*

The 2023 Speak Life! Health Equity Conference will focus on Latino health as a lens to look at health equity for all people of color in the Finger Lakes. Explore how language is a barrier to health care and other social determinants of health and see how that impacts equitable health outcomes. Learn more and register [here](#).



## Medicaid 1115 Listening Sessions

From [Health Foundation for Western and Central New York](#): Registration closes at **noon on Friday, April 7** for upcoming listening sessions with peers in the community to continue the conversation on New York State's Medicaid 1115 waiver amendment and the waiver's proposed Social Determinant of Health Networks and Health Equity Regional Organizations.

New York State's Department of Health is seeking to improve health equity by integrating health and social care into the fabric of its Medicaid system via the goals of its recent 1115 Waiver. The state may provide an update as early as this spring on whether the waiver amendment will be approved by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Register for a listening session [here](#).

### Recommended Resource:

[The Collective Impact Forum's Racial Equity Toolkit](#), developed by Dominique Samari and Paul Schmitz, is designed to support backbone staff and partners to operationalize racial equity throughout their collective impact work.

Access a podcast recording with toolkit authors [here](#) about what's in the toolkit and the ways that teams can explore it to advance their own equity work.



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## HEALTH FOUNDATION NEWS

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## Board Member Yisette Rivas-Cotto is a Woman of Excellence!

Congratulations to [Finger Lakes Community Health](#) Chief Service Officer and Health Foundation Board Member Yisette Rivas-Cotto for being named to the [Rochester Business Journal's 2023 Women of Excellence](#) list!

Women of Excellence honors outstanding women for their professional accomplishments, community leadership, and mentoring.

Congratulations to all of this year's honorees -- many of whom we've had the pleasure of working alongside: Melanie Funchess, Ubuntu Village Works LLC; Janice Harbin, D.D.S., Jordan Health; Kit Miller, M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence; Tina Paradiso, Imprintable Solutions, Ink; Hillary Olson, Rochester Museum & Science Center; and Gina Cuyler, MD FACP, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. View the full list and learn more about Women of Excellence [here](#).

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## PUBLIC HEALTH

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### COVID-19 Resources & Guidance From [New York State Department of Health](#)

- NYSDOH has [updated recommendations](#) for the use of masks and face coverings that all healthcare settings in New York should follow during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- All New Yorkers 6 months and older should [get vaccinated](#) and get their [booster dose](#) when eligible.
- If you are experiencing symptoms or were exposed, [get tested](#).
- If you test positive, stay home and talk to your healthcare provider about [treatment](#).
- Travelers, [domestic](#) and [international](#) should continue to follow all CDC travel requirements.




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## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

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- **NEW:** Funded by [ESL Federal Credit Union](#), in collaboration with [Grants4Good](#), the [Women's Foundation of Genesee Valley](#) will be accepting applications for its **NEW, Immersive Grant Writing Program, designed for organizations led by women of color**. This will be Rochester's first grant writing course centered around the history of Black philanthropy. Not only will participants be ready to submit competitive grants, WFGV has committed to providing financial support to

organizations enrolled in the course. To remove all barriers, the Women's Foundation is offering this program at zero cost. Register for a webinar [here](#) at 4 p.m., Thursday, April 27 for program details and to listen in on a conversation about equitable fundraising.

## Philanthropic Redlining

Supporting and Advancing BIPOC Led Organizations Through Fundraising

### Speakers:



Susan Taylor Batten,  
Association of Black  
Foundation Executives,  
President and CEO



Dr. Myra Henry,  
YWCA Rochester  
& Monroe County  
President and CEO

Online Event!  
Date: April 27th  
Time: 4:00pm  
Open to all.

### Moderators:



Margit Brazda  
Poirier,  
GPC, M.S.,  
Grants4Good,  
Owner &  
Founder



Krystle Ellis,  
WFGV  
Interim Executive  
Director  
& Founder of  
Ellis K Consulting



Sydney Bell,  
ESL Federal Credit  
Union, Diversity,  
Equity & Inclusion  
Educator  
and Strategist



- **NEW: [Mother Cabrini Health Foundation](#)** is continuing its broad, responsive approach by soliciting proposals through an open call for letters of inquiry beginning on May 1, 2023. Organizations that align with their mission of working to advance the health and well-being of vulnerable New Yorkers are welcome to apply through the program that best aligns with their goals. To learn more about programs and the application process, read a recent blogpost [here](#) and join a [webinar](#) at 2 p.m. on **Thursday, May 4.**
- Health-related grant opportunities -- both local and nation-wide -- are posted weekly on the Greater Rochester Health Foundation [website](#).
- **[Rochester Area Community Foundation](#)** has many grant opportunities available with applications due in May. Click [here](#) to browse funding details.

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## COMMUNITY BOARD

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Mentoring Initiative for Boys & Girls

Call Today  
585-719-5383  
Or Register @  
www.mibandg.org  
School Age and Up

**SUMMER PROGRAM**  
July 10<sup>th</sup> until August 25<sup>th</sup>  
7:30AM to 6PM  
190 Reynolds ST,  
Rochester, NY 14608  
Clara Barton School #2

**\$60 A WEEK, 25% OFF FROM NOW UNTIL MAY 1<sup>st</sup> IF PAID IN FULL**

**Our Program Includes**

- Theater
- Creative Writing
- Step
- Hip Hop Dance
- Boxing
- ELA
- Math

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.

CLARA BARTON SCHOOL #2

**Play as Culturally Sustainable Family Engagement**

A Parent Like a Boss (LAB) workshop for RCSD parents, teachers, staff, and community partners

In this workshop, we will reflect and explore how play has connected families across generations, cultures, and economic barriers. We will define culturally sustainable family engagement as the framework for our collaborative discussion and brainstorm. In the process, we will work to identify potential barriers to engagement and consider efforts that supplant disempowering experiences that families face. Finally, we will discuss strategies for reducing logistical barriers and initiating mutually affirming, problem-solving interactions that center play as a joyful engagement tool.

**Saturday, April 15**  
**9:30 am EST in person School No. 45**

RSVP to [alicia.evans@commongroundhealth.org](mailto:alicia.evans@commongroundhealth.org)

Parent University

health KIDS

ATL Parent Like a Boss (LAB) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Atlanta, GA. Their mission is to enhance generational literacies through play in underserved African American communities. They are an intergenerational group of Black women with diverse experiences in community-based education.

**JOIN US!**

**Climate Solutions Summit**

**Friday, April 21**  
Organizations in Action

**Saturday, April 22**  
Citizens in Action

**Building a Regenerative Local Economy**



***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.***



Greater Rochester Health Foundation | 255 East Ave, Suite 402, Rochester, NY 14604

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