APRIL IS NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

Every April, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Office of Minority Health (OMH) 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 URMC 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.](#)

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 Volgyi/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.

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**LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT**

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**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.

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**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.

HEALTH FOUNDATION NEWS
Board Member Yissette Rivas-Cotto is a Woman of Excellence!

Congratulations to Finger Lakes Community Health Chief Service Officer and Health Foundation Board Member Yissette 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

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

- 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.

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.

COMMUNITY BOARD
**SUMMER PROGRAM**

**July 10th until August 25th**

**Tuesdays to Fridays**

**10:30am to 2:30pm**

**200 East Street**

**Rochester, NY 14608**

**Claire Barton School #3**

**Our Program Includes**

- Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.

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**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 support empowering 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 alisa.evans@commongroundhealth.org**

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**JOIN US!**

**Climate Solutions Summit**

**Building a Regenerative Local Economy**

**Friday, April 21**

**Organizations in Action**

**Saturday, April 22**

**Citizens in Action**
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.