The Greater Rochester Health Foundation has announced the 19 organizations selected to receive a combined $200,000 in funding for the first 2016 cycle of Community Health Grants.

These funds are awarded to smaller organizations that help meet important community needs related to health and well-being.

Grants awarded in this round address a wide range of health-related needs, including:

- Isaiah House: Enlarge and renovate kitchen in the home providing end of life care for Rochester's homeless people and those with few resources. Renovations will allow wheel chair entry to the kitchen and more space for patient and family socialization and meal preparation;
- Town of East Bloomfield: Construct a full-sized half basketball court at Veterans Park in Bloomfield to offer basketball activities to youth and adults in Bloomfield and surrounding towns;
- St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center, Inc.: Address structural racism within organizations that provide health and behavioral health services to low-income people of color and graduate students preparing for work in poor communities;
- Yates County Community Services: Provide mental health first aid or youth mental health first aid to staff of organizations in regular contact with the public (police, library, social services, etc.) and interested citizens to increase awareness of mental illnesses, reduce stigma and encourage appropriate responses to people experiencing mental health crises.

The remaining 15 organizations receiving Community Health Grant funding support a variety of initiatives important to the community:

- Ainsley’s Angels of America
- Black Physicians Network of Greater Rochester Inc.
- Catholic Charities of Livingston County
- Earthworks Institute, Inc.
- Genesee Waterways Center, Inc.
Joint Heirs Kingdom Ministries
New Life Presbyterian Church
New Visions Community Services, Inc.
Orleans County Health Department
REBOUND6K
RESOLVE of Greater Rochester, Inc.
St. Joseph School
St. Kateri School
The Partnership for Ontario County
Urban League of Rochester, NY, Inc.

The Health Foundation has also opened the second cycle of 2016 Community Health Grant applications, accepted now through July 15, 2016.

These grants, ranging between $5,000 and $50,000, provide an opportunity for smaller organizations that may not qualify for larger, longer-term grants to receive funding.

Projects that will be considered for funding include program-related facility or equipment repair, short-term or pilot programs, training for staff on a specific skill, and start-up costs for a new program.

In order to assist small organizations without experience in the grant application process, the Health Foundation will also hold three workshops through June. The workshops will provide hands-on opportunities for organizations with limited grant-writing experience to learn how to develop a strong Community Health Grant application. Interested parties can register until June 15 by calling 585-258-1701.

Community Health Grants are available to use over a 12-month period following the grant award. Non-profits spanning health, religious, or educational organizations, and government departments that provide health services or health-benefiting activities with an annual budget of $5 million or less are welcome to apply. Eligible organizations are located in Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates counties.

The application and additional information is available at TheGRHF.org.