July 16, 2020

Dear Partners,

Like most of you, we're watching and waiting to learn of the plans for reopening schools this fall as our region navigates Phase 4 of the State's gradual re-opening guidance.

On Monday, New York State Education Department staff presented the Reopening Schools Guidance Framework to the Board of Regents. View the presentation here or click on the graphic to open the presentation.

The State has formed four regional Task Forces comprised of parents, teachers, school and district leaders, non-instructional staff, school board members, health experts and other stakeholders to help guide schools through issues of health, safety, and education equity as plans are formed. You can stay up-to-date on school reopening news by visiting NYSED's Reopening Schools Task Force Webpage.

In addition, you may find other helpful reopening resources for businesses and guidance from New York State at NY Forward.

We hope that you're continuing to find this newsletter to be an informative resource. We appreciate your feedback on content, the positive stories you've contributed, and ideas that have helped us improve the ways we communicate with you during a time when communication and information sharing is critical. Specifically, in our “Funding Opportunities” section, we're striving to tailor grant opportunities that may be a good fit for your organizations. If there are other topics or areas of focus that you'd like us to include here, please be sure to let us know.

Reach out to me at (636) 346-5318, or our Communications Officer Tiana Stephens at (585) 258-1725 with your thoughts, or even just to check-in and let us know how you're doing.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
NEW: Applications for the COVID Rent Relief Program are now being accepted. The program, part of the Emergency Rent Relief Act of 2020 signed by Governor Cuomo, provides eligible households with a one-time rental subsidy that will be sent directly to the household’s landlord.

Applicants will not need to repay this assistance, however, the window to apply is short.

The rental assistance payment will cover the difference between the household’s rent burden on March 1, 2020 and the increase in rent burden for the months the household is applying for assistance. Households may apply for up to four months in rental assistance.

For more information and to apply, click here.

Whole Child Connection at the Children’s Institute has re-imagined many of its professional development training offerings to be optimized for virtual participation. Topics offered include:

- Remembering Our Needs: Self Care During Challenging Times
- SEL - Now More than Ever
- Helping All Youth Thrive: Supporting SEL at the Secondary Level
- Rebuilding and Repairing Relationships: Through Engaging SEL Practices
- Release, Rebuild and Restart: Social and Emotional Supports for Teachers Through Difficult Transitions
- Trauma Informed SEL Practices

Send an email for more information or to schedule training for your team.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NEW: The LyftUp COVID-19 Community Grants program provides support to organizations in the U.S. Through the Essential Deliveries program, organizations that need delivery services for essential goods, such as groceries, medical supplies, auto parts, and home necessities, are matched with Lyft drivers, who can carry the deliveries out. Requests may be submitted at any time. Learn more and apply here.

Greater Rochester Health Foundation Resource Page

Farash Foundation’s COVID-19 Relief Fund provides unrestricted support to non-profit organizations located in Monroe and Ontario Counties. General operating support is intended to invest in an organization’s mission and impact, to help support the infrastructure and operational needs of an organization, rather than a specific project or program. Learn more and apply here. The Fund is restricted to organizations with a mission specific to arts and culture, education, or entrepreneurship/workforce development.

Community Crisis Fund activated by the United Way and Rochester Area Community Foundation

Federal, State, and Local Financial Assistance compiled by the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce

COVID-19 Related Funding Compiled by GrantStation

Council on Foundations’ list of Global Response Funds

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
From Whole Child Connection at the [Children's Institute](https://www.childrens-institute.org): View the webinar, "How do I make sure I'm not raising the next Amy Cooper?" from [EmbraceRace.org](https://www.embracerrace.org) and download the free [discussion guide](https://www.embracerrace.org) and [blog](https://www.embracerrace.org) for virtual professional or personal development.

**Rochester-Monroe Anti Poverty Initiative (RMAPI) and the [Children's Agenda](https://www.childrens-agenda.org) invite the community to learn how to advocate for public policy change, identify legislators and influence the policy decisions of elected officials.**

**Advocacy 101** will be offered on Monday July 20 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and again on Monday, July 27 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. RSVP [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/advocacy-101-tickets-149150815847). RMAPI is a community collaborative working to improve quality of life in Rochester by reducing poverty and increasing self-sufficiency. Learn more [here](https://www.rochesterstrong.org).

[Nonprofit Quarterly](https://www.nonprofitquarterly.org) invites nonprofit financial leaders who have received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan to a webinar to help prepare to effectively seek loan forgiveness. **Seeking Forgiveness for a Paycheck Protection Program Loan** will be held from 3 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, July 23.

This webinar offers detailed guidance for nonprofit leaders, including:

- A refresher on how organizations can and cannot spend PPP funds
- Guidance on estimating "FTEs"
- Navigating the forgiveness process and applications
- Other decisions related to PPP that organizations will need to make

Register [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/seeking-forgiveness-for-a-paycheck-protection-program-loan-tickets-149150815847).

**Lifespan of Greater Rochester** continues to provide information, guidance and services for older adults and caregivers via [online workshops](https://www.lifespan.org). Upcoming workshop include: Home Safety Tips for Caregivers & Older Adults; Don't Over Think It, and more. View the workshop schedule and register [here](https://www.lifespan.org).

**The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence - Rochester Area (NCADD-RA)** is offering [virtual substance use disorder training opportunities](https://www.ncadd.org) this summer.

The purpose of NCADD-RA is to reduce the incidence and prevalence of the disease of alcoholism and other drug dependence.

Browse topics and register for an event [here](https://www.ncadd.org).

**Recommended Reading**
Health Foundation board member Sady Fisher, director of equality, diversity and inclusion at Excellus BlueCross BlueShield participated in the Rochester Business Journal’s third and final session of the 2020 Diversity & Inclusion Summit on Tuesday morning. Read the article: Diversity, equity, inclusion must be embedded in companies from the top down.

WAYS TO ENGAGE

Training Parent Leaders

Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) is now accepting applications for the seventh cohort of its free, 20-week leadership training program for parents.

The program teaches participants how to actively engage in civic life through advocacy and community involvement and gives participants the confidence and skills to better the lives of children in the community.

Access the application here.

WAYS TO HELP

Are you looking to volunteer your time and talents? Does your organization have a need that the community might be able to help with?

Our partners at United Way of Greater Rochester have a webpage for volunteer and in-kind response during COVID-19.

Dozens of virtual and in-person opportunities to help our community (with safety measures in place) are posted here, and organizations are welcome to post needs here as well.

Reminder: Let’s Continue to ROC COVID Together

You can help our medical community keep tabs on COVID-19 in the Greater Rochester, Finger Lakes and Southern Tier regions by signing up to participate in ROC COVID.

ROC COVID is a community public health initiative conducted by Common Ground Health in collaboration with its clinical and public health partners: the University of Rochester, Rochester Regional Health, the Monroe County Department of Health, the City of Rochester and the Rochester Data Science Consortium.

Please share, and reach out to help@roccovid.org with any questions you may have.
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.