Greater Rochester Health Foundation Commits $325,000 to Improve Neighborhood Health

The Greater Rochester Health Foundation (GRHF) announced awards for five collaborative, neighborhood-based health improvement projects. Grantees will each receive $65,000 to complete an asset-based assessment of their neighborhoods—the first step in a 3-phase approach to improve neighborhood health by looking more broadly at the influences on good health.

"I want to thank the Greater Rochester Health Foundation for their continued service to our community," said Mayor Robert J. Duffy. "Their grant program benefits health for all residents. Providing children and families with the best possible health care services is essential for a healthy community."

These grants are the first investments in the Foundation’s Neighborhood Health Status Improvement initiative, a long-term strategy that acknowledges that where you live—the social, economic, and environmental conditions of your neighborhood—can have an impact on your health.

"It is our responsibility as a community to protect the health and well-being of our fellow citizens," said Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks. "I thank the Greater Rochester Health Foundation for continuing to share in this commitment and for its generous new grant program. GRHF’s dedication to health in our community has benefited countless Monroe County residents and its latest project will further enhance the lives of many more."

Four projects will take place in the City of Rochester:

- Northeast Bridges to Wellness/Puentes a la Salud - Anthony L. Jordan Health Center
- Healthy Outcomes through Participation, Education, and Empowerment (HOPE) - Ibero-American Development Corporation
- Coaching, Organizing, and Accessing Community Health (COACH) - Charles Settlement House
- Wellness in Our Neighborhood (WIN) - Grace Community Village

A fifth project will be based in Dundee, Yates County: Dundee Neighborhood Health Improvement Project - S2AY Rural Health Network.

“To achieve sustained change in the health of a community, we must begin to change the factors that contribute to poor health. Factors such as the quality of housing, the
strength of social networks, the ability to exercise safely and purchase healthy foods, and the stress of crime in neighborhoods all affect individual health,” said John Urban, President and CEO of the Foundation. “Our grantees will work collaboratively to address these broad concerns and identify and then mobilize the assets in their neighborhoods, working from the ground up to improve the health status of residents.”

Grantees and their partners will be supported in their efforts to identify, nurture, and mobilize neighborhood assets with technical assistance provided by the Asset Based Community Development Institute (ABCD) at Northwestern University.

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