

July 12, 2022

ARPA - RFP Coordinator
Monroe County Purchasing and Central Services
39 West Main Street, Room 200
Rochester, NY 14614

To Whom It May Concern:

My program facilitates the Rochester Healthy Home Partnership, a group of community, government, and academic partners from the Rochester area that shares information, resources, and approaches for promoting healthy homes, particularly for low-income residents in our area. A longtime member of the RHHP, Rochester ENergy Efficiency and Weatherization (RENEW), has requested support through Monroe County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Opportunities.

A central theme of promoting healthy and affordable housing is that it is essential to coordinate between programs that address different aspects of health and housing – from physical structures and resident behaviors, to energy efficiency and housing quality, to affordability and safety. RENEW plays a crucial role in coordinating among these multiple aspects of maintaining quality affordable homes for low-income owner occupants. RENEW funding leverages multiple funding streams and helps to identify gaps and problem solve to maximize these programs' impacts on addressing inequities and health disparities in our community.

RENEW plays a critical role in our community by coordinating, leveraging, and enhancing resources to improve low-income housing in Rochester. As you know, many very low-income residents of Rochester own their own homes, and many of these owners face huge challenges in maintaining these homes. Improving energy efficiency and addressing environmental quality in these homes helps stabilize these homes, the families that live in them, and under-resourced neighborhoods in Rochester. RENEW clients experience better physical and mental health outcomes, live in healthier and safer homes, and see residential greenhouse gas emissions reduced.

The Rochester Healthy Home Partnership recognizes the key contributions of RENEW to improving the health and wellbeing of some of our community's most vulnerable families. We hope RENEW will continue to be supported and expand these essential services in the future.

Sincerely,



Professor of Environmental Medicine