



United Way
of Greater Rochester
and the Finger Lakes

July 23, 2022

Monroe County
Bring Monroe Back
Rochester, NY 14614

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the YMCA of Greater Rochester's request for funding to transform its City of Rochester locations into neighborhood centers that can better serve the community as the recovery from COVID-19 impacts continues. The project includes changes in operations to create neighborhood-based access points and support consistency and availability to critical resources residents need.

The YMCA of Greater Rochester commissioned a community task force in 2021 to examine in-depth the significant challenges in our city neighborhoods that the COVID-19 pandemic rapidly escalated to critical levels. Lack of food access and technology drove community demand for neighborhood-based sites which once again serve as "Community Centers". Now, more than ever, residents once again need these neighborhood-based access points for all the amenities and services they need to thrive. Food, health care, Monroe County support services, youth services and senior services are all on the list of immediate needs expressed by residents in community engagement efforts.

The proposed efforts are aligned with our organization's commitment to improving the health and wellness of our city residents, the YMCA's own Urban Services Task Force recommendations, as well as the Systems Integration project, Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative, and the RASE Commission in Monroe County. The YMCA is uniquely positioned to quickly transform funding into change.

The neighborhood center model will focus on lifting the community as a whole and providing needed services to all. Specific attention is being given to teens, aging adults, and families. The project will allow for the addition of food pantries, increased programming for youth and access to critical partner agencies all supporting the social determinants of health in our community.

Thank you for considering this important investment in Rochester.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Cathy".

Jennifer Cathy
Chief Impact Officer



July 25, 2022

APRA-RFP Coordinator
Monroe County
39 West Main Street: Room 200
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Monroe County Review Team,

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the YMCA of Greater Rochester's request for funding to transform its City of Rochester locations into neighborhood centers that can better serve the community as the recovery from COVID-19 impacts continues. The project includes changes in operations to create neighborhood-based access points and support consistency and availability to critical resources residents need.

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The proposed efforts are aligned with Foodlink's commitment to improving the health and wellness of our city residents, the YMCA's own Urban Services Task Force recommendations, as well as the Systems Integration project, Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative, and the RASE Commission in Monroe County. The YMCA is uniquely positioned to quickly transform funding into change.

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Thank you for considering this important investment in Rochester.

Sincerely,

Julia Tedesco
President and CEO
Foodlink, Inc.

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



SENATOR
JEREMY A. COONEY
56TH DISTRICT

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Chair
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Recreation
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Insurance
Procurement and Contracts
Transportation

APRA-RFP Coordinator
Monroe County
39 West Main Street
Room 200
Rochester, NY 14614

July 25, 2022

Dear Monroe County Review Team:

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the **YMCA of Greater Rochester's** request for funding to transform its City of Rochester locations into neighborhood centers that can better serve the community as the recovery from COVID-19 impact continues. The project includes changes in operations to create neighborhood-based access points and support consistency and availability to critical resources residents need.

The YMCA of Greater Rochester commissioned a community task force in 2021 to examine in-depth the significant challenges in our city neighborhoods that the COVID-19 pandemic rapidly escalated to critical levels. Lack of food access and technology drove community demand for neighborhood-based sites which once again serve as "Community Centers." Now, more than ever, residents once again need these neighborhood-based access points for all the amenities and services they need to thrive. Food, health care, Monroe County support services, youth services and senior services are all on the list of immediate needs expressed by residents in community engagement efforts.

The proposed efforts are aligned with my goals as a representative to improve the health and wellness of our city residents, the YMCA's own Urban Services Task Force recommendations, as well as the Systems Integration Project, Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative, and the RASE Commission in Monroe County. The YMCA is uniquely positioned to quickly transform funding into change. The neighborhood center model will focus on lifting the community as a whole and providing needed services to all. Specific attention is being given to teens, aging adults, and families. The project will allow for the addition of food pantries, increased programming for youth and access to critical partner agencies all supporting the social determinants of health in our community.

Thank you for considering this important investment in our neighborhoods, and contact me for any additional information that might help enhance this grant application at (585) 225-3650.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeremy A. Cooney".

Jeremy A. Cooney
New York State Senator



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW
YORK ALBANY

COMMITTEES
Aging
Children and Families
Higher Education
Local Governments
Small Business
Mental Health

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

7/28/2022

Dear Monroe County Review Team,

I write in support of the YMCA of Greater Rochester's request for funding to transform its City of Rochester locations into neighborhood centers. The project creates neighborhood-based access points to better serve the community as we recover from Covid-19 impacts. This funding will support the YMCA's ability to provide the consistent critical resources Rochester residents need.

The proposed transformation and creation of neighborhood centers align with the community's unique challenges, and with the YMCA's deeply-rooted community ties, they are well positioned to rise to meet said challenges. This neighborhood center model focuses on lifting the community as a whole while providing specific resources to teens, aging adults, and families. The project also expands on existing resources such as food pantries and youth recreational programming.

As determined by the YMCA of Greater Rochester's 2021 Commissioned Community Task Force, food and technology deficiencies/deserts prompted the development of neighborhood-based sites, serving as "community centers". These centers and neighborhood-based sites serve as a hub for those in need of food; healthcare; Monroe County human services; as well as youth and senior services, all reinforced as needs when local public input was sought.

I am proud to support the development of neighborhood-enhancing, uplifting centers, as research tells us that the happiest, healthiest, and safest communities are the most resourced. There is no better time than the present to meet Rochester residents where they are at, and support opportunities to invest in their basic needs.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Sarah Clark
Member of the Assembly

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clarks@nyassembly.gov



July 25, 2022

APRA-RFP Coordinator
Monroe County
39 West Main Street
Room 200
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Monroe County Review Team,

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the YMCA of Greater Rochester's request for funding to transform its City of Rochester locations into neighborhood centers that can better serve the community as the recovery from COVID-19 impacts continues. The project includes changes in operations to create neighborhood-based access points and support consistency and availability to critical resources residents need.

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The neighborhood center model will focus on lifting the community as a whole and providing needed services to all. Specific attention is being given to teens, aging adults, and families. The project will allow for the addition of food pantries, increased programming for youth and access to critical partner agencies all supporting the social determinants of health in our community.

Thank you for considering this important investment in Rochester.

Sincerely,

Vicky Hines, MHA
VP and COO, University of Rochester Medical Faculty Group