

October 2022

# NEWS LEAF



## Important Dates

**NOVEMBER 2** | 9:00am–10:00am  
Virtual Coffee and Conversation—  
Charitable year-end giving planning  
with Eric Alleckson, Managing  
Director- Choreo Investments

**Join Zoom Meeting:**  
[tinyurl.com/mrspr975](https://tinyurl.com/mrspr975)

**Meeting ID:** 880 0226 7994  
**Passcode:** 019657

**Dial by your location:**  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

**DECEMBER 7** | 9:00am–10:00am  
Virtual Coffee and Conversation—  
Investment market overview with  
John Horntvedt, Home Federal

**Join Zoom Meeting:**  
[tinyurl.com/mrspr975](https://tinyurl.com/mrspr975)

**Meeting ID:** 880 0226 7994  
**Passcode:** 019657

**Dial by your location:**  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

**DECEMBER 12**  
RAF Fundholders final day to make  
grant recommendations

**DECEMBER 19**  
RAF Fundholders final day to make  
stock gifts

**DECEMBER 23, 26**  
RAF Offices will  
be closed



Rochester Area  
Foundation

## President's letter

Fall at the Foundation is a busy time as we support our fundholders in facilitating their year-end giving, our Grant Distribution Committee invests time and thought into the second cycle of competitive grant awards to our nonprofit partners, and our staff team looks ahead to the upcoming new year and continues to make positive community impact in the remaining months of 2022.

This past quarter our First Homes team has been very busy with renovation projects on existing Community Land Trust homes, constructing brand new homes and real estate transactions acquiring and selling homes. By the end of the year we will have added 20 homes to the program, giving our community members access to affordable, safe housing.

We hope you will plan to join us virtually for our monthly virtual Coffee and Conversations on the first Wednesday of each month from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. We have great presentations planned for both November and December.

Observed annually on November 15th, National Philanthropy Day began in 1986 as a day to celebrate charitable activities. We hope that you will thoughtfully consider your personal charitable options during this time of year. There are many area nonprofits who would love to receive your gifts of time, talent, and treasures.

As always, we are honored when you make a gift to the Rochester Area Foundation and invest in our work. You can make a gift directly from your Donor Advised Fund through the online Donor Portal or via our website [www.rochesterarea.org](http://www.rochesterarea.org).

**Jennifer Woodford**

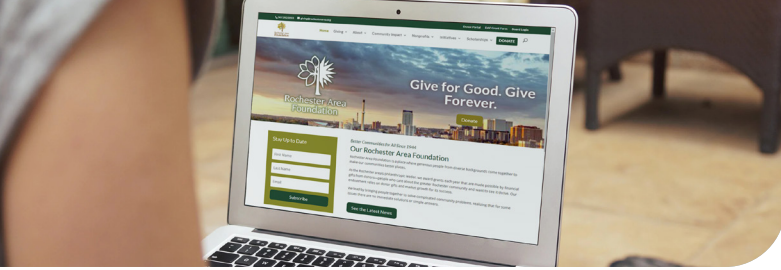
**Thank you for joining us in building  
better communities for all!**

**Our 2022 Rochester Area Foundation initiatives are  
supported in part by these community partners.**

Home Federal  
Mayo Clinic  
Paramark Real  
Estate Services  
U.S.Bank  
Weis Builders

F&M Community  
Bank  
Carson Bushman  
and Associates  
Bigelow Homes  
Think Bank

RSM US LLP  
KMTecom  
Wendland Utz LTD  
Premier Bank  
Wagner Oehler



Rochester Area Foundation and West Bank recently hosted a joint event to promote philanthropy in our community. We were honored and proud to collaborate to support the local financial business community and show our appreciation.

West Bank is a 128 year old business bank operating in Minnesota and Iowa. As a business bank, West Bank's strategy is not trying to be "all things to all people", rather just providing what is important to anyone running a business. In Rochester this is provided through our local team of 6 bankers with over 185 years of combined banking experience.

West Bank is a local community bank that knows we are only as strong as the communities we serve. For that reason, West Bank places value on giving back to our communities, strategically directed to those organizations that our local bankers are engaged in and passionate about.

## Many times we are asked what the Rochester Area Foundation does. What a great question! An even more basic question is what is a community foundation?

A community foundation is a grant making public nonprofit that exists to meet the needs of the community it serves. This is reflected in the community grants that we award, the academic scholarships provided to students, the charitable funds that we host, our affordable community land trust homes, and the ability to make it easy for everyone to become a philanthropist.

### There are many benefits to our local community foundation!

- We are your local experts in the nonprofit community. The ongoing interactions that the RAF team has with our area nonprofits gives us an extensive knowledge base and deep understanding of where the work is being done to improve various aspects within our community.
- We act as a convener regularly, hosting programs, learning opportunities, and access to community experts that provide knowledge and insight on pressing issues that we are facing. This drives conversation and initiatives that create solutions.
- We have the stability and permanence proven by our rich 77 year history in this community, administering over 430 charitable funds, many which are endowed to leave a legacy and provide support to nonprofits in perpetuity.
- We also understand that the work we accomplish is done through thoughtful partnerships and collaboration. We engage our fundholders, our donors, and our community leaders and governmental entities to ensure that we create a positive impact.

The Rochester Area Foundation has deep roots within our area and will continue to strive to help our region prosper and grow, engaging our community in philanthropy to build better communities for all.

## Donor Portal Reminder:

As a reminder, Donor Advised Fundholders and Fund Advisors have access to RAF's online Donor Portal providing information about the fund(s) you manage.

In the portal you can access important information such as your current fund balance, your contribution and grantmaking history, as well as how to request a new grant and check on a grant's payment status.

If you have not yet accessed the Portal and are interested in learning how to do so or if you have forgotten your credentials to log in, the Rochester Area Foundation staff team can help you. Please send an email to [giving@rochesterarea.org](mailto:giving@rochesterarea.org) for assistance with the online Donor Portal.



## The Rochester Nonprofit Consortium (Consortium)

has officially become a fully integrated program of Rochester Area Foundation (RAF). The Consortium was previously a fiscally sponsored project under

the RAF umbrella. This move solidifies the relationship between the two entities providing greater stability and enhanced support for the Consortium and the local nonprofit ecosystem from RAF staff.

The Rochester Nonprofit Consortium was founded in 2016 as an informal group of nonprofit executive directors interested in finding new ways to work together and create efficiencies for their organizations. Funding from Otto Bremer Trust, Mayo Clinic, and Rochester Area Foundation, as well as guidance by an Executive Committee of nine diverse nonprofits, produced a thriving organization working to develop shared services and resources to increase operational efficiency among nonprofits. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Consortium quickly became a hub for cross-sector collaboration on complex issues facing our community.

Today, the Consortium provides a wide array of programming and resources aimed at supporting the diverse nonprofit ecosystem in the Rochester area. In addition to grant funding, the Consortium is supported by nonprofit memberships. Consortium members not only drive programming priorities, but also have access to valuable resources and events. Rochester Area Foundation is committed to keeping the Consortium member-centric and will continue to engage an advisory committee approved by the membership.

“We are delighted to provide further support to and strengthen our relationship with the Rochester Nonprofit Consortium,” RAF President Jennifer Woodford shares. “RAF's mission is in direct alignment with the mission of the Consortium with both organizations committed to bringing people together to solve complex community problems.”