

August 2023

# NEWS LEAF



## Important Dates

### September 6 | 9:00-10:00 AM

Virtual Coffee & Conversation  
Community Food Security Initiatives

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://tinyurl.com/mrynyb69>  
Meeting ID: 860 3151 3076  
Passcode: 482587  
Dial by your location:  
+1 309 205 3325

### October 4 | 9:00-10:00 AM

Virtual Coffee & Conversation  
Charitable Giving-Being Thoughtful and  
Getting Organized presented by  
Judi Wilson and Eric Alleckson

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://tinyurl.com/mrynyb69>  
Meeting ID: 860 3151 3076  
Passcode: 482587  
Dial by your location:  
+1 309 205 3325

### November 1 | 9:00-10:00 AM

Virtual Coffee & Conversation  
Planning for Year End Charitable Giving

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://tinyurl.com/mrynyb69>  
Meeting ID: 860 3151 3076  
Passcode: 482587  
Dial by your location:  
+1 309 205 3325

\*As a reminder to our  
Donor Advised  
Fundholders - grant  
requests are  
processed on the  
15th and last  
business day of each  
month.



Rochester Area  
Foundation

## President's Letter

I hope you all are enjoying the end of the summer season! Please join me in welcoming Eddie Abarca to our Foundation team in the role of Finance Officer. Eddie brings a wealth of experience to this position and is happy to support our partners and fundholders.

As we look ahead to 2024, we are making plans to recognize the 80th Anniversary of Rochester Area Foundation. This anniversary is appropriately named the "Oak" anniversary, symbolized by longevity and strong roots, which we believe is demonstrated by our commitment to and investment in our community. We will celebrate the accomplishments and people who have furthered our mission of building better communities for all. We will also look ahead to the positive impact we can create in the future.

Your perspective is important to us, and I would ask that you take five minutes to complete a brief survey; the link is below.

This survey will assist us in planning for our Oak Anniversary.

<https://form.jotform.com/232216029044143>

Thank you for allowing RAF to be your partner in philanthropy!



Our 2023 Rochester Area Foundation initiatives are supported in part by these community partners:

Home Federal

Mayo Clinic

Paramark Real Estate Services | West Bank | Weis Builders

F&M Community Bank | Choreo | Think Bank | RSM US LLP

KMTelecom | Premier Bank | Wagner Oehler, LTD | Dunlap Seeger

# 2023 Biennial Investment Meeting

Thank you for your partnership with Rochester Area Foundation – we are honored to support your philanthropic goals. On Tuesday, June 20th, we hosted representatives from GMO, AllianceBernstein, and High Vista. These investment managers shared their perspectives on the current market and future projections on current trends and growth opportunities.

“We as Committee and Board members believe we are much more effective as a team by focusing on policy, monitoring, and oversight rather than coming to a consensus view of the markets and trying to execute on those views. Instead, we have chosen to select highly qualified and experienced investment professionals in the field, and we give them freedom, within certain limits, to execute on those ideas and convictions,” Todd Heather, RAF Board of Trustees and Finance Committee Co-Chair.

Todd also shared this understanding, “No investment manager is right 100% of the time which is why we have chosen several teams to manage segments of the portfolio. At times, their views overlap. Other times they hold differing opinions which give us diversity of investment thought.”

- AllianceBernstein holds approximately \$14M in RAF assets and since the creation of our fund in 2010 has earned on average 6% return on our investments.
- High Vista holds approximately \$8M in RAF assets, earning on average 4.9% since 2010.
- GMO holds approximately \$7M in RAF assets, gaining on average 4%, since 2011.

Each investment manager had similar positive outlooks regarding the future performance of our Rochester Area Foundation investments.



## Fall Grants Showcase

Please plan to attend on Tuesday, October 10. We will be joined by the area nonprofits who will be receiving an RAF grant award in our fall competitive grant cycle. This is a great opportunity to learn about important initiatives and projects that support our community. As engaged community members you will also have the opportunity to invest alongside RAF in these nonprofit organizations.

Tuesday, October 10, 2024 - 8:00 am - 9:30 am  
Rochester Area Foundation Community Room



**You can be a philanthropist for \$1 per day!**

**When you invest in weGive365 you will actively support our nonprofit community.  
Your donation is combined with other members to leverage the greatest impact.**

**Join your fellow members once a year to determine which local nonprofit organizations you would like to support with grant dollars.**

**To learn more and to donate visit:  
<https://rochesterarea.org/giving/wegive365/>**

