Overview

Rochester Area Community Foundation, in partnership with generous philanthropists and community partners, works to improve the quality of life for people who live and work in the eight-county region through its leadership and strategic grantmaking.

Our Mission: We empower donors and community partners to strengthen our region through philanthropy.

Our Vision: We lead, inspire and support positive, enduring community change.

Known as the steward of charitable funds and endowments, the Community Foundation connects donors with the region’s current and evolving needs. As a leading grantmaker, the Foundation is now focused on two broad goals:

- **Creating an Equitable Community:** Working to close the academic achievement and opportunity gap, fostering racial and ethnic understanding and equity, and partnering against poverty to help neighbors in need.
- **Strengthening Our Region’s Vitality:** Supporting vibrant and diverse arts and cultural offerings, preserving our region’s rich historical assets, and promoting successful aging.

[Learn more](#) about these goals and the accompanying action areas.
We maintain rigorous standards for effective grantmaking, and are confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.

- **Founded** – 1972
- **Number of Funds** – 1,386
- **Charitable Assets** – $477 million*
- **Permanently Endowed Assets** – $307 million
- **25-Year Annualized Endowment Return** – 9.0% net of fees*
- **Expense/Asset Ratio** – 0.66%
- **Grants Awarded Since 1972** – $479 million
- **President and CEO** – Jennifer Leonard (since 1993)
- **Board Chair** – Elizabeth A. Thorley

To confirm that we are in good standing as a charity, check our profile and financial details on GuideStar, which gathers and disseminates information about every IRS-registered nonprofit organization.

*As of 3/31/19*