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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rochester Area Community Foundation Making \$100,000 Available for Nonprofits Serving Ontario and Seneca Counties

In an effort to expand and enhance its support for each of the rural counties in its service area, Rochester Area Community Foundation will infuse up to \$100,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations helping to improve the quality of life for residents in Ontario and Seneca counties.

This new funding opportunity — up to \$50,000 for each county — is part of an intentional strategy by the Community Foundation to increase access to critical services, tackle disparities faced by residents, and bolster services of the nonprofits on the front lines. This effort aligns with the Foundation's main goals of creating a more equitable community and strengthening our region's vitality.

The first step in the grant application process is for nonprofits providing services to residents of Ontario and Seneca counties to submit Letters of Intent (LOI), which serve as a brief, initial outline of the need for grant funding. LOIs will be accepted, starting March 25, through the Community Foundation's online portal at www.racf.org/GrantPortal, which will connect to the Regional Grantmaking Application. Submissions must be made by April 22.

Select applicants whose projects align most closely with the Foundation's impact areas — poverty, academic achievement, racial equity and understanding, arts and culture, historical preservation, environmental justice, aging — will then be invited to submit full applications for further consideration of funding.

Previous grant rounds of up to \$50,000 each for Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Wayne, and Yates counties have been awarded as part of this effort to boost support for rural counties.

If a nonprofit has questions about eligibility or the grant portal, please email *grants* @*racf.org* or *sbukowiec* @*racf.org*.

Rochester Area Community Foundation was founded in 1972 as an endowment to provide ongoing and long-term support for the Rochester-Finger Lakes region. The Foundation works with individuals, families, businesses, and other nonprofit organizations to establish charitable funds or contribute to existing permanent funds that help address the region's current and evolving needs. Since its founding, the Foundation has distributed more than \$674 million in grants and scholarships throughout our region and beyond.