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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **RENEW Receives HUD Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships**

On July 11, Rochester ENergy Efficiency & Weatherization (RENEW), an initiative of Rochester Area Community Foundation, was one of six programs nationwide to receive the 2024 HUD Secretary's Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships. RENEW Program Director Elizabeth McDade was recognized at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. hosted by HUD (the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development).

This award recognizes excellence in partnerships that have transformed the relationships between the public and philanthropic sectors and led to measurable benefits in housing and community development. RENEW addresses the high concentration of aging housing stock in the Rochester area by assisting income-qualified families with home improvements that increase energy efficiency, health, and safety from environmental hazards.

“In August of this year, RENEW will celebrate nine years of steadily doing this work without expecting fanfare,” said McDade. “It’s an honor to receive a national award that recognizes the impact that’s possible when government, nonprofits, and philanthropic organizations partner together.”

RENEW and its community partners have collectively invested over \$10.6 million dollars into hundreds of homes across Monroe County. Homeowners in the program have reported saving more than 20% on energy costs, along with better physical and mental health outcomes. To date, the initiative has prevented over 8,385 tons of carbon emissions from entering the atmosphere.

**The full press release can be found here:**

[https://www.hud.gov/press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/HUD\\_No\\_24\\_175](https://www.hud.gov/press/press_releases_media_advisories/HUD_No_24_175)