An initiative of Rochester Area Community Foundation

“Health/Energy Nexus on the Ground: Learning from Work Underway”

LIFE CONFERENCE

May 22, 2018
Rochester, NY

- Population: 210,000
- KODAK employed 60,000 people in 1973; today they employ 1,700
- Rochester ranks 4th in overall poverty among the nation’s 75 largest metropolitan areas and 1st in overall poverty, child poverty, and extreme poverty among comparably sized cities. (ACTRochester, December 2017)
- 33.8% poverty rate; 50% childhood poverty rate
- Housing Stock: 67% singles or doubles, 57% built before 1939, 92% built before 1978
What is the Rochester Safe and Efficient Homes Initiative (RSEHI)?

- Four year project created with 1.0M in settlement funds from NYS Attorney General.
- An initiative of Rochester Area Community Foundation
- Monies are braided in weatherization, health & safety, and energy efficiency projects for City of Rochester income-qualified homeowners.
- Evolved out of the Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning and the Rochester Healthy Home Partnership.

Partners include:

Action for a Better Community
City of Rochester
Common Ground Health
Lifespan
Monroe County Dept. of Public Health
Monroe County Office on Aging

NeighborWorks Rochester
PathStone Corporation
Rochester Area Community Foundation
Rochester Housing Authority
Rochester Institute of Technology
University of Rochester
Progress as of April 2018

- 127 projects completed; 55 in progress
- Total RSEHI grants (completed & in-progress work): $619,489.00
- Total partner dollars (completed & in-progress work): $1,718,842.00
- Total dollars invested in weatherization/health & safety interventions: $2.33M
Who are we serving?

- Black: 64%
- White: 23%
- Hispanic: 10%
- Other: 3%

- Single Woman Head of Household: 62%
- First Time Homebuyer: 48%
- HS Graduate: 50%
- College Degree: 39%
- Seniors: 18%
- Children Ages 6-17: 20%
- Children Under Age 6: 8%
- Disabled: 7%
- Veterans: 3%
- White 62%
- Black 48%
- Hispanic 10%
- Other 3%
- Seniors 39%
- Single Woman Head of Household 62%
- First Time Homebuyer 48%
- HS Graduate 50%
- College Degree 39%
- Children Ages 6-17 20%
- Children Under Age 6 8%
- Disabled 7%
- Veterans 3%
Interventions as of Jan 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>6/1/16-6/30/17</th>
<th>7/1/17-1/31/18</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aging in Place interventions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air sealing</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asbestos Removal</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bathroom Vent</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boiler</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>CO Detector</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combo CO/Smoke Detector</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damp-proof Basement Walls</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dehumidifier</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duct Cleaning</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duct Sealing</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical Work</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furnace External Power Venter</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furnace (High Efficiency)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>113</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gas Dryer Flue</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glass Block Windows (Basement)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Safety Items</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Water Heater</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insulation</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lead Paint Hazard Remediation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighting (install LED bulbs)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low flow shower head</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mold remediation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pest remediation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programmable Thermostat</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roof repairs/tear off</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sewer Line Replacement</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smoke Detector</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stair Rail</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ventilation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterline replacement</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Window Installation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
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</table>
Red Tagged Hot Water Heater installation with NeighborWorks Rochester
Sewer Line and HE Furnace (two locations) with NeighborWorks Rochester
Getting the Word Out: National Weatherization Day, October 2017


- Rochester Residents Get Free Home Improvements, Spectrum News, 10/30/17
The Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning revised the Healthy Homes guide to include energy audits and grants that support weatherization and energy efficiency opportunities.

7,500 copies of the Healthy Homes guides are being distributed all over the City of Rochester and Monroe County. A downloadable copy is available on the Coalition’s website.
Health & Energy

- Asthma attacks, wheezing, and other respiratory symptoms increase when:
  - Living in a home with moisture/dampness
  - Mold or pests are present
  - Cold or inconsistent temperatures
  - Environmental tobacco smoke or indoor air pollutants are present (RWJ 2009)

- 15.0M adults have Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), the 3rd leading cause of death among US adults. (CDC 2016)

- What reduces COPD risks?
  - Improved indoor temperatures
  - Reduced fine particulate matter & air pollutants
  - Improved ventilation
  - Heating system upgrades
Client Stories

Janet lives in the 19th Ward, runs a small in-home daycare, and takes care of her grandson. Janet qualified for a 50/50 incentive through NYSERDA AHP but did not have funds for the match and did not qualify for a loan.

Through PathStone, RSEHI provided the match and a new furnace was installed. Janet also qualified for the Monroe County HUD Lead Grant.

Janice said the new furnace “makes my home feel a lot warmer and it doesn’t seem as dusty. The air is cleaner.”

Janice shared that she has asthma and “since getting the new furnace I don’t have to use my inhaler while I work out on the treadmill anymore.”
Bill is a 62-year-old veteran living in SE Rochester. He qualified for lead abatement, a high-efficiency furnace, a hot water heater, and health & safety items.

He told RSEHI he lives alone and struggles with depression. He was so “motivated” by all of the improvements that he decided to make his own changes not covered by the grants.

He painted and made safety repairs to his back porch. He installed a new downspout and mailbox and planted grass and a flowerbed.

Bill talked about how much better he felt after talking to the crew, getting help, and seeing how much nicer his home looked after all the work was completed.
Samuel and Pamela made many sacrifices to save enough to become homeowners. “It was a big deal,” said Pamela. Pamela’s mother and one of their sons live with them so there are three generations in their NW Rochester home.

Their home was always hard to keep warm, but they paid their utility bill. Pamela said, “We paid. We had to. We had kids at home.” At one point, they did not have a working furnace.

When her grandchildren visited, they knew to grab a “couch blanket” from the box in the corner of the cold living room. Now they have a new roof, hot water heater, furnace, & windows.

Diagnosed with adult onset asthma, Pamela woke up coughing every night. With the new furnace, she sleeps through the night. Her husband is also sleeping better because she used to wake him with her coughing.
Inez bought her home in NE Rochester in 2002. Her 4-year-old little granddaughter lives with her.

Inez has BOOP (bronchiolitis obliterans organizing pneumonia). Her pulmonologist asked if Inez had mold in her home and she said no. Inez said, “I thought mold was black. Now I know it can be brown or red. I thought the brown specks in the basement were just the kind of thing you found in older homes.”

She asked her doctor if she knew of any grants to help. That’s when her doctor referred Inez to PathStone. The mold was remediated. She received insulation, windows, a hot water heater, and a dehumidifier. Inez said the “The basement doesn’t smell musty and the water pressure is much better.”

Most importantly, Inez’s doctor said her BOOP has stabilized.
Next Steps: Create a Carbon Offset Fund

- We are working with partners at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester Regional Health, the City of Rochester’s Office of Energy and Sustainability, and other community-based partners to create a Carbon Offset Fund at RACF.

- Climate change is impacted by the amount of carbon we use everyday. An individual carbon footprint or greenhouse gas emissions from home, office, or travel can be “offset” by making a donation to support carbon-reduction projects.

- Offsets (or donations) will directly impact low-income families in our community.

- Donations to the Carbon Offset Fund will come from municipalities, industry, educational institutions, community organizations, and individual donors who have committed to making greenhouse gas emission reduction a priority.
Thank you.

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