



Commission on **RASE**

County • City • Community



Mayor Malik D. Evans, City of Rochester • Adam Bello, Monroe County Executive

5TH ANNIVERSARY - ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025 4PM – 7PM
ROCHESTER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER

5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE

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- *Poster Session*
- *Networking*
- *Vendor Tables*
- *Refreshments*



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5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE

Norma Holland

Mistress of Ceremonies



The Urban League of Rochester



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5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: PROGRAM

4:30: Opening remarks and framing

5:10: 1st Round – Community Panel discussion

5:35: 1st Round – Roundtable discussion

6:00 2nd Round – Community Panel discussion

6:25: 2nd Round – Roundtable discussion

6:50: Closing and call to action



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE

Mayor Malik Evans

City of Rochester



The Urban League of Rochester



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5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE

County Executive Adam Bello

Monroe County



The Urban League of Rochester



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5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE

Dr. Seanelle Hawkins

Urban League of Rochester



The Urban League of Rochester



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5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE

Dr. Candice Lucas

Urban League of Rochester



The Urban League of Rochester



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5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: OVERVIEW

Mayor Lovely Warren and County Executive Adam Bello

Announced June 2020

Selected July 2020

Seated August 2020

Charge:

- a. Inventory and assess current *laws/policies* that either promote or are intended to eliminate institutional and structural biases, racism and inequities in the City of Rochester and Monroe County
- b. Provide recommendations to enhance current laws/policies to increase effectiveness, and/or “sunset” laws/policies that are ineffective or no longer applicable
- c. Provide recommendations on any new laws/policies which address “gaps” identified per “a.” and “b.”



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: THE COMMISSIONERS



William A. Johnson, Jr.



Arline Santiago, Esq.



Dr. Muhammad Shafiq



Aaron Anandarajah



Todd Baxter



Steve Brew



Logan X. Brown



Eric Caine



Frank Keophetlasy



Willie Lightfoot



Kim T. Nghiem



Danielle D. Ponder



Bruce Popper



Marcus Dunn



Karen L. Elam



Sady Fischer



Mitch Gruber



Wayne Preston Harris



Luis E. Ormaechea



Denishea R. Ortiz



Richard Tantalo



Catherine Thomas



Stephanie Townsend



Damond Wilson

5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Business Development

Andrew Brady

Lomax Campbell

Jennifer Gorankoff

G. Blake Keller

John Kleaka

Christopher Martin-
Stancil-El

Patricia Williams-McGahee

Aqua Porter

Desjamebra Robinson

Hinna Upal

Kate Washington

Criminal Justice

Kayla Atkin

Lisa Barr

Michael Bleeg

Ciera Caldwell

Vanessa Cheeks

Sydney Cuyler

Michelle Daniels

Isaac Elliot

Pamela Flemming

Kerry Gant

Ashley Gantt

Carlos Garcia

Anayra Gutierrez

Frank Ham

Frank Hamlin

Wayman Harris

Joe Hennekey

Corey Hepburn

Lamaar Jackson

Lisa Johnson

Raymond Kenne

Frank Liberti

Carla Perez

Yesenia Reed

Torey Richardson

Amanda Santacroce

Sherron Sawyer

Michael Simpson

Yohannes Tesfa Michael

Cynshel Wilson



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Education

Donald Brian Bartalo

Gwen Clifton

Bryant Cromartie

Dan Drmacich

Kerry Foxx

Emily Goldsmith

Karen Lankeshofer

Caterina Leone Mannino

Steve Martin

Nolica Murray-Fields

Emily Odhiambo

Laura Smith

Michael Vaughn

Diane Watkins

Jen Weg

Healthcare

Mateo Alexander

Barbara Baer

Emily Carrillo

Dr. Linda Clark

Maria Cruz

Paul Kingsley

Sanford J. Mayer
(Sandy)

Alia Muhammad

Donna Nelligan-Barrett

Ronalyn Pollack
(Ronnie)

Michael Reif

Kristin Reisch
(Kristi)

Andrew Seager

Ruth Schneider

Rachel Snyder

Mary Starks

Tharaha Thavakumar
(Thari)



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Housing

Ryan Acuff

Marcus Bliss

Daniel Cadet

Christine Church

Joe Di Fiore

Julie Domaratz

Karla Gadley

Leonard Hall

Allison Harper Bondi

Graham Hughes

Ginny Maier

Elizabeth McDade

Carrie Melnyk

Chris Raymond

Barbara Rivera

Joan Roby-Davidson

Michael Rood

Shaunee Rosenborough

Victor Sanchez

Steve Santacroce

Mildred Scott

Van Smith

Richard Tyson

Eric Van Dusen

Christopher J. Wilmot

HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES

Khari Clarendon

Alexandra Popovici
(Lexi)

Absolom Abraha
(Abu)

Pamela Kim Adams

Shaka Bedgood

Jennifer Cathy

Tracy Collins

Brandi Hayes

Ke-nijah Holloman

Bill McDonald

Kiah Nyame

Donette Scott

Raquel Serrano

Diana Simpatico

Rose Tomlinson

James Waters

Jeffrey Williams

Rodney Young

5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

JOB CREATION

Daan Braveman

Syed Ahmad

Charlsey Bickett

Carol Garrett

Jertia Goins

Christine Hunt

Marvin Maye

Anthony McCollough

Erica Mock

dt ogilvie

Daryl Smith

Louise Spineli

Tiana Stephens

Deborah Whitt

MENTAL HEALTH/ADDICTION SERVICES

April Aycock

Mike Boucher

Tonia Canty-
McKinney

Jennifer Cercone Miller

Rameen Copeland

Diane DeRuyter

Tanya Ferguson

The Urban League of Rochester

Renee Gelsomino

Dina Johnson

Lawana Jones

Julio Jordan

Don Kamin

Noah Kosloske

Kenya Malcolm

Rebecca Maynard

Kit Miller

James Patterson

Gerianne Puskas

Brittany Raczkiwicz

Carlos Santana

Michael Scharf

Zena Shuber

Mandy Teeter

Jason Teller

Jerry Thompson

John Walker

Kelly Wilmot

Alan Ziegler



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

POLICING

Iman Abid-
Thompson

Steve Alpert-Gillis

Jean Carroll

John Compitello

Leverett Copeland

Patrina Freeman

Tricia Lynn
Gonzalez-Johnson

Dwayne Hayward

Steve Jarose

Michelle King

Adrian Martin

Hasan R. Massey

Elizabeth Maxwell

Charles Reaves

Thomas J. Seitzinger

Chiara Smith

Faith Stanley

Lewis Stewart

John Strazzabosco

Pedro Vazquez

CITY & COUNTY STAFF

Cephas Archie

Carlet Cleare

Corinda Crossdale

Lianne Hart

Clarence Henry IV
(Mike)

Emem-Esther Ikpot

Alexandra I. Leonty

Candice Lucas

Colleen McCarthy

Meaghan McDermott

Thalia Wright

CONSULTANTS - CENTER FOR GOVERNMENTAL RESEARCH

Kieran Bezila

Paul Bishop

Alice Carle

Donna Harris

David Riley

Erika Rosenberg

INTERNS

Mohamad Abukar

Victoria Blackham

Rameen Copeland

Anika Griffiths

Piffanie Rosario

Ashley Wimble



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: RECOMMENDATIONS - >200

Sector	# of Recs
• Business Development	(18)
• Criminal Justice	(29)
• Education	(18)
• Healthcare	(47)
• Housing	(12)
• Human Services	(23)
– Older Adults	(11)
• Job Creation	(24)
• Mental Health and Addiction Services	(16)
• Policing	(15)



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: FIVE SYSTEMIC SOLUTIONS

- 1.** Create and invest in sustainable economic opportunities in Black and Latinx communities to promote and maintain self-sufficiency, entrepreneurship, and career advancement.
- 2.** Implement and incentivize practices and programs that increase the racial/ethnic diversity and cultural competence of employees, vendors, and contractors.
- 3.** End practices that disproportionately drain resources from Black and Latinx communities.
- 4.** Decentralize services and embed them in trusted agencies throughout the community.
- 5.** Embed accountability measures in all policies to ensure equity and fairness across all services, programs, and delivery models.



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

- Identify recommendations within the authority of the executive or legislative bodies for immediate implementation.
- Create a process for the implementation of recommendations within the private, not-for-profit and other government sectors.
- **Establish a successor body to the RASE Commission, with the authority to monitor the timeliness of the implementation of the recommendations contained in this report with the power to recommend and enforce corrective steps that will ensure the successful implementation of all recommendations.**
- Facilitate community engagement that leads to a strategic plan that informs and advocates for state and federal responses to these recommendations.



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: URBAN LEAGUE ROLE

- Work in collaboration with County and City leadership to actualize RASE recommendations.
- Serve as the point of contact and community convener of conversations about RASE updates.
- Maintain the RASE matrix / dashboard tracking progress on each recommendation.
- Prepare an annual committee report and community update.
- Organize CARTs —led by community leaders and stakeholders—focused on the following specific areas of implementation: policing, other aspects of the criminal justice system, education, healthcare, mental health, and addiction services, housing, job creation, business development, and human/social services.



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: EXECUTIVE TEAM

City:

- Deputy Mayor
- Director of Special Projects
- Special Assistant to the Mayor
- Equity Officer

RSCD:

Chief of Staff

County:

- Assistant County Executive
- Chief Diversity Officer
- Deputy Chief, DHS

Urban League:

- SVP Equity and Advocacy
- E&A Coordinator



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: CARTS AND FACILITATORS

COMMUNITY ADVANCING RECOMMENDATIONS TEAMS

- Include individuals, CBOs, for-profits, individuals, youth groups, faith-based groups, parent groups, and powerbrokers, to participate in advancing recommendations.
- There will be one Urban League Staff to follow up on Advancing Recommendations Teams facilitated by groups other than the Urban League.

Business Development & Job Creation

Education

Criminal Justice & Policing

- *Mark Funk and Wanda Wilson, Facilitators*

Healthcare

- *Jackie Dozier & Thomas Green, Facilitators*

Housing

- *Laurie Mahoney & Ronald Washington, Facilitators*

Human/Social Services/ Older Adults

- *Dr. Sandra Katz & Phyllis Jackson, Facilitators*

Mental Health & Addiction Services

- *Regina Bradley, Facilitator*



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE:

CARTS MEMBERS

- Alex Castro
- Alia Henton-Williams
- Ana Liss
- Andrew J. Seager
- Angelica Davis-Bernard
- Ann Cunningham
- Anne Beyer
- Annette Ramos
- Assist. Chief Cynthia Smith
- Audrey Clements
- Barb Glassman
- Barbara Turner
- Beth Bloom
- Beverly Fair-Brooks
- Bob Castle
- Brian Lewis
- C.S. Anderson
- Calvin Gantt
- Candice Lucas
- Carla Leaks
- Carlos Santana
- Carrie Chizuk
- CaTyra Polland
- Chanh Quach
- Chiamaka Ikpeze
- Chris Raymond
- Christina Eisenberg
- Colleen Regelsberger
- Constance Jefferson
- Cynthia Butterworth



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE:

CARTS MEMBERS

- D.J. Robinson
- Dan Drmacich
- Dan Ercolano
- David Scott
- Davis Craig
- Deborah Whitt
- Dee Schwartz
- Denise Mack
- Denise Read
- Donette Scott
- Donna Jones
- Donna Mostiller
- dt ogilvie
- Duncan Harris
- Ebony Burgess
- Elizabeth Devaney
- Elizabeth Maxwell
- Elizabeth McDade
- Elizabeth McGriff
- Erika Rosenberg
- Erin Thompson
- Estella Velez-Upegui
- Evelyn Parker
- Florence Dukes
- Fran McCarthy
- Fred Tanksley
- Galin Brooks
- Ginny Maier
- Graham Hughes*
- Greg Ewing



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE:

CARTS MEMBERS

- Gwen Van Laeken
- Hank Rubin
- Helen Dumas
- Jacqueline Lindsey
- Jalil Muntaqim
- Jamia Williams
- Jason DeLooze
- Jeannette Blake
- Jennifer Sahrle
- Jertia Goins
- Jill Paperno
- Jody Rowe
- Joe Fagnoli
- Jon Siegel
- Jonathan Siegel
- Joseph Searles
- Josie McClary
- Joyce Lucas
- Juan Villanueva
- Julio Jordan
- Karla Gadley
- Kathryn Rygg
- Kathy Parrinello
- Katie Blum
- Kelly Luther
- Kim Hunt-Uzelac
- Kim Londono
- Kim Smith
- Kitty Koul
- Laddie Foster



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: CARTS MEMBERS

- Latesha Fussell
- Laura Sugarwala
- Leanne Rorick
- Linda Clark
- Linda James
- Linda Ketchum-Pompili
- Lisa Barr
- Lisa Johnson
- Liz McGriff
- Lonnie Hayes
- Lori VanAuken
- Lt. Bing Reaves Jr
- Luva Alvarez
- Manny Rivera
- Maria Sharp
- Mario Mongeon
- Mark Funk
- Mary Del Wypych
- Matthew Burrell
- Matthew Denker
- Mazi Bakari
- Melissa Bissonette
- Mike Boucher
- Mildred Scott
- Monica Graham
- Muhammad Loyd
- Nicholas Coulter
- Pakita Tamarin
- Pat Willis
- Patricia Partridge



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE:

CARTS MEMBERS

- Paula Cupertino
- Peter Peters
- Rachel Sherman
- Raegena Lawrence
- Rahimah Wynn
- Ralph Carter
- Raquel Singletary
- Rebekah Meyer
- Regina Bradley
- Robert Castle
- Robert Davis
- Robert Mayo
- Roberta Buckle
- Roberta Davis
- Ronieka Burns
- Ronnie Pollock
- Ruhi Maker
- Ruth B. Schneider
- Ryan Acuff
- Sabrina Howland
- Sanford Mayer
- Sanford Mayer
- Sarah Fletcher
- Sarah Grieve
- Shane Wiegand
- Shannon Regelsberger
- Shaunee
Rosenborough
- Silvia Sörensen
- Steven Carter



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: CARTS MEMBERS

- Tamara Wall
- Tammy Butler
- Tatiana L. Welch
- Taurean Uthman
- Tedd Pullano
- Terry Platt
- Tiffany Porter
- Timna Frank-Spock
- Tina Carney
- Tracey Farmer
- Tracy Archie
- Tracy Collins
- Tree Clemmonds
- Tricia Gonzalez
- Trisha Wise
- Van Smith
- Wanda Wilson
- William Whitley
- Willie Robinson
- Yamuna Sangarasivam
- Yasmin Mattox



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: COMMUNITY-BASED WORK

- Action for a Better Community
 - Black Agenda Group
 - Children's Agenda
 - Empire Justice Center
 - FLPPS
 - HCR Homecare
 - Healthy Baby Network
 - House of Mercy
 - Our Local History
 - Parent Leadership Training Inst.
 - RMAPI
 - ROC-the-Future Alliance
 - St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center
- Greenlining
 - Racism is a Public Health Crisis
 - Solutions not suspensions
 - Pre-textual Stops
 - Healthcare workforce
 - At-home healthcare services
 - Doula Program
 - Mental Health Peer Training Program
 - Anti-racist curriculum
 - Teacher diversity
 - Level up challenge
 - School-based mental health clinics
 - Medical Outreach Vehicle



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE:

>50% OF RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED OR IN PROGRESS

1. *Permanently fund the Monroe County Diversity Officer for Language Access to promote best practices and address any legal compliance issues.*
2. *Develop Community Behavioral Health Advocates (CBHA), a program employing local residents who are trained and certified to assist people with advocacy.*
3. *Initiate the process of shifting and embedding currently funded mental health services into trusted community-accessible sites.*
4. *Develop, maintain, and update regularly a community-wide inventory of mental health and substance treatment resources, with online and tablet-based tools that can be used readily by individuals, families, navigators, and clergy for defining needs and facilitating access to care*
5. *Monroe County should permanently eliminate the 85% attendance threshold for individuals recovering from substance abuse.*
6. *Raise the \$10,000 limit on no-bid municipal contracts to a higher level, to allow MWBE vendors access to greater potential revenue.*
7. *Host an annual joint City/County MWBE Business Development Fair (Create and financially support an information exchange that leads to new business opportunities for BIPOC-owned businesses.*
8. *Promote local and regional MWBE businesses*
9. *We recommend the final interview for police candidates include representatives from the community as interviewers, including interviewers from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds for all local law enforcement officers.*
10. *Our working group recommends significantly increasing this requirement to include cultural competency training, implicit and explicit bias training, Procedural Justice training and historical aspects of policing training.*
11. *Fund training and recruitment of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color as doulas and make doulas available as a public health service*
12. *Relax any regulations that create particularly high rates of sanction.*
13. *Develop processes for staff grievances and/or complaints with regard to cultural competence in County and City departments*
14. *Address the digital divide for Older Adults*
15. *Support and Invest in Livable Communities for Older Adults Initiative*



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: COMMUNITY PANEL

Norma Holland

Mistress of Ceremonies



The Urban League of Rochester



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5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: COMMUNITY PANEL

Therese Bertrand - Older Adult Navigator Program

Shannon Pero - New CAP Court

Sabrina Russell - MWBE Mentorship Program

Muhammed Abdus Samad - Guaranteed Basic Income

5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Q1. Looking ahead 3–5 years, and considering recent federal changes, what would you list as the top priorities for achieving equity in this area? This can either be from the list of future topics or their own ideas.

Q2. What will it take to accomplish this priority(ies)?

Q3. What specific actions are you willing to take to help implement this priority?

Q4. Who else should be part of this effort, and how will you help to get them involved?



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: COMMUNITY PANEL

Shawna Lowry - Housing Navigation Program

Cleopatra Manuel - Healthcare

Melissa Rich - Anti-racist curriculum

Jackie Wallace - Peer Advocates



5TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

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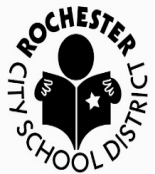
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- *Next steps*
- *Sign up for a CART*
- *Final Remarks*



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THANK YOU!