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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Announces Launch of CARES Funded Nonprofit Relief Grant Program

September 15, 2020 – ROCHESTER, MINN. – The City of Rochester, in partnership with Rochester Area Foundation (RAF), announces the opening of the Nonprofit Relief Grant program. Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding will be used to support the project, as part of the City's overall \$5.1M appropriation for the second phase of the COVID-19 response. In total, the City has allocated \$325,000 to this particular program. The grant application, which can be found at rochestercares, will go live at 9:00 a.m. on September 21, 2020. Grant applications are due by 5 pm on October 2, 2020.

The City and RAF will host a virtual information session on September 17, 2020 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. The meeting can be <u>accessed here</u>. Those interested in learning more about the grant opportunity are encouraged to attend. Grant recipients may receive up to 50% of your organization's decrease in net revenue from March 1st - June 30th, 2020 compared to the same time period in 2019 or \$25,000, whichever is less.

Cindy Steinhauser, City of Rochester Community Development Director shares, "The City Council has made support for people one of their top priorities for CARES funding. This program recognizes the role that nonprofit organizations play in addressing the needs of individuals. We are excited to partner with Rochester Area Foundation to get this funding into the organizations that can help make a difference for our residents."

Many of Rochester's vital nonprofit organizations have been greatly impacted by COVID-19, be it through expenses created by the delivery of services or due to lower than normal giving.

"Rochester Area Foundation is proud to be partnering with the City of Rochester to provide relief to nonprofit organizations in our community that have been severely impacted by COVID-19. The services that local nonprofit organizations continue to provide are critical to sustain the well-being of our community and our neighbors," shares Jennifer Woodford, President of the Rochester Area Foundation.

The grant information can be found at <u>rochesterarea.org/rochestercares</u>. A complete list of Rochester's CARES Act funding projects and initiatives funded can be <u>found here</u>.