

July 25, 2022

Honorable Adam J. Bello
County Executive, Monroe County
110 County Office Building
39 West Main Street
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear County Executive Bello:

This letter is to voice the support of Charles Settlement House (CSH) for the ARPA proposal being submitted by Baden Street Settlement of Rochester, and their efforts to add additional Mental Health support to the Northeast Rochester community through the proposed clinic and launch a Peer Support Initiative in conjunction with the Settlement House Foundation.

Settlement houses have a history of working together over the past 100 years in Rochester. While focused on the needs of the neighborhoods we are located, we offer many of the same programs and collaborate to ensure best practices. We also build on the strengths and assets of both organizations. For instance, when the City School District expressed a desire for more UPK and EPK early childhood slots in northwest Rochester, Charles House and Baden Street partnered to use a CSH building on Jay Street with Baden Street teachers to operate the program.

Baden Street is one of the most well-known human service providers in our City because it has a legacy of quality services. Baden Street provides an accessible resource within the "Crescent" of Rochester, reaching families and individuals in high poverty. It's Dr. George C. Simmons Counseling & Support Center is a respected provider of services to individuals with substance abuse issues. Our community is in need of culturally competent mental health services within City neighborhoods and this proposal addresses that need.

The proposed Mental Health Clinic is a clear fit with the ARPA goals. The pandemic exacerbated the need for more mental health services. Baden's team has the capacity to build a clinic setting that is inclusive and works to address bias and cultural stigma that can keep Black or Latino community members from seeking support.

Charles Settlement House will refer residents from our neighborhoods to this clinic. We also accept referrals from Baden for individuals and their families who are receiving mental health services. We offer Family Services (food, transportation, personal hygiene products, etc.), Youth Development, and Aging Services.

Based on the good this project will do for the individuals and communities in Rochester, we urge the review team to give this proposal careful consideration.

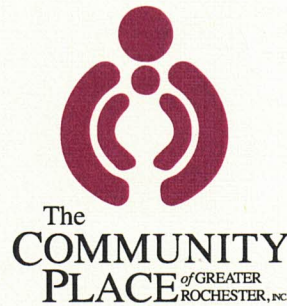
Sincerely,



Scott C. Benjamin
President & CEO

July 25, 2022

Honorable Adam J. Bello
County Executive, Monroe County
110 County Office Building
39 West Main Street
Rochester, NY 14614



Dear County Executive Bello:

This letter is to voice the support of Community Place of Greater Rochester (CPGR), for the ARPA proposal being submitted by Baden Street Settlement of Rochester, and their efforts to add additional Mental Health support to the Northeast Rochester community through the proposed clinic and launch a Peer Support Initiative in conjunction with the Settlement House Foundation.

Community Place was created from the merger of three settlement houses (Genesee, Lewis Street, Eastside) so, like Baden Street, our roots are over 100 years old. We work alongside Baden in northeast Rochester to provide vital human services. We are partners with them in the creation of the Foundation and we share best practices and collaborate in overlapping programs. We refer clients to each other when either of us is unable to service a particular need. We have also collaborated with joint funding through the Settlement House Foundation that benefitted both of our early childhood/UPK programs.

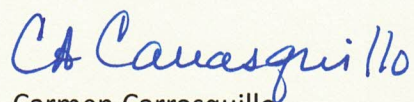
Our City neighborhoods need more mental health services provided in a culturally competent manner, by a trusted resource like Baden Street. Its Dr. George C. Simmons Counseling & Support Center already provides high quality services to individuals with substance abuse issues. This proposed Mental Health Clinic is a natural extension of the behavioral health services that are needed in northeast Rochester.

Baden Street Settlement is one of our City's longest-standing organizations, founded in 1901. Baden Street provides an accessible resource within the "Crescent" of Rochester, reaching families and individuals in high poverty. Their proposed Mental Health Clinic responds to Bring Monroe Back goals, not only by recognizing the need to coordinate community wellness and supports and mental health services, but also by bringing higher quality services to communities of color. Their team has the capacity to build a clinic setting that is inclusive and works to address bias and cultural stigma that can keep Black or Latino community members from seeking support.

Community Place will refer residents we serve to this clinic. We will also accept referrals from Baden Street of the individuals they serve, as well as their families. Among our programs are Family Services, Aging Services, Disability Services, Prevention, and a variety of Youth Services.

Based on the good this project will do for the individuals and communities in Rochester, we urge the review team to give this proposal careful consideration.

Sincerely,



Carmen Carrasquillo
Chief Program Officer