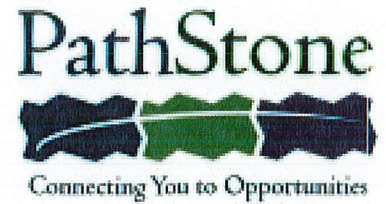


Housing Rehabilitation and Energy Services  
75 College Avenue  
Rochester, New York 14607  
Chris Raymond  
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craymond@pathstone.org



[www.pathstone.org](http://www.pathstone.org)

July 25, 2022

Elizabeth McDade, Program Director  
Rochester ENErgy Efficiency and Weatherization (RENEW)  
Rochester Area Community Foundation  
500 East Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14607

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of **Rochester ENErgy Efficiency and Weatherization (RENEW)**'s application to receive critical funding from Monroe County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Opportunities.

I am the Deputy for Home Rehabilitation and Energy Services for PathStone, a not-for-profit in Rochester, NY with over 50 years of working to provide housing related services to low-income residents. The Home Rehabilitation and Energy Services (HRES) is the Weatherization Service provider for Monroe County and a recipient of HUD HOME LPA grants, NYS Affordable Housing Corporation, Federal Home Loan Bank, and private grants for over twenty years. HRES uses these grant funds to help low-to-moderate income resident buy or make necessary health and safety repairs to their homes.

PathStone has partnered with RENEW for 7 years to bring energy improvements, replace roofs, and make health and safety repairs to hundreds of homes owned and occupied by lower income Monroe County residents. RENEW builds upon established home improvement/energy-efficiency programs. The majority of RENEW grants are projects in need of critical "gap" funding to help homeowners meet program eligibility requirements. While many programs provide safety nets, RENEW serves as a bridge. Working with community partners like PathStone, RENEW remove obstacles to assist families so they can receive desperately needed home improvements—families who would otherwise be ineligible.

PathStone is a committed partner in RENEW's network and looks forward to continuing our multi-agency collaboration to help improve the health and well-being of low-to-moderate income homeowners, build economic security for vulnerable citizens, decrease energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions, and help stabilize neighborhoods. A safe and healthy place to live is critical to the health and well-being of our community.



*Established in 1969, Pathstone is a private, not-for-profit community development and human service organization providing services to farmworkers, families, and communities throughout New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana and Puerto Rico.*

RENEW has developed a proven public private operations model and funding mechanism, like no other, to efficiently combine resources to facilitate comprehensive improvements to reduce the energy burden on low-income homeowners and the environment and increase residential safety and comfort.<sup>2</sup>

We urge you to fund Rochester ENergy Efficiency and Weatherization to allow this unique model of multiplayer cooperation to continue to thrive. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Raymond", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Chris Raymond

Deputy for Home Rehabilitation and Energy Services