



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jeremy Cooney

Senator Cooney Delivers \$240K For Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester

JEREMY COONEY September 3, 2024

| ISSUE: ROCHESTER COMMUNITY, BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Grant Funding Will Be Used For Construction Of Club's New Roof

Senator Cooney: New Roof Means Continuation Of Services And Safe Space For Rochester Youth

(ROCHESTER, NY) - Today, **Senator Jeremy Cooney (D-Rochester)** announced \$240,000 he secured for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester. The Senator explained that the grant funding will enable Boys & Girls Club to replace the roof at their center on Genesee Street.

“Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester has bettered the lives of countless youth in our community, empowering kids of all backgrounds to achieve their goals and avoid the cycle of violence,” said **Senator Cooney**. “It’s only right that we support them in this mission, which is why I’m proud to have secured these funds which will enable the organization to continue providing a space for our leaders of tomorrow to grow and thrive for years to come.”

Dwayne Mahoney, Executive Director, Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester said, “We are incredibly grateful to Senator Cooney for securing this crucial funding. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester is a safe haven for so many young people in our community, and this grant ensures that we can continue to offer a secure and welcoming environment for them to learn, grow, and reach their full potential. The new roof will help us sustain our mission for years to come, and we thank the Senator for his continued support of our youth.”

Assemblyman Demond Meeks said, “I would like to thank Senator Jeremy Cooney for his support of the Boys and Girls Club of Rochester in securing the necessary funding for the replacement of their roof. For decades, the Boys & Girls Club has supported our youth with a variety of renowned services, from literary programs to career opportunities, at its centralized location on Genesee Street. As they continue to work diligently in preparing our children for success, it is our responsibility as state representatives to provide resources and investments that support their efforts.”

Boys and Girls Clubs of Rochester shared that 75% of the current roof is 20 years old and according to several estimates, the roof needs to be replaced within the next year or there could be a disruption in services. Over time a deteriorating roof can compromise the structural integrity of the building with leaks and water damage weakening the roof’s support structure leading to other structural failures. The club stated that water leaks from a damaged roof can be a safety hazard causing slippery surfaces, increasing the risk of slips, trips and falls, dangers that are especially concerning in a space used by youth and teens.

They also noted that moisture leaks can promote the growth of mold and mildew resulting in health risks including respiratory illness and allergies. Addressing these dangers is crucial to maintaining a safe and functional environment for everyone who relies on the Club.

The grant for Boys and Girls Clubs of Rochester was secured by Senator Cooney and the funds will be administered through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY). The club noted that construction is set to begin later this year.

About Boys and Girls Clubs of Rochester:

Founded in 1971, the mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester is to inspire and enable young people of all backgrounds to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. Boys & Girls Clubs of Rochester provides youth development programs that enable young people to acquire the skills and qualities needed to become responsible citizens and leaders. Empowered with these positive developmental experiences and opportunities, Boys & Girls Club members have continually demonstrated their ability to overcome negative, failure-oriented environments and move toward fulfilling their dreams. Since its inception, the Boys & Girls Club Movement has provided mentoring and leadership specifically designed to change the lives of youth who face daily challenges such as poverty, broken homes, crime, unemployment, prejudice, and difficulties in school.

###