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**RMAPI Steering Committee Elects New Chair, Vice Chair
- *Simeon Banister, Corinda Crossdale Elected to New Positions* -**

Rochester, NY— RMAPI's Steering Committee is pleased to announce that Corinda Crossdale has been elected to serve as chair and Simeon Banister has been elected to serve as vice chair.

"We are thrilled with the election of Corinda Crossdale and Simeon Banister to lead the RMAPI Steering Committee as we continue to make progress on the most important work our community has ever undertaken," said Aqua Y. Porter, RMAPI Executive Director. "Their experience in creating systemic change centered on racial equity will guide our efforts as we work to break the cycle of poverty by shifting power to create upward mobility for all individuals and families in our community. We commend their dedication to our community and look forward to the leadership they will bring to our collective effort."

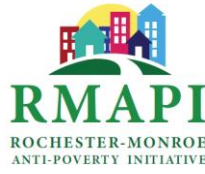
Crossdale serves as Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services in Monroe County Executive Adam Bello's administration. She has served in a number of other roles at the County level, including Commissioner of the Monroe County Department for Human Services, where she oversaw efforts that provided various forms of assistance to Monroe County residents.

Crossdale was previously a member of New York State Gov. Andrew Cuomo's cabinet, serving as Director of the New York State Office for the Aging. There, she led the state efforts to improve access to cost-effective non-medical support services for older individuals, better allowing them to remain in their homes and communities.

While serving as the director of the New York State Office for the Aging in 2015, she participated on the Rochester Anti-Poverty Task Force, which began discussions on how to advance plans to combat poverty and fight inequality in the Rochester area and led to the creation of RMAPI. She later served on RMAPI working groups and was involved in the City of Rochester's Commission on Racial and Structural Equity, which published the RASE Report in 2021.

"RMAPI continues to be a catalyst for positive, equitable change in Rochester and Monroe County – and I look forward to working with RMAPI and other leaders to fulfill our communities commitment to breaking generational poverty as we push for a fairer, more prosperous City and County," Crossdale said. "Thank you to Aqua Porter for your years of leadership in the unwavering pursuit to move our families toward upward mobility."

Banister has served as President and CEO of Rochester Area Community Foundation since Oct. 1, 2022. He joined the Community Foundation in 2017 and has held other roles, including Program Officer, Vice President of the Community Programs department, and Executive Vice President.



Banister also played an important role overseeing the Community Crisis Fund, a venture launched in March 2020 by the Community Foundation and United Way of Greater Rochester and the Finger Lakes to raise flexible resources that support organizations in our region that work with communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Banister also took the lead in establishing the North Star Coalition, a collection of more than 200 local organizations dedicated to ensuring an inclusive recovery. The coalition, which is aligned with the Urban Institute, works to ensure that post-pandemic recovery dollars are used to create opportunities that will benefit historically excluded residents.

“I am excited to take on the role of vice chair as RMAPI reorients its focus to boosting upward mobility and reducing racial inequities using proven best practices from other communities that were developed by Urban Institute,” Banister said. “With continued support and investment from community partners, this new strategy will lead to progress that can be both measured and meaningful.”

Their election marks the conclusion of the tenure of Daan Braveman, who had served as the co-chair of RMAPI’s Steering Committee since 2017. Braveman served as a founding co-chair of the Steering Committee, leading the collective impact effort through an evolution in its governance structure to bring stakeholders together around a common agenda and goal. During that time, RMAPI established working groups to bring together employers, social service sector agencies, funders, and stakeholders from across sectors to create a level of coordination unprecedented for the Rochester area.

“For decades, Daan Braveman has been one of our community’s leading voices in advocating for all those affected by poverty and pushing to correct historic injustices,” Porter said. “His leadership helped guide RMAPI through its formative years and set us on a path to creating long-term systemic change that centers our work on racial equity and boosts upward mobility for everyone. We are grateful for his tireless work in advancing this important initiative and his deep dedication to our community.”