**Community Spotlight**

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Je T’aime Taylor

Rosedale Development Association is excited to introduce our new Volunteer Opportunities section. Each month we will list our upcoming and immediate volunteer needs on this page. Training will be provided for all of the volunteer activities.

**Office Administration**

While sitting at the front desk with a computer and phone volunteers will greet folks with a smile, answer the phone and take messages, enter information in our database, sort mail.

**Minor Home Repair**

Assist low-income families and seniors with minor home repair - fix faucets, paint, clean gutters, build ramps, fix windows, secure staircases and more.

**Gardens and Tree Stewards**

Work at one of our six gardens by weeding, mulching, planting, watering and maintaining the gardens.

**Youth Sports**

Volunteer coaches work with Rosedale youth two hours per week for about eight weeks each season. Winter sports are currently filled, but soccer coaches are needed for the Spring (April-May).

To learn more or sign up to volunteer, please email volunteer@rosedale.org or call 913-677-5097 and let us know how you want to help.

Contact RDA today to find out how you can get involved!

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**From Concept to Concrete: Implementing the Rosedale Master Plan**

By Erin Stryka

On December 1, 2016, the Unified Government Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted the Rosedale Master Plan and Traffic Study, a blueprint for the future growth and development of the eastern section of Rosedale. For the past two years, Rosedalians have participated in the master planning process to make their voices heard and advocate for their vision of this community. In the coming months and years, there will be many opportunities to continue to make your voice heard as the plan is implemented.

Here at RDA, we hope to see the Master Plan implementation decisions made based on the vision that Rosedalians identified in the first round of public meetings: the vision of a vibrant, diverse, and walkable neighborhood with metro wide access that provides a delightful and safe place to live, work, shop, and play. We hope to see the implementation process guided by the same principles of broad and deep community participation and engagement that characterized the master planning process.

The planning team, made up of BNIM, inSITE Planning, TranzSystems and EPS, began with the Rosedale Community Survey results. In 2015, the Rosedale Community Survey asked Rosedalians to share their needs and priorities for Rosedale’s future. 814 Rosedalians completed the survey, more than double the number needed for 95% confidence in the results. The planning team used the results to guide their initial conversations with the community.

From there, the planning team attended neighborhood groups and community events, hosted neighborhood walks, convened focus groups in English and Spanish, and met with a number of other groups and individuals. RDA helped spread the word about the public meetings through billboards, post cards, and social media. Throughout 2016, you were asked to show up, speak up, and dream big at five rounds of public meetings – and you answered the call every step of the way. A total of 250 individuals (not counting RDA staff and board) attended the public meetings alone.

With any community of this size, it’s hard to get complete consensus. Rosedalians are a diverse group with diverse opinions. As we implement this plan, we are relying on the planning department and the neighborhood to continue the conversation and make decisions based on the vision identified by the community.

If you would like regular updates about development happening in Rosedale and opportunities to weigh in on new development proposals, contact erin@rosedale.org.

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**Nutrition-Education-Classes**

From January to March, RDA will host Kids in the Kitchen, a four-week course for Girl Scouts Troop 1685, sponsored by Harvesters. Each session will take participants on a different culinary journey to explore how healthy eating is a life skill.

In January, during January and February, kids are learning how to make a delicious and healthy waffle (with a sprinkling of science). Kids are discovering the energy-giving properties of carbohydrates, how fat helps keep us healthy, and the importance of protein. By the end of February, kids have the opportunity to make a pizza with their own unique and healthy toppings.

In March, kids will also have the opportunity to make a dessert that’s not only delicious, but packed with nutrition. Kids learn how to make delicious brownies. This week also offers a unique opportunity to learn more about the differences between nutrition and dieting. If you would like more about the Kids in the Kitchen program, please visit harvesters.org/Learn/Harvesters-Programs/Nutrition-Education-Courses.

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**Community members are invited to stay involved in Rosedale’s development now that the master plan has been adopted.**

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**Coming soon:**

Kids cooking in a kitchen near you

By Kimberly Hunter

It’s back! During 2017, RDA’s AmeriCorps Kansas service members will again host multiple sessions of Harvesters’ four-week course, Kids in the Kitchen.

Healthy Kids Program Director Je T’aime Taylor said, “We like to promote healthy eating habits in the Rosedale community since we are about action. This program allows us an opportunity to introduce youth not only foods they may be unaccustomed with, but also how to cook them.”

In addition to being fun and hands-on, Kids in the Kitchen also challenges young scholars to sharpen their recipe literacy and nuanced new nutritional knowledge into what they already know about healthy eating.

Jennifer Bates, a co-leader for Girl Scouts Troop 1685, said, “I think this will be a fun and engaging way to teach the girls a usable skill.”

Each course is free and held once a week. Stay tuned to RDA’s newsletter and Facebook page to find out how you can sign up.

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**Contact RDA today to find out how you can get involved!**
Welcome Back, Alissa
By Andrea Steere

You may see a familiar face at Rose
dale Development Association this year — Alissa Workman is returning in a new role as RDA’s Develop-
ment Coordinator. Alissa worked with RDA from 2013-2016 overseeing the Sum-
mer Youth Employment and Feed-a-
Family programs and working on RDA’s communications, fundraising and day-
to-day operations. In her new role, Alissa will ensure that RDA is finan-
cially stable and has all the
resources needed to build a strong and healthy community for all those who live, work and play in Rosedale.
Here at RDA we have always appreciated Alissa’s deep commitment to relation-
ship and community, her stel-
lar organizational and project management skills, and her love for Rosedale. Now we
are delighted that she is bringing
her years of fundraising experience to RDA. Funding from individu-
als, businesses, and institu-
tions enables RDA to provide programs like youth sports, community gardens, neigh-
bورhood cleanups, and community events. As our programs grow, so do our
financial needs, and we are grateful that Alissa is here to help us grow.
In addition to her work
with Rosedale, Alissa serves as the Development Direc-
tor for Camps for Change, another wonderful Kansas
City nonprofit that provides an overnight camp experience for youth with autism spectrum disorders. She is an avid vol-
unteer who is involved in youth programs and environmental advocacy, and an enthusiastic
Rosedale Farmers Market customer. She has a Master’s
in Public Administration from
the University of Missouri-
Kansas City and Professional
Certification in nonprofit fun-
drasing.