Our mission is to work with residents, businesses, and institutions to develop a thriving Rosedale community.
Letter from the Executive Director

What makes Rosedale thrive? In RDA’s 42 years, we have worked with neighbors to solve immediate problems, like an overgrown lot or a need for a new playground. We have also worked to fix the root causes that lead to those problems, like the geography that led to flooding on Southwest Boulevard or the under-investment in our area that led to too few sidewalks and trails. Above all, we have learned that what makes Rosedale thrive is the people who live, work, and play here, coming together to build a better community.

Grateful for you,
Erin Stryka

Board of Directors 2019

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2019 AT A GLANCE

594 volunteers gave their time to help Rosedale thrive

10 youth worked their first job at a Rosedale business in the Summer Youth Employment program

20 Rosedale elders, veterans, and people with disabilities had their homes repaired

Raised over $13,000 with 31 sponsors and 120 players partners in the 3rd annual Disc de Triomphe

Took on management of two beloved Rosedale programs:
- Rainbow Summer Program (RSP), teaching reading, health and wellness, and advocacy to 100 kids in grades K-8
- Rosedale Future Professionals (RFP), teaching financial literacy and entrepreneurship to middle school students

Added two full-time positions:
- Samanthé Burton-Bosket, Program Coordinator for RSP and RFP
- Sarah Waggoner, Office Manager and Communications Coordinator
ARCH: Advancing Rosedale Community Health

2019 marked 10 years since the launch of the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative (RHK), a collaborative effort to increase access to healthy food, expand opportunities for youth activities, and improve access to active transportation. In that time, RHK’s progress has included launching Rosedale Farmers Market as well as nine community gardens and orchards, implementing wellness policies in daycare and summer programs, increasing youth sports programs, and building new sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails. After 10 years, however, the RDA team knew that this program model had taken us as far as it could.

Poverty, limited resources, and structures and policies that do not support a healthy and balanced lifestyle continue to keep Rosedale as a whole from thriving. Rosedalians can access healthy food and be active through each of our programs, but between program sessions, over-stretched parents still struggle to make ends meet before worrying about how to incorporate healthy eating and active living into day-to-day life. Rosedale’s tenacious advocacy has resulted in new infrastructure supporting healthy living, but limited resources in Wyandotte County as a whole mean that every sidewalk is the result of a years-long struggle. A new sidewalk built in Rosedale too often means a sidewalk will not be built in another neighborhood.

In 2019, RDA launched the Advancing Rosedale Community Health project (ARCH) to combine programs targeting physical health along with building the civic engagement and economic stability our neighborhoods need for long term, sustainable health. It combines programs, events, services, and advocacy that focus on seven core competencies related to community health: healthy eating, active living, managing money, getting and keeping a job, community service, connecting with neighbors, and advocacy.

Programs build community for all ages

Embedded within the ARCH project are programs for all ages that focus on some of the seven core competencies related to community health. While many programs carried over from Rosedale Healthy Kids, RDA expanded their scope by including aspects of community service, advocacy, budgeting, and/or connecting with neighbors.

In 2019, RDA also expanded our programming by taking over the management of two programs from our neighboring organization, Sharing Community in Rosedale: Rainbow Summer Program and Rosedale Future Professionals. Both programs provide valuable out-of-school programming for youth while supporting the strategies within the ARCH project.

In partnership with many regional organizations, RDA provided programs for over 600 Rosedalians during 2019.

Neighbors advocate for quality development

Advocacy for a community that serves the needs of all who live, work, and play in Rosedale is instrumental to the ARCH project. Not only does RDA engage in local, regional, state-wide, and national advocacy, through the ARCH project, we also provide tools and resources for Rosedalians to speak out on community issues they care about.

RDA hosts the Rosedale Leadership Council, an open group for both individuals and business in Rosedale to connect while sharing ideas and concerns about the community. Each monthly meeting has a guest speaker who brings information and invites discussion and advocacy on timely topics.

People grow with their neighborhood

ARCH provides a pipeline of programs, community service, and civic engagement from elementary through adulthood. As youth participate in walking school bus and sports programs, RDA teaches them how to write their city officials for sidewalk and park improvements. As teenagers go through our Summer Youth Employment program, they’re learning how to get in contact with lawmakers to advocate for living wages. As adults join community gardens, they are advocating for greater healthy food access and fair housing costs. As neighbors of all ages engage in community service, they gain ownership and pride in their community.

Rosedalians who participate in ARCH programs and events grow in their ability to build the neighborhoods we need for a thriving Rosedale.
The Impact of ARCH in 2019

Active Living
The Rosedale Rockets soccer team began their season in early September, when the sun stayed out long into the evening. As the days got shorter, parents aimed their car headlights towards the practice field in order for the youth to see.

“Someone asked who we could talk to in order to get lights at the practice field, and we had the idea for our advocacy project,” reflected Victor Michimani, former RDA AmeriCorps member, longtime collaborator, and soccer team coach.

Healthy Eating
2019 saw the return of a beloved program to Rosedale: Harvesters Kids in the Kitchen. “I asked every student to try at least one bite of everything before deciding whether or not they like something,” said RDA AmeriCorps member Nicole Candelaria, “I loved watching their reactions as they discovered something they thought they would hate actually tasted really good!”

RDA added two new elements to Kids in the Kitchen: making and using a budget for ingredients, and writing to elected officials to advocate for SNAP benefits.

Getting and Keeping a Job
In 2019, RDA hired 10 Rosedale students for the Summer Youth Employment Program. Bike Walk KC provided their Earn-a-Bike program to remove a barrier in the program of the youth not having transportation to and from their job site. With bikes and new skills in hand, the students spent six weeks working in childcare, food service, warehouses, and retail businesses in Rosedale. Along the way, they received coaching and training on interview skills, resume and cover letter writing, and professionalism at work.

Managing Money
In 2019 we welcomed a new program, Rosedale Future Professionals, developed by volunteer David Bluford, to teach financial literacy and entrepreneurship to middle schoolers. At the end of the semester, students presented their business ideas and plans for success to six community volunteers in a “Shark Tank” style activity. Students who complete the program receive a stipend for some real-world saving and spending experience.
Advocacy
With the launch of the ARCH project, advocacy became a bigger part of all Rosedale programs. RISE, or Reading Inspirational Stories to Empower, was up first. Fifty-one volunteers read stories about the young change-makers in the Civil Rights Movement to Rosedale classrooms, and then invited children to be change makers themselves by writing to their elected officials. Rosedale children sent postcards to state elected officials asking their government to fully fund education, protect the environment, address bullying, end police brutality, and protect civil rights for all Kansans.

Connecting with Neighbors
A thriving neighborhood relies on neighbors coming together for both work and play. In 2019, seven neighborhood groups and tenant associations kept residents informed and engaged throughout the year. Neighbors also gathered at community events like Healthy Halloween, which moved to the University of Kansas Medical Center campus and added vision and hearing tests, wellness checks, flu shots, and tons of food and activities for all.

Community Service
In April 2019, 150 Rosedalians came together for the second annual All-Rosedale Cleanup. Working in groups at 22 community-identified spots around Rosedale, volunteers picked up 274 bags of trash and 85 tires.

Gratitude to Community Partners
As close partners for years, RDA has worked with Rainbow Mennonite Church and Sharing Community in Rosedale on countless efforts to improve Rosedale for all who live, work, and play here. In 2019, all three organizations collaborated to ensure two beloved programs, Rainbow Summer Program and Rosedale Future Professionals, would continue to have a place in Rosedale. Even though the management of the program was passed onto RDA, both SCR and RMC have dedicated volunteers and donors whose passion for making a difference in the community helped with the transition. RDA is grateful to be entrusted with both Rainbow Summer Program and Rosedale Future Professionals, and appreciates the support of the SCR and RMC communities in ensuring that quality youth programming in Rosedale continues.
Financial Statements

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2019

ASSETS
CURRENT ASSETS:
- Cash $152,234
- Contributions receivable 69,080
- Government grants and contracts receivable 4,616
- Other receivables 250
- Prepaid expenses 2,953
Total current assets 229,133
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET 83,954
Total assets $313,087

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
CURRENT LIABILITIES:
- Accounts payable $4,351
- Accrued payroll and related liabilities 10,851
- Other accrued liabilities 650
Total current liabilities 15,852

NET ASSETS:
- Without donor restrictions 123,532
- With donor restrictions 173,703
Total net assets 297,235

Total liabilities and net assets $313,087

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT:
Contributions and grants:
- Foundations $218,495
- Government grants 86,523
- Corporations 94,885
- Individuals 40,038
- Religious organizations 2,500
- United Way 25
Special event revenue, net of costs of direct benefits to donors $10,365
Fees for service 2,775
Rental income 46,650
Net assets released from restrictions 16,025
Total revenue, gains and other support $287,235

EXPENSES:
Program expenses: ARCH 257,393
ARCH Plus 45,750
Total program expenses 303,143
Supporting services:
- Administration 65,015
- Fundraising 48,009
Total supporting services 113,024
Total expenses 416,167

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS 91,749

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR 205,486

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR $297,235

2019 Donors to RDA Over $100

Ahern Rentals  Karen Johnson
Stevie Reynolds & Quadrant Mennonite Church
John Anderson  Ramp Up
Kate Ballock  Results Chiropractic
Bank Midwest  Robert & Mary Roddy
Anna & Michael Barton  Rodriguez Mechanical
Benjamin Lawn & Landscape, LLC  Contractors
A. Kent Best  Rosedale Auto Sales
Wendy Wilson & Jeffrey Binder  Annette & Rocky Rude
David Bluford  SolePatch
Boulevard Brewing Company  Matt Spaniol
Boulevard Drive-In Theatre  Sally T.C. & Lizardbrand
Carmen’s Cafe  Robert J. Spaniol
Cashen Brothers Properties  Strouds
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Kathleen Ingraham*  Alissa Workman*
Joes KC  Wyandot Center

* Monthly sustaining donors

For a full list, visit rosedale.org/archclub

2019 Major Funders

AmeriCorps Kansas through the Kansas Volunteer Commission
The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
Hall Family Foundation
Health Forward Foundation
John W. & Effie E. Speas Memorial Trust
Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
Kansas Health Foundation
Livable Neighborhoods Task Force
Neighborhoods Rising Fund
Shumaker Family Foundation
Sunflower Foundation
The University of Kansas Health System
Unified Government/Hollywood Casino/Schlitterbahn Vacation Village Charitable Fund
Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
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