



## Development/Design Fund Program

*A new neighborhood program for Rochester*



### News Release

*For Immediate Release*

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## Design Center Awards Grants to Three City Non-Profits

ROCHESTER, NY--December 5, 2013--The Rochester Regional Community Design Center has announced that it is awarding \$20,000 in grants to three organizations in the City of Rochester through its Development/Design Fund Program. The program, still in its inaugural year, awards grants to non-profit organizations to hire design professionals to complete pre-development studies on projects in their communities. This is the second round of grants awarded in 2013.

Joni Monroe, RRCDC Executive Director said, "We were very excited to see an even greater interest in the program after we expanded the eligibility area to include the northeast, northwest, and southwest quadrants of Rochester."

#### Awards will go to:

##### **Changing of the Scenes Neighborhood Association (COTSNA) - \$5,000**

COTSNA will use the award to hire a landscape architect to enhance a vacant lot at 301 Adams Street and create a place of historic reflection. The site is the former location of the home of James and Bessie Hamm, community volunteers who opened their home to help area students achieve in academics. The project has the support of several community partners and hopes to spark further development in the neighborhood.

##### **Coalition of Northeast Associations (CONEA) - \$7,500**

CONEA, located at 471 Hudson Avenue, is a long established community organization that promotes community and economic development, crime prevention, and youth leadership in

Rochester's Upper Falls community. They will use the grant for architectural assistance to explore the feasibility of updating and expanding their facilities. These improvements will allow CONEA to expand their program and services to accommodate community meetings for block club, youth and senior organizations.

**North Winton Village Association - \$7,500**

The North Winton Village Association is an energetic organization on the fringe of the city and a gateway to downtown Rochester. It is actively improving its neighborhood's image, specifically along the East Main Street corridor. It will use the grant for architectural services to create conceptual façade designs for several commercial buildings along to gain support and acquire funding for the improvements.

Applications will be accepted for the next round of grants in spring 2014. Visit [RRCDC.org](http://RRCDC.org) for updates.

The RRCDC's Development/Design Fund Program was established to be a catalyst for revitalization in distressed Rochester neighborhoods. It provides grants to fund costs for professional architectural and planning services including design, planning and feasibility analysis, to non-profit community and neighborhood groups and community development corporations to provide funding for critical pre-development work for projects that will engage citizens and enhance the quality of revitalization efforts in challenged city neighborhoods.

The Program is made possible with funding from the Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation and the Louis S. and Molly B. Wolk Foundation, which have renewed funding totaling \$75,000 to the RRCDC for the second year. Additional funding is being allocated by the RRCDC from grant support from the New York State Council on the Arts. Other funding is being sought to grow the program.

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*RRCDC is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, as an independent non-profit organization dedicated to promoting healthy, sustainable communities by encouraging quality design and thoughtful use of built and natural resources. Its design professionals, planners, and citizens serve provide design guidance and recommendations.*

*RRCDC brings together community members and design professionals to create collaborative solutions for cities, towns and neighborhoods. Working with neighborhoods and communities, RRCDC has produced dozens of vision plans including the Village of Churchville, Town of Brighton, Corn Hill Neighborhood, ArtWalk, Susan B. Anthony Neighborhood, Marketview Heights, and more.*

*RRCDC also presents the annual [Reshaping Rochester Series](#) of lectures and events, the [Reshaping Rochester Awards](#), and hosts exhibitions of urban designers, architects, landscape architects, planners, artists, craftsmen and projects by other design professionals who enhance our communities through their contributions to the built environment and to the public realm.*