

SOMERVILLE · FAYETTE COUNTY · TENNESSEE

Build the Neighborhood You Want to Live In

For Young Adults

Rooted in healing. Rising in power. Building together.



WHY WE'RE HERE

You don't have to leave to build a good life. Build it here.

Purpose, power, and prosperity — grown in your own community.



WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

Our vision for the neighborhood

RDE Associates helps neighbors grow food and health, claim their civic voice, and build shared institutions that last. Young adults are the engine — as builders, mentors, entrepreneurs, and leaders.

*A neighborhood rises
together — or not at all.*

You can help lead the rising.



Somerville · Fayette County, Tennessee

Somerville and Fayette County have deep roots and real needs. The question isn't whether change is possible here — it's who will help lead it.

Fresh-food and health gaps to close

Civic power waiting to be organized

Local opportunity and ownership to build



Gardening for Healing

Food, health, and healing from the ground up.

What we do

- Community gardens on vacant lots grow fresh food for families and pantries
- Hands-on workshops in nutrition, cooking, and sustainable growing
- Calm, green space that restores the body, mind, and spirit
- Elders pass gardening wisdom and culture to the young
- Real job skills in horticulture and the growing “green” trades



Image B — community garden with families

For Young Adults: Grow food, wellness, and even income through market gardens and green skills.



Civil Rights Empowerment

Know your rights. Find your voice. Take your seat.

What we do

- Nonpartisan civic and voter education — how change really happens
- Civil-rights history and “know-your-rights” basics
- Leadership development for emerging community leaders
- Mentorship that pairs seasoned leaders with rising ones
- Organizing neighbors around the issues they care about



Image C — neighbors at a civic / leadership workshop

For Young Adults: Turn concern into organized, collective voice — and mentor those coming up.



Community Building

Neighbors into a network. A neighborhood into a home.

What we do

- Learning hubs with tutoring, literacy, and enrichment (Rosenwald-inspired)
- Welcoming gathering spaces for meetings, events, and support
- Celebration of local culture, history, and story
- A community-ownership model — residents help lead and sustain the work



Image D — a learning hub or community gathering

For Young Adults: Learning hubs and gathering spaces you can help lead and sustain.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

This only works if we build it together

Following the community-ownership model that built the Rosenwald schools, this works when residents invest their time, talent, and leadership.



Give your skills

Trades, tech, teaching, art.



Mentor

Pour into the next generation.



Lead & own

Help govern the work.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

What we're building toward:



Fresh food within reach

Every family with access to fresh, healthy food.



New local leaders

A rising generation of confident community leaders.



Students thriving

Learning hubs where students grow and succeed.



Owned by the community

Neighbors who lead, sustain, and own the work.

YOUR PART

Where you come in

- Volunteer your skills — trades, tech, teaching, art
- Mentor a young person
- Give, or help us fundraise
- Step into leadership and help govern the work



Image F — Young adults volunteering / mentoring in the community

CALL TO ACTION

Get in on the ground floor

1

Volunteer a skill

2

Mentor or lead a program

3

Give or partner with us

Build the neighborhood you want to live in.

Build the neighborhood you want to live in.

Thank you.

Resource Development Empowerment Associates

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Image G — a hopeful image of the community