



## President's Message – April 2025

### Description

*"A strong community isn't built in grand gestures—it's built in consistent love."*

Dear Neighbors,

There's something sacred about the arrival of spring. The air is warmer, the light lingers longer, and the earth quietly reminds us that even after the harshest seasons, renewal is always possible. That same energy lives in North Avondale. Our neighborhood continues to grow—not just in development and planning, but in care, intention, and togetherness.

In a society often driven by fear and loud division, I find hope in the quiet courage of community. We don't always have to agree to walk beside one another. What makes North Avondale remarkable is our collective willingness to show up—with open hearts, open minds, and a shared desire to create a neighborhood where everyone feels they belong.

So this month, I'm not asking you to do something grand—I'm inviting you to do something meaningful. Invite a neighbor into conversation. Show up for a community event. Support a local initiative. It's these seemingly small choices that shape who we are.

We also want to extend a heartfelt **congratulations to Rosemary's Babies** on the official grand opening of the **Holloway House and Resource Center**. The ribbon was cut on Sunday, March 30th, marking a powerful new chapter for this vital organization and an exciting moment for our neighborhood.

There are plenty of ways to engage this spring:

#### **Green Up Day – Saturday, April 26 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Let's get our hands in the soil and our hearts in the work. We'll be mulching, planting, and cleaning up multiple garden spaces around the neighborhood. It's more than a beautification effort—it's a moment to gather and invest in the land we share. Volunteers of all ages are welcome!

#### **Historic Designation Efforts Continue**

Thank you to everyone who joined our second Historic District Guidelines meeting. These conversations matter as we work to preserve the architectural and cultural soul of North Avondale. Matt Cornell and Beth Sullenbarger are guiding this process with grace and focus—more updates to come.

### **Master Plan Progress**

With input from Urban Fast Forward and community voices, we're shaping a future that honors both where we've been and where we want to go. Traffic safety, green space, business development—every idea shared moves us closer to a stronger vision.

### **Annual Meeting – Save the Date: Sunday, May 18 at The Belvedere**

We're excited to gather at The Belvedere for our Annual Meeting, where we'll reflect on our progress, share updates, and connect with neighbors in a meaningful way. Mark your calendar—we'd love to see you there and hear your voice as we plan for the year ahead.

### **Get Involved: We want YOU!**

The Nominating Committee is forming. If you've ever considered lending your voice to leadership, now is the time. This is your neighborhood—be part of shaping its future.

As we move through April, let's remember that community is a living thing. It needs watering. It needs tending. And most of all—it needs love.

Here's to a season of connection, courage, and care.

In solidarity and service,

**Dawn Johnson**  
*NANA President*

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