



## Rysheema Dixon

### Senior Advisor

Rysheema Dixon is a business owner, educator, and elected official who specializes in community & economic development. She has been running her business RD Innovative Planning for close to 9 years, teaches as an Adjunct Professor at University of Delaware, and is on Wilmington DE City Council as an At-Large Councilwoman.

Ms. Dixon is the Chief Executive Officer & President of RD Innovative Planning. RD Innovative Planning (Plan It. Do It. Community Change Made Possible) is a community development consulting business that she founded in September 2011 after completing her two terms of service in Public Allies Delaware, an Ameri-Corps program of the University of Delaware Center for Community Research and Service. RD Innovative Planning is working toward creating a sustainable future for community members of all ages through organizing, projects and events to address their concerns and issues. RD Innovative Planning also advises entrepreneurs on how to start-up a small business and bring their idea to life. RD Innovative Planning is actively invested in social issues including healthcare, nutrition, education, and youth development.

RD Innovative Planning is contracted with LEEP Inc., to serve as the Executive Director of Delaware Pathways to Apprenticeship; Outreach Consultant for Energize DE Empowerment Grant, and Project Manager for Wilmington Play Streets on behalf of Christiana Care Health System. Ms. Dixon serves on several coalitions and networks in the State of Delaware as well as a member of the National League of Cities-National Black Caucus, Local Progress (Housing Steering Committee Member) & Young Elected Officials Network. In her spare time, she is also an Adjunct Professor at University of Delaware's Horn Entrepreneurship Program, teaching Intro to Social Entrepreneurship. Rysheema is on the Board of Directors for Connecting Generations, Conscious Connections Inc., Great Oaks Charter School and Just BE Media. She has participated in many speaking engagements across the area including the BE Expo in Philadelphia, and New Politics Service to Politics Conference in Washington, DC.

## Areas of Expertise

Equity and Inclusion

Government and Public Policy

Economic and Community Development

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## Education

MA Sustainable Development, International Policy and Management  
World Learning SIT Graduate Institute

BA in Sociology  
University of Delaware

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