



A Message from the Executive Director

I am so pleased to let everyone know that JAS has received a 2017 allocation of tax credits from the Community Investment Tax Credit (CITC) Program! This CITC award has a great impact on our fundraising efforts as it allows us the opportunity to offer our 2017 donors of \$1,000+ a tax credit on their Massachusetts state taxes equal to 50% of their donation. This is a wonderful program to encourage ongoing investment in communities that need help the most. The CITC award allows community development corporations (CDCs) like JAS to achieve many of our goals including deepening community engagement and expansion of strategic programs. JAS was awarded tax credits totaling \$125,000 which combined with \$22,000 in credits from 2016 brings out total available tax credits to \$147,000 this year.

Please consider making a donation to support JAS and taking advantage of this state tax benefit!


50 York Street Construction Updates




JAS plans to build a new structure at 50 York Street, after the current building was irreparably damaged by fire on December 3, 2016. Demolition began May 15th and will take approximately two weeks. Notification letters have been sent to neighbors. A new building will replace the 16 units of housing that were lost. The stained glass windows were removed from the old building in preparation for demolition. They have been safely crated and will be temporarily stored off-site. At least one stained glass window will be incorporated into the design of the new building, and several will be donated to Sacred Heart Parish. For more information, please follow our [coUrbanize page](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Kendall Square Association Patio Party: June 15, 2017, 04:00 PM to 07:00 PM,
The KSA is organizing a June Third Thursday event that is a Patio Party (similar to a block party concept without shutting down the street)

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JAS YouthBuild wins award at The Furniture Trust's Eco-Carpentry Challenge



On Thursday, May 4, JAS's YouthBuild students won the Best in Class, Small Shop award at the 7th Annual Eco-Carpentry Challenge, sponsored by The Furniture Trust! The Eco-Carpentry Challenge showcases projects designed and built by local high school students using recycled furniture. The goal of the annual Challenge is to educate students and teachers about the value of recycling, while providing a creative opportunity for students to demonstrate their carpentry skills transforming old furniture into new products. After months of hard work, JAS YouthBuild students built an impressive drum set and robot out of old furniture, and won the Best in Class, Small Shop award as well as \$2,000 prize money. Congratulations!

Biotech Company Tours

Just-A-Start's Biomedical Career Program's class of 2017 is now about half way through the program. From January through April they learned about cell and molecular biology, microbiology, general chemistry and the basics of organic and biochemistry while developing their communication skills through group discussions, written reports, and presentations of scientifically relevant topics.



Students also gain exposure to the relevance of the science to their future careers through a weekly biotechnology seminar. The seminar features multiple guest speakers and tours of local academic and industrial labs. The seminar also provides an opportunity for industry professionals to learn about the program and get to know the students. Thus far, the students have visited Addgene Labs, Sanofi Genzyme, Indigo Agriculture labs, and the Koch Institute.

Support for JAS's Workforce Development Efforts



JAS is very excited to build on our funding partnerships with Capital One and Vertex, demonstrating their commitment as responsible corporate citizens in the communities in which they operate. As a part of their Future Edge initiative, Capital One provides community grants to support entry into middle-skill jobs that require digital skills. This funding will support JAS's new IT Training Program, being launched in 2018 to provide unemployed and underemployed individuals with the knowledge and skills to enter IT user support roles.

A grant from Vertex will support the Biomedical Careers Program, helping JAS to provide a diverse population of low- to moderate-income adults with science education and career development to start them on a sustainable career pathway.



Bio Program 25th Anniversary Celebration

The JAS Biomedical Careers Program is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year! For 25 years, this program has provided opportunities to hundreds of adults interested in successful careers in biotech, life sciences, or healthcare. JAS is celebrating this exciting Anniversary with an event on Thursday, June 22, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Boston-Bunker Hill in Somerville.