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Meet Woodlawn Chef Bernita M. Outlaw and Her New Shakespear Rose Culinary Kitchen

A native of Chicago's ABLA community on the city's West Side and a Woodlawn resident since 2014, Bernita Outlaw's passion for cooking and food led her to launch her own full-service catering business—the [Shakespear Rose Culinary Kitchen](#) at 6246 St. Lawrence Ave. Once it opens in early 2020, Chef Outlaw will offer a wide range of foods for special events and conferences, as well as family-style meals anyone can enjoy at home.

After a brief stint in the food industry, Bernita returned to school and earned a bachelor's degree in Culinary Management from The Illinois Institute of Art - Chicago. Before starting her own business, Outlaw gained valuable experience working as a caterer with Macy's Culinary Studio and One Eleven Events, the Hard Rock Hotel, Lurie Children's Hospital and several other area establishments. Most recently, she was awarded a 2019 City of Chicago Neighborhood Opportunity Fund grant to help her build her new business.



As part of her commitment to ensure healthy eating and sustainability, Chef Outlaw will bring the "farm-to-table" concept to Chicago neighborhoods, using urban gardens and local farmers markets to supply virtually everything she prepares. Her commitment also extends to offering cooking lessons for neighborhood residents, including lessons designed for students and young adults.

"As a mother and grandmother of three, my mission is to enhance the lives of our children by making sure their eating habits are healthy ones," said Ms. Outlaw.

Please join us in welcoming Shakespear Rose Culinary Kitchen to the Woodlawn community and in wishing Chef Bernita Outlaw nothing but success in her new venture.