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## Where Are They Now?

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Rose Reid is a recent graduate from the University of Cincinnati. Rose started her Kroger career as an Intern in 2019 and just recently transitioned to a full-time role on her team. Read our interview below to see where she is now.

*B: Brandon Sandlin (Interviewer) R: Rose Reid*

***B: Hi Rose, thank you for joining us today! How have you been lately?***

R: I have been great! Lots of big life changes for me going on but I've actually enjoyed working from home a lot.

***B: That's great to hear! Working from home has been quite pleasant for me as well, and we are still able to do interviews as this! So, can you tell me about the current role you are in? What responsibilities do you have?***

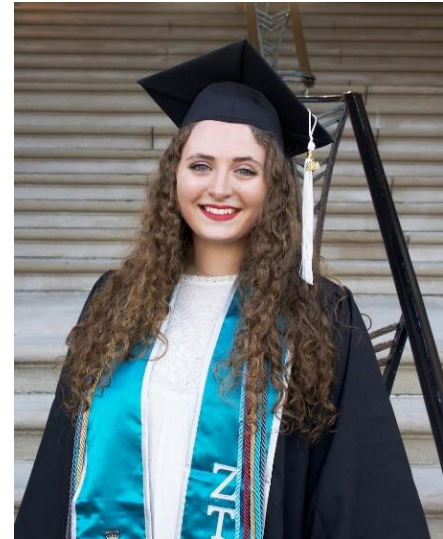
R: Yes, so I'm a Meeting Planner in the Travel department which is different than how it has looked in the past because of COVID. Typically, the meeting planners in my department are in charge of planning meetings and events across the enterprise and coordinating all the details that go with it (hotels, transportation, catering, contracts, etc.) It could be anywhere from a small 10-person meeting for King Soopers, to the All Associates or the Share Holders meeting with hundreds of people. As of lately with COVID, I have been setting up hotel rooms for our Little Clinic Nurse Practitioners while they are traveling to the different testing sites that Kroger has set up all throughout KY and IN, which I think is a pretty cool project.

***B: That's is fantastic! Things definitely look a little different right now, but I'm happy to hear you've been able to work through it and make such an important contribution! Now, you started at Kroger as an Intern in 2019, is that correct? What was your role back then?***

R: I started a little over a year ago as an intern in the Travel Department. I was with the same team but assisting much more with the Travel side of things as opposed to planning meetings. I worked with our Travel Manager, Marie Orewiler, on projects relating to individual travel and rental cars, hotels, and flights. Meeting planning and travel relate a lot, but they are also very different in a lot of ways, so I've gotten to see both sides of the department!

***B: Oh wow! I'm sure you've been able to get close with your team since you've been with them this whole time! Since it hasn't been long ago, can you recall the most valuable thing you learned as an intern?***

R: I think the most valuable thing was the opportunity to build connections with people both within my department and outside. I networked a lot during my time as an intern because I knew how great of a company Kroger was and that I wanted to be working for them in some capacity when I graduated! There are some awesome people at Kroger that are willing to take the time to get to know you and to help you succeed, so use those opportunities to meet them!



***B: I couldn't agree more! Building connections can really come as an asset in one's career. Speaking of connections, during your time at Kroger have you met someone that has acted as a mentor for you? How have they influenced you and where you are today?***

R: I'd say my whole team is full of amazing female mentors! They always wanted to teach and help me in my personal and professional life. I call them my Kroger Moms. My supervisor, Marie specifically was one of my biggest advocates from the start. She always took the time to fully explain things to me so I can understand it *completely*, instead of just understand it well enough to complete the action she asked me to do, which is SO important when you are learning.

***B: "Kroger Moms" - I love it! I think everyone needs that level of support, especially early in your career. I'm so glad you have had those mentors to support you thus far! I know you haven't been in your current role for a long time, but are you enjoying it? What would you say is your favorite part?***

R: I am! There are definitely tough parts about learning the role in a remote setting (I'm sure the new round of interns are feeling the same thing), but I'd say the opportunity to be permanent in my role as a meeting planner and to be able to take on new projects, to get more involved and to be treated like all the other meeting planners has been my favorite part!

***B: For sure! Learning remotely isn't always easy, so kudos to you! For our interns that are interning remotely and are thinking about a possible career with Kroger, what would you say to them right now?***

R: I would say that Kroger pretty much has endless possibilities for careers, so try to explore them all. There are so many different careers at Kroger that you might not even know exist. So even if your internship isn't exactly what you want to be doing, keep an eye out for something that interests you. Try to sit down with someone to chat with them about their role! I had no idea corporate companies had travel departments, and I certainly never pictured myself working in travel (I'd only ever been on a plane once before this role), and since starting I have discovered so many more departments that may interest me in the future.

***B: That is so true. I also didn't know about the travel department! I hope our interns can see all that Kroger has to offer. Thank you so much for your time today, Rose! Would you mind sharing your contact info for any of our interns reading this?***

R: Yes absolutely! my email is [rosemary.reid@kroger.com](mailto:rosemary.reid@kroger.com) and anyone is welcome to reach out if they ever want to chat/get lunch whenever we're back in the office!