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GRID ALTERNATIVES MID-ATLANTIC AND NAACP PARTNER TO PROVIDE SOLAR TO UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

NAACP volunteers help lower energy costs for Wade Watkins' home in Baltimore.

Baltimore, MD, April 25th, 2017 --The NAACP is teaming up with GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic, a nonprofit organization that brings clean energy technology and job training to underserved communities in DC, MD, and VA, to help install solar panels on a single family home in Baltimore, MD owned by Mr. Wade Watkins.

The 3.43kW rooftop system will reduce costs for Mr. Watkins' home. The system will provide an estimated savings annually of \$689 a year on his energy bills, and will prevent 89 tons of greenhouse gas emissions over the systems' lifetime.

NAACP volunteers will be on the site on April 25th to lend their labor to support an issue that has taken on increasing importance for the organization. In response to gross inequalities we see in our society, the NAACP passed a resolution in 2015 promoting equitable access to affordable clean energy. This collaboration with GRID Alternatives gives the NAACP a chance to put their resolutions into action in our communities.

Low-income households in the US spend a higher percentage of their income on energy than average households, often finding themselves making the difficult choice between buying household essentials or paying the utility bills. Solar technology can both lower bills for families and affordable housing developments and reduce greenhouse gas emissions that fuel climate change.

"We're thrilled to have the NAACP out supporting us on this project," said Nicole Steele, Executive Director of GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic. "It takes the whole community working together to make change."

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About GRID Alternatives

GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic is an affiliate of GRID Alternatives, America's largest nonprofit solar installer, bringing clean energy technology and job training to underserved communities. GRID Alternatives has nationally installed 8,000 solar electric systems for low-income households to-date, with a combined installed capacity of 30MW, saving \$242 million in lifetime electricity costs and preventing 662,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions. 31,000 people have also received training through the program. For more information, visit www.gridalternatives.org/midatlantic

About the NAACP

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. You can read more about the NAACP's work and our six "Game Changer" issue areas [here](#).