

**2016 DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY AWARD WINNER**  
**CASE STUDY: GRID ALTERNATIVES MID-ATLANTIC**

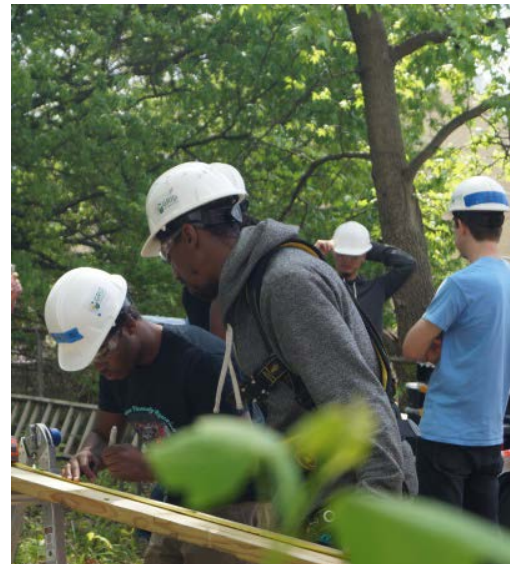


**GRID ALTERNATIVES**  
**MID-ATLANTIC**

GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic is a regional office of GRID Alternatives, a nonprofit organization that makes renewable energy technology and training accessible to underserved communities.

They bring together community partners, volunteers and job trainees to implement solar power and energy efficiency for low-income families, providing energy cost savings, valuable hands-on experience, and a source of clean, local energy for everyone.

Their Solar Affordable Housing Program provides low-income families a long-term solution to high bills and a source of clean energy, while giving local workers experience that translates into jobs.



## BEYOND SUSTAINABILITY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Volunteers and job trainees are able to gain valuable solar skills, and are able to pursue jobs in the solar under the supervision of GRID's construction team.

GRID has partnered with job training organization such as Sasha Bruce Youthwork, the Latin American Youth Center, and DOEE's Green Zone Environmental Program, to provide hands-on experience to local youth and expose them to potential renewable energy careers.

This past summer, through the DOEE's GZEP job training program, GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic offered three AmeriCorps positions to job trainees. The transition from GZEP trainee to GRID employee proves that job training in the solar industry works, and that teaching youth about the solar industry has long-lasting, positive effects.

Since January 2016, GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic has installed solar panels on 47 low-income homes. Through the 151 kW of solar installed, their organization has prevented over 4,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions from being put into the air, which is the equivalent of taking 800 cars off the road for a year.

In 2016, they provided over eight million dollars in lifetime savings to low-income families in Maryland and DC by providing them solar at no cost. They trained over 200 volunteers and job trainees, teaching them valuable skills in a growing renewable energy field.

### ABOUT THE DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS



The District Sustainability Awards recognize businesses, individuals and organizations for outstanding achievements and leadership in sustainability. The honorees support the goals of the District's sustainability plan, Sustainable DC, in areas such as energy and water conservation, renewable energy production, healthy food access, stormwater management, green jobs development, and sustainable waste management.



From left to right: Back Row: Antwain Nelson, James Brown, Dave Johnson, Reyna Askew, Serena Bruce, Rozina Kanchwala, Alexis Harvey, Roger LeBlanc, Keon Coulter, Andrew Gonzalez, Raymond Stanton, Nicole Steele, Dominic Paul-Baha. Middle Row: Nadine Pirker, Kirsten Rumsey. Front Row: Samantha Tranfa, Marc Spohn, Albert Arevelo, Sienia Arku, Henry Neoman, Michael Brown