SARAH KEARNEY

PRIME

2014 Climate Fellow

BIG BOLD IDEA

Mitigate climate change globally by unlocking the potential of catalytic capital to support market-driven solutions.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Prime Coalition is a 501c3 public charity headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, that partners with philanthropists to invest catalytic capital in extraordinary companies that combat climate change, have a high likelihood of achieving commercial success, and would otherwise have a difficult time raising sufficient financial support to achieve large-scale climate impact.

PERSONAL BIO

Sarah Kearney is the founder and executive director of Prime Coalition, a nonprofit public charity that partners with philanthropists to place catalytic capital into market-based solutions to climate change. Before Prime, Sarah served as executive director and trustee of the Chesonis Family Foundation, a grantmaking organization that supports transformational energy research, development, and deployment. Her work at CFF led her to conduct research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where in 2012 she published her thesis, “The Role of Philanthropic Capital in Entrepreneurship: An Empirical Analysis of Financial Vehicles at the Nonprofit/For-Profit Boundary of Science and Engineering.” Sarah holds a BS in commerce from the University of Virginia and an MS in technology and policy from MIT’s Engineering Systems Division. Based on her work, Sarah was inducted into the Raven Society at the University of Virginia and awarded the 2012 MIT Ronald I. Heller Entrepreneurship Grant, a 2014 Caltech Resonate Award, and a 2014 Echoing Green Fellowship. She was named as one of MIT Technology Review’s 35 Innovators Under 35 in 2014, and one of Forbes’s 30 Under 30 in 2015. Sarah is a 2014 Echoing Green Fellow.