

# DONNEL BAIRD

**BlocPower**

2012 Black Male Achievement Fellow



## BIG BOLD IDEA

**Create jobs for black men and reduce costs for community organizations by leveraging community-led solar and weatherization retrofits for churches and nonprofits.**

## ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

BlocPower aggregates groups of consumers—like Groupon—to negotiate energy savings, pricing discounts, and community hiring quotas with renewable and energy efficiency firms.

## PERSONAL BIO

Donnel Baird is the founder of BlocPower, a startup that markets, finances and installs solar and energy efficiency technology to help houses of worship, non-profits, small businesses and multifamily projects to slash their energy costs. Donnel spent three years as a community organizer in Brooklyn and one year as a voter contact director for Obama For America. He managed a national Change to Win/LIUNA campaign to leverage Dept. of Energy energy efficiency financing to create green construction jobs for out of work populations. He partnered with the Washington Interfaith Network to generate a \$100m government investment in underserved communities in the District of Columbia. Donnel has a B.A. from Duke University and an M.B.A from Columbia Business School. BlocPower is backed by Kapor Capital and Andreessen Horowitz.

### Organization/Fellow Location

new york, United States

### Impact Location

North America

United States

### Organization Structure

Hybrid

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