

## White House Names Nigel Jacob 'Champion of Change'

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The White House last week recognized CAPA fellow Nigel Jacob and Chris Osgood, co-chairs of the Boston Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics (MONUM), as "Champions of Change" for their commitment to creating a more open and innovative government through entrepreneurship.

The Office of New Urban Mechanics, founded by Boston Mayor Thomas Menino in 2010 as the city's "civic innovation incubator," works to build partnerships between constituents, academics, entrepreneurs, non-profits and City staff.

MONUM initiatives include: [Citizens Connect](#), an award-winning effort empowering residents to be the City's "eyes and ears"; [Street Bump](#), a mobile app that helps residents improve their neighborhood streets; and the [BostONE card](#), a pilot program launched in 2010 that provides Boston high school students access to schools, community centers, public transit and libraries through a single card.

"Nigel and Chris have been instrumental in fostering innovation and creativity throughout the City of Boston. The programs they've developed are empowering our citizens and making our neighborhoods stronger," said Mayor Menino. "This national recognition from President Obama's administration is well-deserved, and serves as another reminder that we are all urban mechanics."

The [Champions of Change](#) program was created as part of President Obama's Winning the Future initiative. Each week, a different sector is highlighted and groups of Champions, ranging from educators to entrepreneurs to community leaders, are recognized for the work they are doing to serve and strengthen their communities.