Sime Uppal

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Project overview

My name is Sime Uppal, and I am a junior at the University of Central Florida currently studying biomedical sciences and biotechnology. As a pre-med major I am extremely excited this spring semester to be involved in a study abroad program to Africa. In the medical world, it is all about sustainability, health, and benefits that make life a much better experience for one whether it is through health care or whether it is through. As medical professionals, we often wonder how we can make one person's life better in the hospital, but we do not understand how we could also make their life better in the community that they lived in. One of the ways one can do this is by helping an underserved community gain certain necessities that our world has, such as Electricity, which might be scarce in certain communities. For my South Africa study abroad trip, I have chosen to pick the solar project, which will help provide a better solar system to the people of the South African community.

My project is involved in solar electricity and the main purpose of this project is to help provide a better functional system for the people in South Africa. Their current system is sufficient but focuses on modern practices such as solar electricity. Their system's capabilities are limited as it only has car batteries which provide a limited amount of charge to the buildings. The new system that is being planned on being implemented to the South African community is a system that uses a solar cell which often holds more capacity for charge from the solar system than a traditional car battery would. A beneficial aspect of this system would be that it would provide much more of a continuous charge on times when the solar system is not able to gain electricity from the sun, and rather provide a continuous charge that would not fade away throughout the night. When there is no charge being provided to the system, the battery would be able to hold more charge than the prior car batteries would. This in turn would provide a much more needed electrical stability within the community.

 The budget that I have laid out for this project is a rough estimated 3000-4000 dollars. Now these numbers could change due to a multitude of different factors. These factors might include if the pricing for the solar cell increases in value. Some other factors that might increase the cost of what I am purchasing for the solar project are the need for updated inverters, increasing the number of solar panels, and wiring and conduit if needed. These items are all optional items and will increase the cost of the overall project. Currently, the group is working to raise over $22000 from corporate sponsors. As well as from family and friends. For my side of this fundraising, I will be working with my job, Orlando Health, and working with large companies such as Duke Energy and my family and friends to try to gain more money to help support the project and its needs.

The trip to South Africa will provide many things, such as creating a stronger character within myself and building a strong relationship between me and the classmates who will be participating in the trip. This trip will also allow me to basically get an understanding of what an underdeveloped country has and what they don't have and how small help from what we are providing through this trip might influence or change the society that they live in. Please support there the following link; https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/fundraising/55554db6-5476-4623-a392-896ba99ab64b