

Allyson Rosen [rosenally@gmail.com](mailto:rosenally@gmail.com)

Dear Peter,

My husband found your work and I wanted to pitch an idea to you and your students.

It came from working with my daughter's robotics team innovation challenge. Their idea is completely unfeasible but your solar heating element solves the same problem better.

There has been a 30% increase in homeless people in Santa Clara County alone and California has the largest unsheltered homeless population in the nation.

There's a stretch of homeless encampments in San Jose called the Jungle that is so large you can see it from space.

Fires from homeless encampments in which homeless people use open flames to heat food cause frequent fires.

Why not work with this community? I'll bet LA is just as bad. Yes you'll have to deal with substance abuse, mental health issues etc. But it's closer than Africa and even if you get these people heated hand warmers it would help their quality of life in this cold season.

These stories are compelling from the article in Business Insider. HOMELESS IN SILICON VALLEY: Hardship In America's Innovation Heartland. I tried to attach it but it's too big so it's a link. I wonder if you can get some grant from local city officials or industry give how close to home it is. You should have two articles, one on the rate of unsheltered homelessness and the other on homelessness in Silicon Valley. I'll bet that author would be a great contact to work with that community.

VERY best wishes for the wonderful work you do.

Allyson