What is your innovation?
A middle school science program that promotes personalized learning while providing improved and equal access to science experts and equipment for low income and underrepresented students living in Southeast San Diego communities. Additionally, Green Room will create projects designed to help students explore and address local green sustainability issues in their own neighborhoods.

Who gains the most?
Green Room will immediately benefit 6th through 8th grade students at Albert Einstein Academy, but has the potential to positively influence their high school careers, college aspirations and even future career fields. Through a robust documentation process that will be made publicly available, Green Room has the potential to be replicated at other middle and high schools, thereby reaching thousands of students around San Diego County.

Who pays?
The startup funding Green Room will be provided by Albert Einstein Academies, Community First Strategies and the Social Innovation Challenge. Once the initial operating costs are financed, the continued funding will be maintained by the school. All Employee (teacher), facility, maintenance, website and science consumable costs can be incorporated into the existing school science and technology budgets with little to no increase in overall spending. Future Green Rooms will follow our model.

What is your success?
In the first 12 months, success would be determined by improved student academic performance in test scores and independent assessments related to STEM subjects. Within three years, Green Room seeks to increase student involvement in extracurricular science activities including STEM internships, science fairs, science clubs and academic competitions. Within five years, the goal is to have Green Room replicated in five other science classrooms in San Diego.

How will you do it?
We will design “discovery zones” and individualized learning areas in one of Albert Einstein Middle School’s science classrooms. This will provide students with full time access to STEM resources so that they can engage in project-learning that is relevant to their local community. This requires new furniture, classroom supplies and lab equipment. Additionally, in collaboration with local universities, we will design mobile lab kits that explore environmental issues and green technologies.