

Inclusive Energy Innovation Prize



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CHERP Solar Justice League

Solar Manufacturing Renaissance for
Equity/Justice

*We are launching an American solar
manufacturing renaissance that brings
back solar manufacturing and transforms
the way solar is deployed.*

Pomona, California

3-minute Video Pitch

<https://vimeo.com/681995099>

Short Description

CHERP's mission is to extend the reach of renewable energy to economically disadvantaged and environmentally burdened communities. We're dedicated to creating green-sector jobs—particularly for those with barriers to entry in the workforce—stimulating local economies, pursuing environmental justice, and achieving massive greenhouse gas reductions.

We are producing the world's most advanced solar modules in our Pomona assembly factory using licensed technology from idealPV. With our team of solar energy experts, local officials, and organizations, we're designing energy contracts advantageous to local businesses, school districts, and municipal buildings, which reinvest the "profits" back inside the community and provide free energy to the lowest household income families. This creates \$6.5 million of Disposable Personal Income each year for 25 years for every 6,000 households served.

Further, we're replicating this model, teaching nonprofit organizations across the nation how to establish their own solar panel factories, each capable of producing 100,000 solar panels per year (equivalent to solar for 6000 low-income households). These factories will become part of the Locally Grown Power™ national solar factory network. Each factory will create over 700 direct and indirect jobs over 5 years. Workforce development programs will provide training, industry recognized certifications, and move graduates into living-wage jobs throughout the renewable energy and wider manufacturing sectors.

Our country's aggressive renewable energy, equity, and justice goals require visionary and scalable solutions. This is what we bring to the table.



Team Information

Team Lead Name: Devon Hartman - *President & CEO, CHERP, Inc.* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 2: Megan Anderson - *Director of Admin & Workforce Development Project Manager, CHERP, Inc.* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 3: Jason Flejter - *Director of Manufacturing, CHERP, Inc.* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 4: Ron Crisp - *Senior Design Engineer, CHERP, Inc.*

Team Member 5: Kent Kernahan - *Inventor, Managing Member, idealPV* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 6: Lee Barken - *CEO, CollectiveSun* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 7: Howard Choy - *Executive Consultant, GDS Associates, Inc.* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 9: Laurel Rothschild - *Vice President, The Energy Coalition* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 10: Julie Carver - *Environmental Compliance Supervisor, City of Pomona* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 11: George Blackstone - *Founder & CEO, Every Watt Matters,* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 12: Jesse Marez - *Senior Partner, EcoPoint Energy Services* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 13: Rod Brooks - *Owner, Innovative Strategies Consulting LLC* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 14: Tom Vozzo - *CEO, Homeboy Industries* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 15: Jim Pitsenberger - *COO & Chief Development Officer, House of Hope* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 16: Julia Stotts - *Program Strategy Analyst, Kronkosky Foundation* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 17: Mark Spurlock - *Director of Vocational Rehabilitation, Professional Contract Services, Inc.* ([LinkedIn](#))

Team Member 18: Cash Sutton - *President & CEO, Sutton Enterprises* ([LinkedIn](#))



Partners

Partner 1: Tim Sandoval - *Mayor, City of Pomona* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 2: Monique Manzanares - *President & CEO, Pomona Chamber of Commerce* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 3: Enrique Medina - *Director, Career Readiness, Pomona Unified School District* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 4: Robyn Eason - *Long Range Planning & Sustainability Manager, City of West Hollywood* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 5: Jesus Sanchez - *Co-Founder & Executive Director, Gente Organizada* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 6: Fridah Sanchez - *Lead Community Organizer, Latino/a Roundtable*

Partner 7: Dario Rodriguez - *Multimedia Manager, EC Hispanic Media* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 8: James Rilett - *Senior Director of Innovation, S&P Global Platts / Distro Energy* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 9: Victor Caceres - *Senior Director of Innovation, Executive Director, Youth and Family Club of Pomona Valley* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 10: Jan Chase - *Member, Compassionate Pomona* ([LinkedIn](#))

Partner 11: Stephanie Campbell - *Leadership Team Member, Pomona's Promise* ([LinkedIn](#))

