IE Student’s Book Aims to Help Fight Poverty, August 7, 2015

“What Starts Her Changes the World” isn’t just a slogan. Intellectual Entrepreneurship (IE) Pre Grad intern Samuel Garcia came up with an award winning business plan to help people in the colonias of the Rio Grande Valley. Instead of keeping it to himself to make a profit, he chose to write a book to inspire readers that complex problems like poverty do not warrant equally complex solutions.

“As a result of my IE experience,” says Sam, “I know that I will not have too much time for managing a charity when I am in law school so I wrote a book that details my entire business plan and am giving it to anyone who wants to make it their own so people can benefit outside of the small operation I created in the Rio Grande Valley. People often have the idea in their head that a complex problem like poverty warrants an equally complex solution.”

Sam’s book “How Goats Can Fight Poverty” challenges this notion by detailing a plan he came up with to fight poverty in rural areas like the colonias with nothing more than some goats, some plants, and some cooperation. This plan, often referred to as a “goat idea”, won Sam the Pal Make-A-Difference Award and has even been the subject of a house resolution passed in the Texas House. “Despite these recognitions,” notes Sam, “I understand that my small operation does not have the capacity to change many lives outside of the Rio Grande Valley—which is why I decided to write “How Goats Can Fight Poverty.” I want to give my idea to anyone who wants to make it his or her own. A quarter of the proceeds from the sale of my book will go to the Knapp Community Care Foundation and another quarter will go to LUPE (an outreach program in the Rio Grande Valley) in order to support the incredible work that they are doing to better our community.”

Read more about Sam’s book:

http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B013FENJQO?%2AVersion%2A=1&%2Aentries%2A=0