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Guidey Press Release

Adarsh Gupta, Koena Jaware, Rohan Bansal, Sreekar Kutagulla

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Current Problem

Homeless face issues in hygiene, shelters, and nutrition. Shelters trying to help are never enough, especially as the global homeless rates only continue to rise. But reported, if used correctly, there is hypothetically enough food, shelter, and hygiene products to help a much higher percent if not all of the homeless who use shelters and amenity dispensaries. Even though enough food is made and produced, we still face these issues to this day.

Firstly, the organizations for our amenities and shelters are not maximized, leading to the lack of internal and external communication and the waste of resources. Secondly , many volunteers are unaware of the places where they are most needed as there's no way for them to know this information. Lastly, many homeless are unable to find jobs, short and long term, that can help get them back on their feet to end the cycle of poverty. These fundamental problems prevent us from truly seeing the progress in the homeless population that we wish to see, but luckily Guidey is the solution.

The Solution: Guidey

Guidey was founded by students from Saint Francis High School and Archbishop Mitty High School, Catholic high schools in the Bay Area that teach their students to help the world in any way they can. In that same way, these students decided to help the unfortunate by "safely and efficiently organizing the homeless communities and the amenities correlated with it," as the mission statement proves. Using this app helps those who lack necessities of life, such as food, water, clothing, shelter etc., find the best place for them to go. But why use this app when everyone has been working fine before? There are a few reasons. One, this app shows the closest and most available amenity location that is equipped to give the best help. Two, this app also allows job employers to add their availability so that the unemployed can find a source of income. Three, volunteers will be able to sort through the list of locations where they can help and find the place that has the least volunteers. And finally, this app will organize our distraught community and possible lead to unprecedented change for many.

Guidey is the perfect app to help our community, be it for the impoverished, the unsheltered, the amenity-providing organizations, the volunteers, and others, to efficiently and safely complete their essential activities all over their city in the most efficient way possible.

About the Co-Founders and Their Passions

<u>Adarsh Gupta</u>

Adarsh is a sophomore at Saint Francis High School. He has had past experience in entrepreneurship through being a Marketing Head of Needed But Forgotten since 2015, the founder and CEO of Fit4Grit Academy since 2020, and has partaken in numerous courses from organizations such as MIT LaunchX and Columbia University. He plans to continue his entrepreneurial journey to grow his organizations on an international level. He is also a JV golfer, competitive dance captain, and international athlete and instructor for martial arts.

<u>Koena Jaware</u>

Koena Jaware is a sophomore at St. Francis High School. She is an avid coder with experience developing professional websites for organizations such as San Jose Pune Sister City and rAIsing Podcast. Koena has entrepreneurship experience as Director of Outreach for rAIsing Podcast and yearns to expand her entrepreneurial knowledge through Guidey. She is on the JV field hockey team at her school and spends time extending her knowledge on the stock market and sports analysis.

Rohan Bansal

Rohan Bansal is a sophomore at Archbishop Mitty High School, and is an avid hacker and maker. He is the founder as well as Sponsorship Director of ThetaHacks, the lead Java curriculum director at Stem Power to Learn, and is the vice president at his school's computer science club. In addition, he is a member of the autonomous subsystem programming team in the robotics team TKO 1351. Rohan aims to expand his area of impact and entrepreneurial proficiency with Guidey. You could probably find him playing the guitar or wiring something in his free time!

Sreekar Kutagulla

Sreekar Kutagulla is a sophomore at Saint Francis High School. He is an avid designer, coder, and an entrepreneur. He has founded Forever Coders, a computer science tutoring service, competed for the Science Olympiad Gold team at Saint Francis, did statistics and analysis for sports teams on campus and competed on the Saint Francis Track and Field team. In addition, he is a member of the CAD design team for Saint Francis Robotics. In his free time, Sreekar likes to design tools and machine parts for his robotics team, weight lift to get ready for his discus season, or read about the stock market and the current economy.

Details of Guidey

Guidey is a mobile app with an online Amenities Marketplace for providers ("Supply") to list their amenities with current availability, which the homeless ("Demand") can use to easily search and find the help they need. Besides helping the homeless, it prevents overcrowding or wastage of amenities by distributing & connecting demand and supply. Amenities can be searched by type: shelter, food, clothes, hygiene, etc. on a location-aware map. Availability will be displayed in easily-understood icons/colors that also indicate capacity, wait times, etc. as appropriate. Future expansion will include the easy addition of self-hosted drives and kitchens, reservations and waitlist capabilities.

It also provides a secondary Job Marketplace to match job/volunteer opportunities with those seeking work. This helps providers maximize availability of their resources, which further helps the homeless, while improving unemployment and mobilizing volunteers. Providers can list open jobs & volunteer opportunities, along with description, dates, hours, and pay if applicable. Job/volunteer seekers can post their profiles and search for jobs using custom filters, also set up automated searches. Providers can search job/volunteer databases to directly connect with seekers. It connects homeless people to food banks, shelters and work contractors while also letting them know if the place will be able to satisfy their needs (ie: a food banks/food kitchens/clothes bank/hygiene distributor will have colors on the map to show if they have the goods, have little available goods, or have no goods) (ie: a bathroom will appear on the map simply to show where public bathrooms are located) (ie: shelters will display if they have room or not) and tells them for Assistance Information providers (ie: homeless shelters, food banks, etc.) have

login accounts to be able to inform the app whether they can assist more people or not and they can show if they need more volunteers or workers. Volunteers can see where there are most vacancies so they can help and get a job. They have contractors or work agencies post their job opportunities

In summary, Guidey helps the homeless people find the amenities near them when needed, assistance providers advertise amenities available/capacity and job openings and search databases of job seekers, job/volunteer seekers find relevant needed job opportunities, homeless shelters and amenities provide information on the amount of help they can provide to the homeless and volunteer/worker opportunities, volunteers/workers can search for opportunities to work, and contractors and work agencies post job opportunities for the homeless

What the Future Holds

Currently, the Guidey app and website are in production. From there, Guidey will be partnering with city councils, homeless shelters, amenity locations, and other organizations to help spread the app and help as many people across the country as possible. The reach of Guidey is purely built on the intricate communication of our communities, which can help be amplified by everyone by sharing the app to others.

Contact Us!

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