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What motivates me is the desire to create something new, something groundbreaking, that can change the lives of people all around the world. In this day and age, we are so modernized that ideas which were science fiction just 50 years ago are now our reality. Communicating face to face with anybody around the world in an instant? Being able to be a millionaire by just recording yourself doing the things you love? Robots that have gained a level of intelligence that surpasses even our own? Yet we still have so many, if not more problems, worries, and inequalities in society. If we are so advanced as a society, then there must be a way to use the technology we currently have to fix at least one problem and make the world that much of a better place. One of the biggest issues for lower-income families is getting quality food while staying in budget. Because some food can be so easily processed and imported, it can be sold as the “cheap” option while healthier alternatives can be sold for much more due to them having a higher value. In reality, healthy food can be produced for cheap, sometimes even cheaper than processed food. The only issue is that healthy food spoils quickly, so companies charge more because instead of making one trip to deliver a month’s worth of potato chips, they have to make 4 trips a month to deliver lettuce, which makes transportation costs 4x as much, while

additionally making the company lose some money if the lettuce isn't sold before it rots. This means that people with less income have to resort to less-healthy options because while it isn't good for us, in the end, food is food. This is a problem that I want to solve. I believe that it can be solved if we grow the food closer to home, especially in lower-income neighborhoods. It would take some time, money, and engineering, but I believe that we can utilize brownfields in "undesirable" parts of the city to make self-sustainable greenhouses. With AI, machine learning, and some regulatory systems in place, it would be possible to plant fresh produce, have a machine check soil levels and water them each day, and tell people that come in when it is ripe and when it expires. Then, people wouldn't have to make a far commute while still getting the healthy food they need. Of course, there are some complications and hurdles with this idea, which is why I want to further my education to be able to successfully carry this plan out. If this ends up being successful, then this could be a method used to grow food in other parts of the world that also don't have access to the vitamins needed to live a healthy life. I believe that society can be changed for the better, and the first step in doing that is by having a healthy, functioning society.