# COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

#### BACKGROUND

- Underserved communities can often be without power during some of the most pressing times of the year.
- This project is a part of the EPA's P3 initiative to create sustainable technology for the planet and humanity
- A large portion of tribal communities in the Pacific Northwest rely on wood stoves to provide heat in the winter.
- Wood stoves are inherently inefficient, as most heat is lost in the exhaust.
- The idea is to find a method that doesn't require power to improve the efficiency of wood stoves.

#### HOW DO WE MAKE A WOOD STOVE MORE **EFFICIENT?**



Our Team installed our retrofits here:

Replacing a portion of the stove's chimney

#### TEAM

Paula Coto: Researcher Christopher Mathis: Builder/Designer William Statler: Bookkeeper/Clerical Overseer Zachary McDonough: Researcher **Dr. Nordica MacCarty:** Faculty advisor/sponsor



# Mechanical, Industrial, and Manufacturing Engineering

# HEATING HEROES!

Wood Stove Retrofits for improving heating in tribal and

### underserved communities.

Our team used these retrofits to increase the efficiency of the wood heaters:

#### HEAT SPREADER

Runs exhaust gas through a series of smaller tubes to increase surface area while slowing flow.



## ATTACHABLE FINS

Corrugated fins are added via a "strap-on" design. Extremely low cost, not as effective as proper fins.



# HEAT EXCHANGER

Uses secondary chamber to preheat the stove air, causing a more powerful and efficient burn.





leat Output	Plain Chimney	Plain Chimney with Fan (Slow)	Plain Chimney with Fan (Fast)	Heat Spreader	Heat Exchanger	Outside Fins	Attachable Fins
Calculated	796.6 W	857.7 W	1313 W	1444 W	1946 W	1914 W	1812 W
xperimental	433 W	932 W	600 W	2147 W	2441 W	2103 W	1105 W

Increased surface area causes more efficient heat transfer at very low installation cost.

OUTSIDE FINS



Research feasible ideas requires evaluating overall goals:



# MIME 608

# DESIGN PROCESS

- Affordability
- Increased Effectiveness
- Low Installation Costs
- Mass Producibility

### **ROUGH PROTOTYPING**

Construct low cost, simple models out of cardboard to evaluate size and complexity



#### **REFINED PROTOTYPING**

Construct more refined models to evaluate final assembly difficulties



## Special Thanks to Aprovecho Research Center in Cottage Grove