



IMPACTATHONS: Student-Led Peer-to-Peer Learning in Community Social-Change Technology Projects

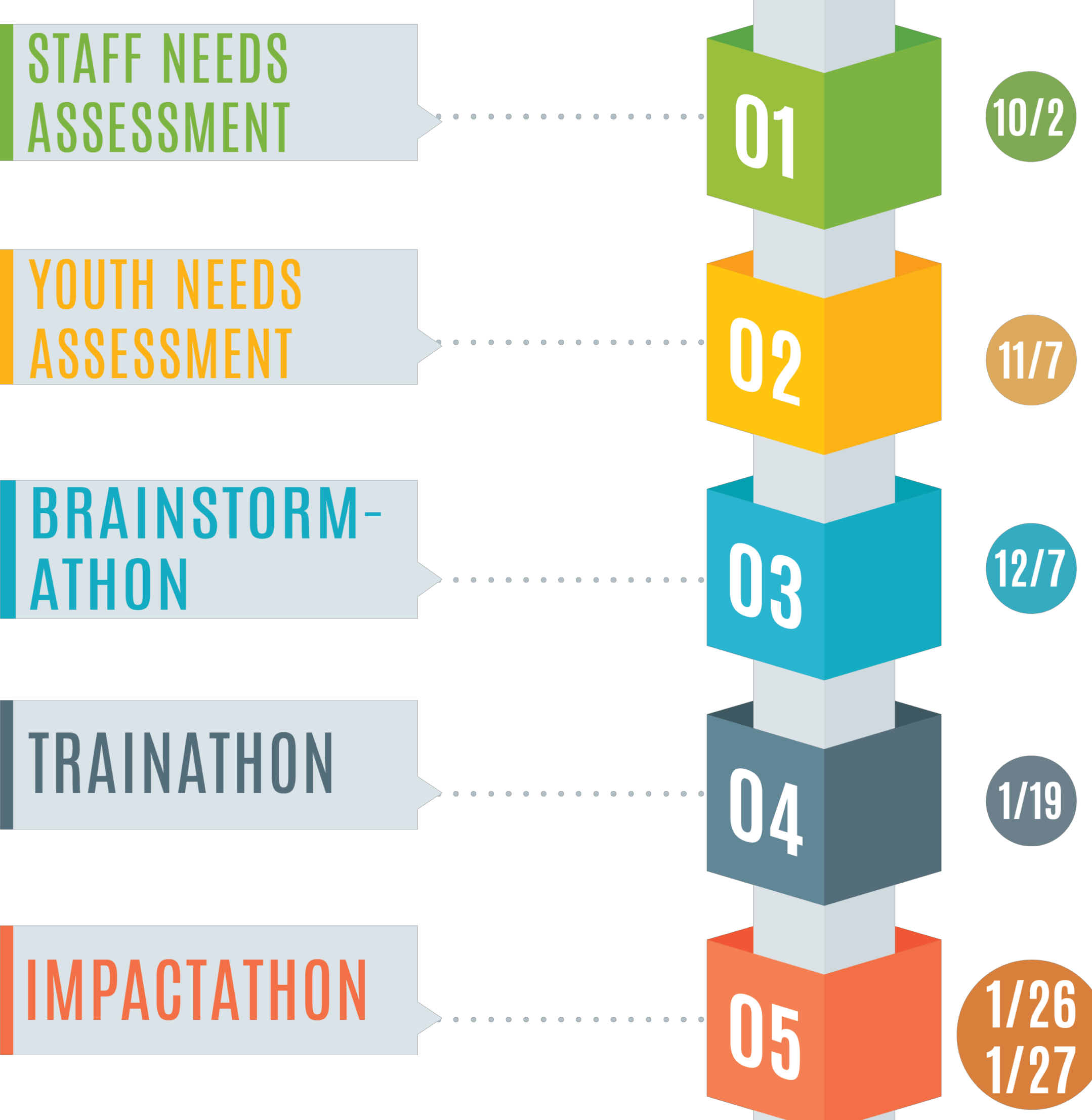
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Tech for Social Good in Communities Of Color

- In partnership with the Digital NEST, students engage in near to peer learning with a technical tool for the benefit of a nonprofit that tackles issues the youth are passionate about
- Youth build first from an 'internal' Impactathon, to planning and developing an additional Impactathon for a local partner and then traveling to another partner elsewhere in the state
- Participants range from 14 to 24 from UC Santa Cruz students to middle schoolers from Watsonville and Salinas

The Process

IMPACTATHON 1 TIMELINE



Impactathon 1 - Internal with the Digital NEST

Our hypothesis: Near-to-peer and peer-to-peer learning in using technology for social change can increase confidence and motivation for youth of color to learn technology skills

Day 1 focused on community building and having the youth create a social media campaign with their own slogan and hashtag

Day 2 focused on incorporating their hashtag and slogan into social media graphics using Adobe Illustrator, from Snapchat filters to Instagram posts



#MYNESTJOURNEY
TECH 4 YOU BY YOU



Questions & Inquiries

- *Balancing Self-direction and Structure:* How do we best create an environment that encourages youth ownership over their own learning? How do we keep them intrinsically motivated to engage in self learning? How much structure and guidance do they need to feel authentic in their near to peer learning? When do you have too much structure?
- *Integrating Technology:* How do we help youth to see technology not as an intimidating concept but rather as a collaborative and communal tool for social good? How do we effectively integrate social change activities with technology learning?
- *Linking Short and Long-Term Change:* How can we maximize the benefits of the short (1-2 day) and intensive time we have with youth in changing perceptions and giving underrepresented youth confidence and motivation to pursue learning technology in the future? How can we best build from one experience to the next? How can we assess the long term impact of events like these? What's the long term impact of events like these, where you have hands on learning for such a concentrated period of time?

