Rapid Response Workshop Agenda

Agenda

I. Intro; Veronica and intro Em as host (5 min)
II. Information about the [Brigade Project Index](); Bonnie (5min)
III. [Presentation]() from Hack for LA, Bonnie Wolfe and Liza Garrison (10 min)
    A. [Food Oasis]()
IV. Presentation from Code for Tulsa, Carlos Moreno (10 min)
SNAP Screener: ([slide deck]()) ([github]()) ([live demo]() (for testing; please select test school))
V. [Presentation from Code for Pittsburgh](), Melinda Angeles (10 min)
VI. Presentation about EITC "Partner Enablement Team" Code for San Jose; Diana (20 min)
    A.
VII. Conversation about Ethical Project Sourcing; Melanie, Greg, Jess (30 min)
    A. [Digital Disaster Response: Creating Tech-Based Resources]()
    B. [Something is not necessarily better than nothing: Introducing the Principles of Equitable Disaster Response]()

Notes

- Brigade Project Index documentation
  - Some info https://brigade.cloud/
  - Anyone can search for projects by topic tags directly at github (e.g., searching [covid19 projects that are in code for america's network](), or [global covid19 projects]()) The only thing that keeps your project from showing up when people search is not using github's topic tags. We recommend the following tags
    - Name-of-your-brigade (or other org)
    - Name-of-your-parent-org (e.g. code-for-america
    - Name-of-their-parent-org (e.g. code-for-all)
    - civictechindex (a HackforLA project that seeks to index not only CfA projects, but all civic tech open source projects globally)
    - …and then tags that describe your project (e.g., .covid19, eitc, food-waste, etc.
  - Its is also possible to create your own visualization of the index using the Github API. Here are some of ours
    - [A live map of all projects tagged in the CfA network]()
    - [A proof of concept]() - only to show was is possible

- **SNAP Screener/Carlos Moreno:** Today we have a working SNAP Screener, built in partnership with a nonprofit and our local school district. Our partner organizations' goal was for families to connect with a human being at the end of the screener process to ease the process for applying for SNAP if the family may be eligible, OR to try to find other ways to help if they may not be.
  - Next steps / would love some help with:
    - Better documentation of the current tool and its intent, as well as how it works and how to customize it if you want to fork it for use in your community.
    - Making a more "generic" / statewide version that does not have the agency connection piece. The use case for this would be connecting families to a screening tool where they can self-navigate the process, should an agency not be available
    - Connect the screener to 18F's [SNAP eligibility API](). Currently in touch w/ Alexander Soble @ 18F to map out what this looks like / how it can work, etc.

- **EITC/Diana Laster:**
  - Problem- largest participation gap among services. Folks aren't using it.
    - Need:HELP applying
    - VITA- IRS initiative: opp for C4A partnership
      - Challenges, inefficient; **clinics closed**
      - Need support :
        - GetYourRefund
        - Join us! http://c4a.me/eitc-volunteer !

  - Problem-Need for Advocacy to bring back EITC in the 6 states (including Oklahoma) which have removed EITC refundability
    - What other states?
- **OpenReferral/Greg Bloom:** Common experiences . Hurricane Irma. Series of in person event, sharing with network of organizers. Articulated a set of principle for people who want to the help in situations like this. Equitable and x response. Equity is increasingly something brigades thinking about. Eq priority allocates resources to people who need it more. This is a crisis that affects all of us, and yet there are those of us who are more vulnerable. Avoid mistakes, and potentially find a chance to be useful. We've incorporated organizers from many places: glanceable. Jen Pahlka gave great example: more often tell you what not to do. She said don't map testing sites in the first weeks of COVID-19. "Ask – and listen." : don't just imagine what people need. Who to ask? " Ring theory" model of says aggrieved person or ppl most impacted are

at the center of a set of concentric circles. Partners are the next layer out, ppl who help them are next level out. Distribute power. Collab strategically w institutions (ask communities). Seek appropriate soln's (e.g. jetskis to rescue people from houses is not). Use appropriate tech. Iteration of principles help align your work with ppl you want to help. Medium [piece](#) links to a google doc.

- **[bit.ly/digitial-disaster-response](#) /Jess S: OpenOakland:** Directly related to Greg Bloom bit above. Slides of provocations: "what does it mean to offer help and to partner?" Most impacted communities are already doing work. Already structures in place in places you want to help. Community organizer to Jess: "Oh you're a tech person coming in with computers but thats not how our world works" : She gave me this, document and we've been putting that everywhere. Bloom: "Humility, it doesn't work all that much. Sit in community and ask: How can I help people who are solving these problems"

- **Laura Biediger, Code for Durham:** FYI: if you're interested in connecting with government employees working to center a racial equity lens in their covid-19 response, check out GARE's (Government Alliance on Race & Equity) weekly call and evolving guidebook: [https://garemembers.racialequityalliance.org/membergroups/community-home?CommunityKey=0a46add3-52a3-4f0a-97ed-f43b2df60b57](#)

- Q/A: Isaac Wang, military comes in and "takes other people jobs" deconflicted vs. org charts. For us to get into their ecosystem, must build relationships before disaster time.

Workshop Prep

Ethical Project Sourcing Conversation
1) Each presenter (Melanie, Jess, Greg) takes 2-3 minutes to discuss a key takeaway
2) Ask participants:
   a) Does anyone have experiences working with partners and identifying projects that help solve a partner's need?
      i) How did the partnership work?
      ii) What were success points?
      iii) What were pain points?
   b) What are some challenges you've had in working with partners?
      i) Anything we can give advice on or help with?

Helpful Information to have in Your Presentation
- What did the team structure look like?

- How long did the project take you? Show a timeline to show how long various parts of the project took.
- How did you start with the concept, and then end up with the end result?
- Include links to documentation: GitHub, finished product, any other important resources
- How can someone engage in a similar project in their location?
- Did you have any important partners? How did they contribute and how did you manage the relationship?
- Anything someone should be aware of if they're looking to replicate the project?