Ideas to Serve Competition Workshops

Nested Systems: January 25
Jay Cranman of Hands On Atlanta will be showing us how to be aware of, understand, and analyze nested systems around issues. Understanding how changes within a system can affect the sustainability of the systems that are nested within it as well as the larger systems in which it exists helps us to identify strategies and collaborations to leverage change within our system of interest.

Impact Gaps Canvas: February 8
Daniela Papi-Thorton will walk us through the Impact Gaps Canvas to better understand the landscape of a problem and possibly identify some paths to contribute to a solution. We'll identify potential gaps between prior solutions that have already been acted upon, and our understanding of the current problem space, to create meaningful areas in which we can address our impact efforts.

Basic Research: February 15
Georgia Tech’s librarians, Cynthia Kutka and Liz Holdsworth, will walk us through various methods of utilizing public database archives to gather supporting evidence. Learn how our solutions can better build on great work already done by peers in our respective fields, and how to quickly filter for credible results.

5 Whys and Iceberg Models: February 22
Susan Davis of Agenda for Change will show us how to investigate the root causes of problems by using the 5 Whys and Iceberg models. Both models help us move from thinking about the immediate visible problem or symptom toward understanding the underlying systemic structures and institutional conditions that lead to negative outcomes.

Asset Based Community Development: March 1
Serve-Learn-Sustain of Georgia Tech will lead us through an Asset Based Community Development workshop to better identify assets already existing in communities where we are seeking to impact. Building on the skills of local residents, the power of local associations, and the supportive functions of local institutions, asset-based community development draws upon existing community strengths to build stronger, more sustainable communities for the future.

Stakeholder Power: March 8
Jorge Salazar of Inner Activist will walk us through a case study on understanding where, or with whom stakeholder power is held, and how to address it. Learning how to perceive and identify power dynamics between individuals or communities, enables us to drive systemic change.

Stakeholder Mapping: March 15
Learn how to create a visual representation of all the people and organizations who are associated with (or causing) a problem, and how they are connected. Stakeholder maps enables us to understand a system, visualize where we can leverage connections for change, and create connections between stakeholders or initiatives with similar goals.

Pitch Perfect March 22
Speechworks founder Joey Asher will show us the fundamentals of creating and delivering simple, persuasive presentations. We'll gain skills to help pitch to projects, get buy-in from stakeholders, and deliver in a style that connects.