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Piloting a Winter Break Internship Program Building a Plane While Flying It

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# Who is On Point for College?





#### **Presentation Content**

- Overview of a pilot project that provided internships over Winter Break 2018
- Learn about our planning process
- How we leveraged existing resources and relationships
- Used a feedback loop that allowed us to make adjustments "on the fly"



#### **Project Overview**

- Project Goal: Meaningful pre-professional work experience
- Commitment ranged from between 2-5 weeks
- Paid internship \$10/hour (20-40 hours per week)
- Private sector and nonprofit sector employers
- College students and training/college graduates



#### The Initial Idea

- Proposal: We would develop and deliver a paid internship program for Winter 2018
- Match current On Point for College students and recent graduates
- Leverage existing employer connections
- Identify new employer connections as needed



# **The Planning Process**

- Review of existing literature
- Determine project activities
- Create plan to implement
- Define reasonable timeline
- Define success metrics
- Encourage flexibility





# The Implementation Process

- Internal & External Communication
- Intern & Employer Recruitment
- Intern & Employer Applications
- Selection 30 placement opportunities
- Commitment to essential program elements



## Was the Project Successful?

- Meet the project goal
- Intern Evaluation
- Employer Evaluation
- New Learning
- Replicable





# **Key Success Factors**

- Leveraging Existing Relationships
- Leveraged Existing Resources
- Active Feedback Loop





#### Leveraged Existing Relationships

- Employers
- Advisory Council
- Community Partners
- Professional Networks
- Career Services Advisors
- College Success Advisors





## Leveraged Existing Resources

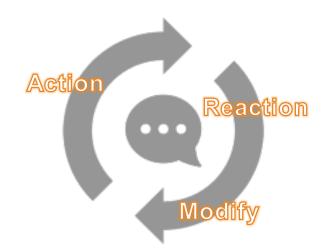
- Scheduled Activities
- Campus Visits
- Transporting Students
- Social Media
- Doodle Polls
- Google Forms





#### **Active Feedback Loop**

- Plan versus actual activities
- Frequent project meetings
  - Implementation plan progress
  - What is working well?
  - What do we need to "tweak"?
- Debrief after project completion
- Focus on priority of access





#### **Thinking About Your Organization**

- How can my organization leverage its relationships and resources to create shortduration internship opportunities for our students?
- How can my existing internship program be tweaked to take advantage of student availability over the brief Winter Break?



#### **Contact Information**

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