November 2018 Cohort

**Lina Qasem**

**Country of Origin:** Jordan

**Overview:** A robotics and coding academy with a gender focus.

**Location of Venture:** Melbourne

**Problem:** Only 35% of STEM graduates are females. Organisations in the STEM field are working to get this up to 50%, but are struggling to attain a pipeline of female STEM graduates.

**Solution:** Workshops tailored for girls in primary schools to inspire them to work in STEM.

**Allie Hilmer**

**Country of Origin:** Lithuania

**Overview:** A platform to allow users to find services that friends trust and recommend.

**Location of Venture:** Melbourne

**Problem:** ZippyCrowd believes in a world where a lack of local experience and social networks do not preclude migrants and refugees from accessing work. However, the reality right now is that migrants and refugees struggle to secure employment due to a lack of local work experience and contacts.

**Solution:** We make it possible for migrants and refugees to list the services they provide and develop a collection of recommendations for their services, making it easier for them to secure employment.

**Claire Jones**

**Country of Origin:** Kenya

**Overview:** Improving health outcomes for refugees by helping them to better interact with the Australian healthcare system.

**Location of Venture:** Arana Hills - QLD

**Problem:** There are high rates of unnecessary illness among refugees in Australia due to language, cultural and educational barriers which prevent the effective interaction between doctor and patient.

**Solution:** At ARMCare a health professional facilitates this interaction to ensure that the refugees are effectively able to interact with the Australian healthcare system.
November 2018 Cohort

Afadang Akuey
Twich Women's Sewing Collective

Country of Origin
South Sudan

Overview
Train and employ migrant women to make bags and clothes.

Location of Venture
Melbourne

Problem
Currently in Australia, women from a migrant background are twice as likely to be unemployed compared to a woman born in Australia.

Solution
Twich aims to alleviate this problem by training and employing women from a migrant background to make handmade products that are sold directly to general public.

Hedayat Osyan
Nick Tiling Services

Country of Origin
Afghanistan

Overview
A tiling company that provides training and employment pathways for refugees.

Location of Venture
Sydney

Problem
64% of refugees in Australia remain unemployed for the first ten years after arrival. This is primarily due to a lack of local experience and social networks.

Solution
Nick Tiling Services provides employment opportunities through the delivery of high-quality tiling projects.

Alfonso Torres Holmes

Country of Origin
Philippines

Overview
A platform that makes it easier to purchase sustainable brands.

Location of Venture
Melbourne

Problem
A third of consumers in Australia want to purchase sustainable brands, however it is very difficult to identify these products in the marketplace.

Solution
An online marketplace that allows socially conscious consumers to access and find sustainable brands.
November 2018 Cohort

**Country of Origin**
Singapore

**Overview**
Providing free online legal advice for those who otherwise couldn’t afford it.

**Location of Venture**
Melbourne

**Problem**
490,000 Australians can not afford and thus access the legal help they need. Australian law students are struggling to access practical legal training.

**Solution**
An online platform that provides free legal advice, connecting those needing legal help with promising law students who are supervised by practicing lawyers.

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**Country of Origin**
South Sudan

**Overview**
Mentoring program for law students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

**Location of Venture**
Melbourne

**Problem**
Of the 2000 barriers who currently practice in Victoria, only 9% of legal professionals speaks a language other than English. This is due to law students from diverse cultural backgrounds not having the social networks to break into a network driven industry.

**Solution**
A mentoring program that connects diverse law students to legal professionals in Victoria. This program is specifically designed for students of diverse cultural backgrounds encouraging open and positive relationships between mentor and mentee.

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**Country of Origin**
Colombia

**Overview**
Provides trauma-informed yoga programs.

**Location of Venture**
Melbourne

**Problem**
While yoga has been scientifically proven to have a positive effect on those affected by trauma, it is often inaccessible to these individuals.

**Solution**
Yoga in Action works with organisations that represent trauma survivors and develops yoga programs that are specific to their needs.

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South Sudan

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**Solution**
A mentoring program that connects diverse law students to legal professionals in Victoria. This program is specifically designed for students of diverse cultural backgrounds encouraging open and positive relationships between mentor and mentee.
**November 2018 Cohort**

**Chol Abednego**
**Country of Origin**: South Sudan
**Overview**: Provides disability support services for migrants and refugees.
**Location of Venture**: Sydney
**Problem**: Migrants with a disability do not receive the same level of support as local Australians. This is due to cultural and language differences that typical disability support services are not equipped to handle.
**Solution**: Brilliant Care matches individuals with carers of the same cultural and linguistic background to appropriately guide them through the Australian disability system.

**Naishadh Gadani**
**Country of Origin**: India
**Overview**: A career coaching service for migrants.
**Location of Venture**: Melbourne
**Problem**: Of the 130,000 skilled migrants that settle in Australia each year, 70% can not find work in their own field. This is due to employers hesitancy to employ a candidate with overseas qualifications and experience.
**Solution**: A training program specifically designed to help migrants become more employable in the Australian market.

**Huy Nguyen**
**Country of Origin**: Vietnam
**Overview**: A training platform for disability support workers.
**Location of Venture**: Melbourne
**Problem**: Australia’s disability support workforce has the second highest rate of workplace injury. This is primarily due to a lack of training. Further to this, half a million people in Australia rely on disability support workers to help them through their day. In two years time, Australia’s disability workforce is expected to double.
**Solution**: Enabler is a digital training platform for disability support workers. Enabler uses gaming technology so that support workers can have interactive simulated scenarios based on the needs of the people that they are supporting.