

## ASPEN CHALLENGE JUDGING CRITERIA

During Step 6, you will showcase your solution to a panel of judges. All judges are leaders from YOUR community. There are four ways you will present your work and each will be an opportunity for you to demonstrate that your team has successfully met the Judging Criteria detailed below and on the next page. The components that judges will evaluate against the Criteria to provide your team with feedback and determine award winners are as follows:

- 1. Written Report:** A one-page overview of your solution and the impact you had on your community.
- 2. On-Stage Presentation:** A six-minute presentation summarizing how your team designed and implemented your solution.
- 3. On-Stage Q&A:** Time to field questions from judges about your solution.
- 4. Exhibit:** A final opportunity to engage with judges and peers in a more intimate setting and share in-depth details of your solution and experiences as a team.

Judges will use the following criteria to evaluate your team's solution. The questions accompanying each section serve as a guide for how to meet each criterion. These criteria can help you design your solution and prepare for the Solution Showcase.

### SOLUTION IMPACT

- Did your team develop a solution that addressed the specific elements outlined in the challenge?
- Did your solution have a tangible (observable, meaningful) impact?
- What do people know or do differently because of your solution? What additional resources are present in your community that were not there before?
- What evidence did you collect that proves your solution is the best way to address the challenge?

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Does your solution meet a community need that is not already being addressed? Is there proof that your work is relevant to your community (via survey results, anecdotes from community members, etc.)?
- Did your team regularly engage community members (e.g., businesses, relevant organizations, residents, etc.) to get your solution off the ground? Were you a consistent presence in your community?
- Is there significant evidence that your communication and marketing tactics were effective?

## CREATIVITY AND ORIGINALITY

- Did your solution address the challenge in a clear and ambitious way?
- Was your solution creative? Did your team think big or play it safe?
- Are there examples of moments when your team had to adjust its work plan and implement lessons learned to improve your solution's outcome?
- Can your team articulate what sets your solution apart from existing resources available to your community?

## FEASIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

- Is your solution big enough to make a difference but focused enough to implement, right now, in your community?
- Is there proof that your solution has/will be successfully implemented?
- Is your solution sustainable? Will it live on in your community?

## TEAMWORK

- Has your team clearly identified each member's roles and responsibilities to ensure that everybody has contributed equally to your solution?
- Is there evidence, particularly from the final written report, the presentation on stage, and exhibition materials, that shows how every member played a key role?
- Did team members collaborate effectively with each other and with peers outside the team?
- Did your team regularly meet to work on your solution and implement it in your community?

## AWARDS

Aspen Challenge judges award the Grand Prize – an all-expenses paid trip to the Aspen Ideas Festival – to solutions that best meet the Judging Criteria. In addition to the Grand Prize, the following awards are also given:

**Collaboration Award** recognizes a team that shows exemplary desire and ability to work effectively with others in crafting their solution.

**Originality Award** recognizes a team that initiates a bold, creative solution that deeply resonates with their chosen community.

**Resilience Award** recognizes a team that shows incredible tenacity in overcoming any obstacles they faced in their solution-design process.

**People's Choice Award** recognizes a team with an outstanding solution as determined by peer voting.