CHANGEMAKER
CHALLENGE
LAB
T-Mobile has been changing wireless for good and now the Un-carrier is setting its sights even higher by giving youth some tools to change the world for good! The T-Mobile Changemaker Challenge is a nationwide search to find teens and young adults with big ideas around how to create positive long-lasting change in their communities. Over the past few months, judges from T-Mobile and Ashoka partnered and reviewed submissions from youth teams (between the ages of 13 and 23) from across the country to select the winners.

The top 30 selected teams will now participate in a two-day immersive Changemaker Lab at T-Mobile’s Headquarters in Bellevue. At the Lab, they will receive in-depth mentorship and skills training with T-Mobile senior leadership and get the chance to collaborate with their fellow Changemakers. All 30 winning teams will also receive a new device and a portion of nearly $60,000 in seed funding from the T-Mobile Foundation. The highlight of the Lab will be each team formally pitching their big idea to a panel of T-Mobile senior executives. John Legere, the original Un-CEO, will also select his personal “CEO Picks”. The ultimate goal: turn their revolutionary ideas into a sustainable reality!
ARTPASS
ArtPass has developed an art-centric advocacy and educational curriculum to diminish the stigma around hospitalization and, ArtPass is collecting and distributing art supplies to children’s hospitals to create a more youth-friendly experience.
MORE INFO >

AWARE
Aware’s mission is to provide students with special needs a more inclusive environment. A club that teens all across the nation can open in their school, Aware has impacted 250 students in just one year.
MORE INFO >

BADGE UP
A community program to facilitate conversation and form connections between urban youth and the neighborhood police force. Badge Up aims to provide a space where police and other community leaders are free to meet with urban and at-risk youth to communicate and form relationships.
MORE INFO >
BAY AREA SOLUTIONS
A project that educates youth about using art and media to create meaningful change in their communities. Bay Area Solutions provides local teens with equipment, encouragement and an outlet to express themselves.

MORE INFO >

BITS N’ BYTES CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION
A nonprofit dedicated to educating and equipping youth with the cybersecurity skills and training needed to help prevent future cyber-attacks in an age of real-time connectivity and con-artistry. Through online formats and engaging community workshops, Bits N’ Bytes aims to foster a generation of young digital masters to “hack the hackers.”

MORE INFO >

COMMON GROUND
Common Ground seeks to educate the general public on LGBTQ+ issues, topics and attitudes in order to increase understanding within the community. By doing this, Common Ground hopes to enable allies to speak up and speak out, therefore supporting LGBTQ+ youth with resources and encouragement.

MORE INFO >
COPPERCUTIES
A nonprofit based in the Pacific Northwest that utilizes homemade jewelry to spread awareness about a variety of social causes including human empowerment. All proceeds from the jewelry go directly to nonprofits and organizations that support the causes.

MORE INFO >

DIOS DEL SOL (GOD OF THE SUN)
A community-led initiative with the goal of bringing solar power to tens of thousands of Puerto Ricans by 2019. Dios del Sol partners with faith-based institutions, volunteers and Puerto Rican solar energy associations to help churches finance, transition to and manage solar microgrids.

MORE INFO >

DUAL SCHOOL
Dual School empowers high school students to launch passion projects that improve their communities and the world. The program believes that personal importance, professional connections and rapid prototyping are core values in any educational experience. Dual School’s mission is to help every high school student in Delaware discover their passion.

MORE INFO >
ECHO EFFECT
An app that encourages users to snap a selfie while doing good to earn points and bring about a ripple effect of good deeds among their friends and followers. Echo Effect will give charity and humanitarian organizations a way to market to and reach people engaged in similar positive activities across the world to grow their efforts and turn “likes” into “action.”

MORE INFO >

E-JANGRADIO
E-JangRadio is a localized radio show and e-learning platform in Senegal currently focused on teaching students English through on-air discussion of relevant topics. E-JangRadio aims to not only make English listening resources affordable and accessible, but also to engage students of all ages in the learning process by inviting them as guests to the show.

MORE INFO >

HER
An organization that builds libraries at underfunded girls’ schools in developing countries. According to HER, there are approximately 62 million uneducated girls in the world and most have no access to books, safe reading spaces, or learning material.

MORE INFO >
KIDS FIRST PROJECT

Kids First Project is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that brings programs and services to homeless youth living in shelters. Its mission is to empower youth experiencing homelessness to reach their full potential and help break the generational cycle of poverty.

MORE INFO >

“MEATING” THE NEED FOR OUR VILLAGE

A healthy food pantry run by local teen farmers to help fight food insecurity in rural areas. “Meating” the Need for our Village works to provide fresh, high-quality protein (meat, milk, eggs) from local farms to feed families and communities in need.

MORE INFO >

OPERATION SUSTAIN

An educational computer game that teaches elementary school students about environmental science and climate change. Operation Sustain travels to schools and works with teachers to provide custom curriculum for digital natives that makes learning about environmental science fun.

MORE INFO >
PEERLIFT

Peerlift is a 501(c)3 nonprofit and online platform that connects high schools to six categories of opportunities for college including scholarships, summer programs, internships, and more. Founded by recent high school graduates, Peerlift aims to equalize the playing field and increase access to college for low-income, first generation students.

MORE INFO >

RISE (REFUGEE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT EFFORT)

RISE is a non-profit organization responding to the global refugee crisis. The goal behind RISE is to relieve the struggles that refugees face on a daily basis by instilling passion and hope through creative outlets and passion projects.

MORE INFO >

SERVICE DAY TOOLKIT

A program to help get youth involved with community service and excited about volunteering. Service Day Toolkit realizes youth are often willing to engage in projects to help others, but often aren’t given the chance to do so until they are in high school, and the program wants to change that.

MORE INFO >
SIGNAL 365
A Bluetooth-enabled smartphone app that uses special technology to open communication during natural disasters when there is no cell service. Signal 365 aims to use technology for social good by helping victims of natural disasters quickly communicate with first responders and eliminate potential injuries.
MORE INFO >

SOLE2SOUL
A social enterprise dedicated to sustainability and healthy living through the reuse of running shoes. Sole2Soul identifies coaches and communities in need and provides quality shoes free to kids and students in the Bay Area as well as internationally.
MORE INFO >

SOUTH TEXAS IDEAS
South Texas Ideas has two parts. It operates the South Texas Ideas Festival (STXi), an event where community leaders speak to high-schoolers from across the region, with interactive idea-building activities – all organized by a team of high school students. Second-ly, South Texas Ideas expanded to include a summer Leadership Summit and clubs across high school and universities in lower South Texas.
MORE INFO >
STANDING TALL

A grassroots organization with the goal of closing the achievement gap in Alachua County, FL through mentorship and community service. Standing Tall works to pair underprivileged students with a University of Florida student or faculty member based on the student’s interests and career goals.

MORE INFO >

STUDENT POLITICAL ACTION COALITION

The Student Political Action Coalition (SPAC) is an organization created by youth, for youth. Its mission is to empower the youth to reclaim their civic agency. SPAC is inspired by the new wave of student activism, and its goal is to help sustain and support their movement.

MORE INFO >

TECH-SAVVY

A program that empowers low-income students or kids from minority groups to learn about technology and programming. Realizing that underprivileged teens might not have access to either computers or coding classes, Tech-Savvy uses an inexpensive programming technology to supply desktop computers that students can build themselves.

MORE INFO >
THE PARTY PROJECT
An all-inclusive birthday party kit distributed to low-income families to help celebrate a child’s birthday. The Party Project kits include all the items needed for a birthday party for 8-10 people, including decorations, cake, candles, birthday cards, and special treats.

MORE INFO >

THE YELLOW TULIP PROJECT
A community with the common goal of smashing the stigma surrounding mental illness while providing hope. Ambassadors for The Yellow Tulip Project aim to help teens struggling with mental illness by meeting monthly to talk and share ideas, inspire each other and drive the mission forward.

MORE INFO >

THREADING TWINE
Threading Twine is a platform that encourages, educates, and inspires youth by providing them an outlet for creative thinking to have a voice and impact the world. Through submitting multimedia content, Threading Twine allows youth to engage with media, network with each other, and share ideas regarding personal experiences. Threading Twine aims to provide a solution for overlooked youth voices and draw attention to young and powerful activists.

MORE INFO >
URBAN BEET

Urban BEET is a team of young entrepreneurs working with organic rooftop farms to provide students with fresh vegetables through school food pantries. Each family Urban BEET works with is shown how eating well can enrich their bodies as well as the soil from which the vegetables grew, keeping our air clean and oceans blue.

MORE INFO >

VAAYU

A project that builds biotech filters using moss to purify the air and fight pollution. Because moss does not need soil to survive, it pulls its nutrients – and pollutants – from the air, a process that significantly cleans the surrounding air.

MORE INFO >

WASTE NO FOOD

A web-based marketplace that links food donors with pre-vetted charities to help provide food to hungry families and reduce waste. Waste No Food uses scalable technology to efficiently notify local charities when nearby food donors have excess food that is ready to be picked up.

MORE INFO >