# **Team-Ace**

## **Members**

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Name: EmpowerMaine

Category: Accessibility

Description:  
  
Low income and neurodiverse students in Maine encounter barriers to getting a job in tech. These jobs in tech could help them get out of poverty, contribute to economic justice in their community, and help them build tech that serves their communities better. However, to succeed, they must have awareness and belief that tech is a feasible option, know the overall process and information for each step of that process to ultimately get a job, and get social support and networking with peers and mentors. Without family members or people in their network in tech, they don’t know what to search for and that tech could be an option for them. Even when they know it’s an option, getting internships and experience to get a tech job requires knowledge about resumes, online assessments, how to find internships, and how to learn programming. Even if they search for that and find that information, it is not customized to the unique needs and concerns of lower-income and neurodiverse people in Maine, who may doubt they can succeed in tech. What combination of generative AI, interview preparation, and free learning resources can help low-income and neurodiverse students in Maine overcome barriers and succeed in the tech industry? By using the incorporation of generative ai we can help neurodiverse students with their interpersonal office communications. While also providing resources for mentors, job availability, interview prep, and free learning resources.

Similar apps:

ND Connect:

ND Connect and EmpowerMaine are both aimed at assisting neurodivergent people connect with other people to help them thrive. The main difference being that EmpowerMaine is focused on networking and helping get social support in the state of Maine. ND Connect wants to connect neurodivergent people with other neurodivergent people through events, group chats and hangouts.

Linkedin:

Linkedin is focused on connecting applicants with job openings and employers. It wants its users to build up a professional profile to help find employment. EmpowerMaine also wants to help its users get a job but it will be more focused on preparing for jobs and helping low-income/ neurodivergent students get help. Additionally, EmpowerMaine will be specific to Maine while Linkedin is for anyone living everywhere.

Handshake:

Enables people to find employment by providing job listings and connections to recruiters. Handshake is primarily focused on college students, as it has options to connect with alumni and other students. It even requires a user to sign up with a .edu email. Recruiters can directly connect with candidates by sending them messages. Our app is geared towards lower-income residents in Maine and neurodivergent people, aiming to educate rather than build a social network platform. The app provides tech resources for interviews, online assessments, and other technologies that may be desired in the workplace.

|  | **ND Connect** | **Linkedin** | **Handshake** |
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| **Explain the similarities of the applications** | They are both apps to help neurodivergent people thrive in the world | Helps build resume and shows potential applicants what is required to get job opportunities | Helps students build resumes and prep for employment |
| **Outline the differences / unique features of their team’s app** | EmpowerMaine helps people specifically prepare for jobs in Maine. | Linkden mainly connects employees and employers, we want our app to prepare the students for interview and jobs | There is more personal support on our end by specifically making the app for low-income students. |
| **Explain why your app is different in that way** | ND Connect is more of an app to connect with other neurodivergent people. Ours is for a way to break into the tech industry | Our app will be focused on specifically lower income and neurodivergent students | Our app is more aimed towards low income students and providing a resource for them to get a job. Handshake is not as specific. |
| **Comparison for each prior solution at least one paragraph** | Instead of simply connecting neurodivergent people with other neurodivergent people, we will help them focus on getting a tech job | Instead of focusing on connecting employers to applicants we will solely focus on applicants preparation | Instead of focusing on connecting with recruiters, we will focus on preparing lower income students to be job-ready |
| **Task flow diagram present and not incorrect** |  |  |  |

changelog

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1g-QCr-PjKgkCwaMC1hNzAdnLSASg7GqefHBlpbwCdI0/edit?tab=t.0>