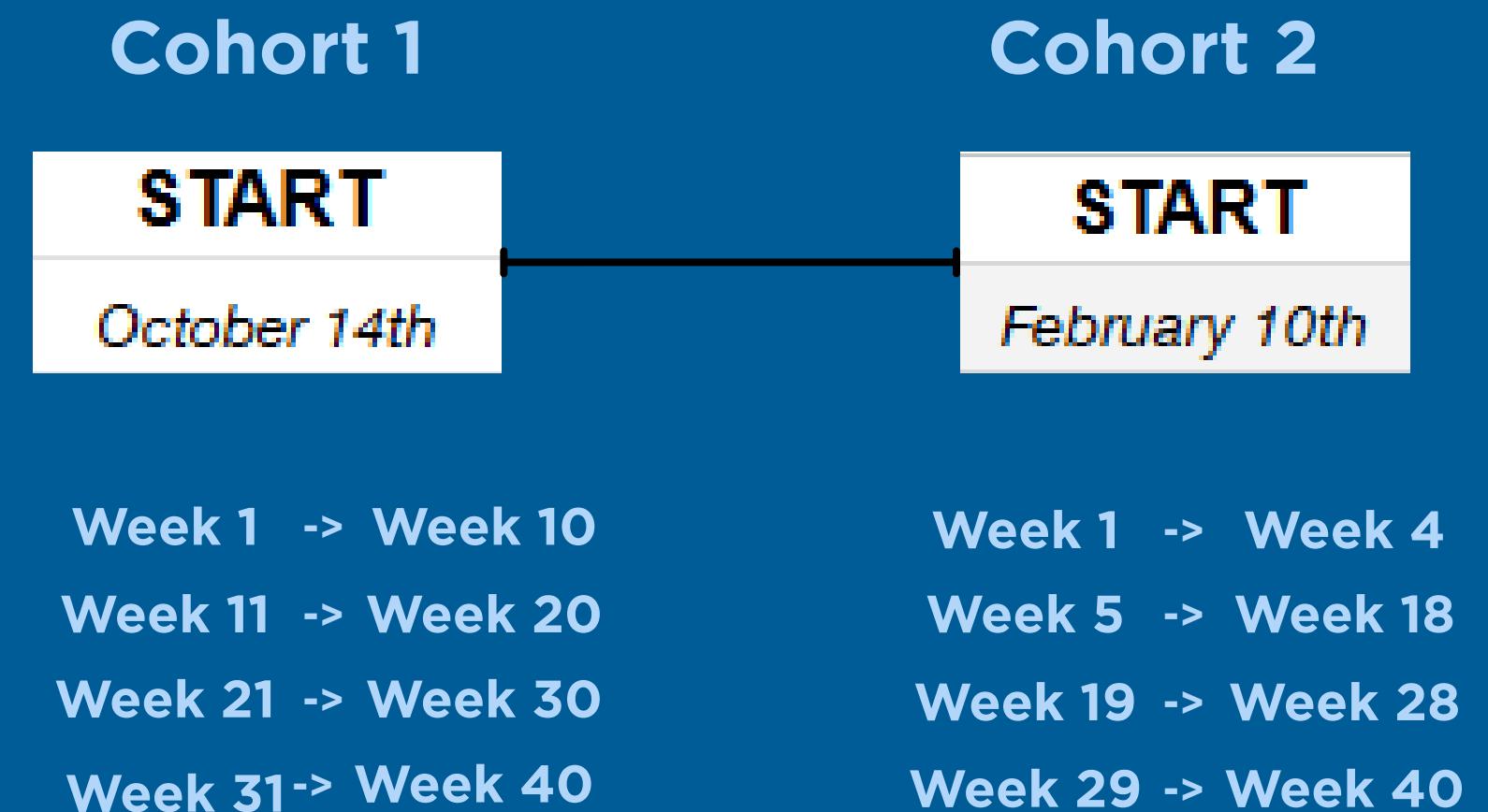
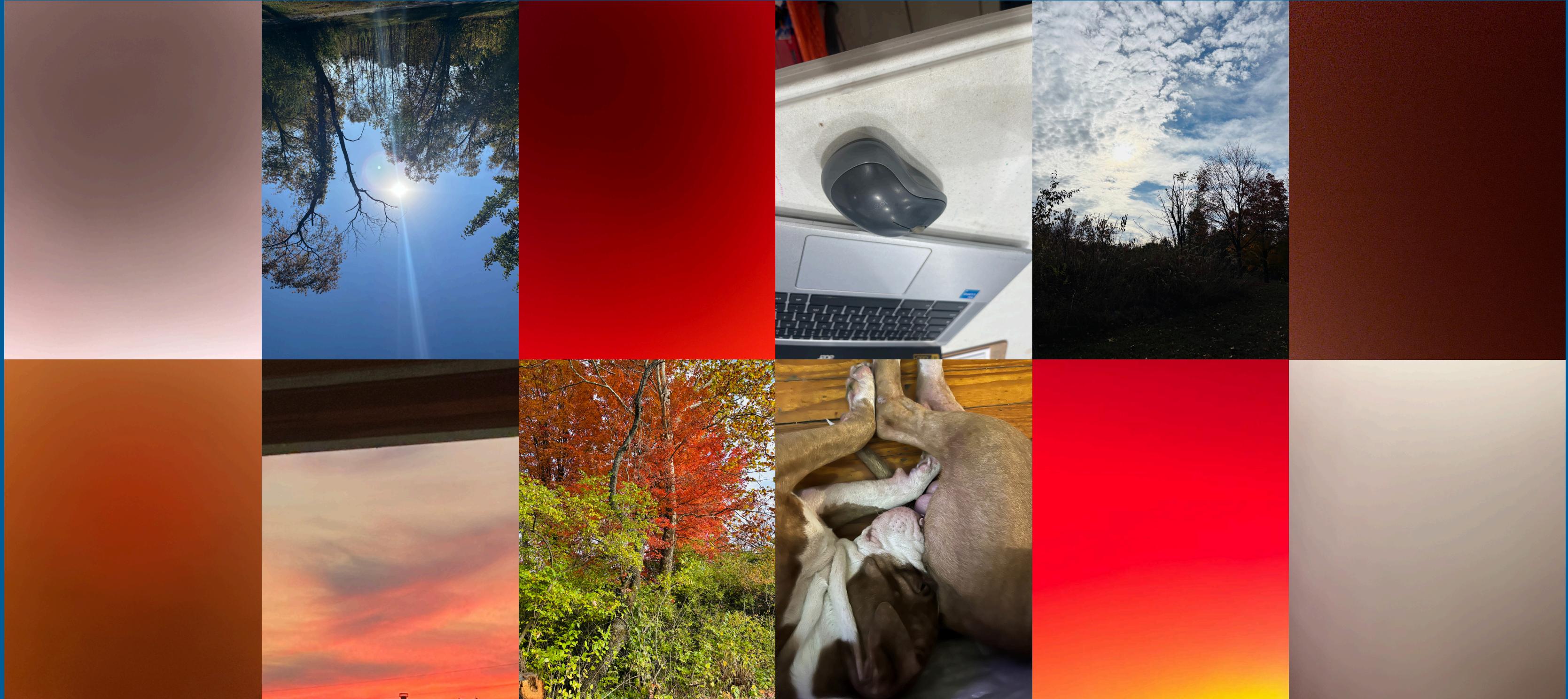


Data Inconsistencies & Missing Structure

- Start and end dates for each cohort were inconsistent, with overlap between Cohort 1 and Cohort 2.
- Week counts were uneven across phases, making it difficult to compare progress over time.
- Cohort 1 started with a negative fund balance, and the “Average Behind on Bills” value never changed across phases despite weekly fluctuations.



Noisy Paystub Submissions



Communication & Structure Limitations

- Lack of clear documentation explaining column definitions, update schedules, or cohort structures.
- Mentor guidance was limited early on, leading to misunderstandings about the data.
- No centralized data system, updates were manual, causing formula issues and inconsistencies.
- Unclear timing: difficulty determining when new phases start (major gaps due to holidays, certification schedules).



Team Collaboration & Clarification

- Raised detailed questions directly to mentors to fill gaps in the dataset.
- Received clarifications about cohort overlaps, debt management, phase differences, and update frequency.
- Confirmed that data is updated weekly and that averages represent “overall program averages,” not weekly stats.
- Asked for definitions of confusing columns (“Present Day,” “Current Day,” “Averages”) so we could interpret them correctly.
- With Kelly and Naomi’s guidance, we were able to understand the dataset better, resolve inconsistencies, and stay on track with our analysis.



Building Structure & Improving Understanding

- Cross-checked cohort timelines manually to identify gaps and inconsistencies.
- Investigated spikes and negative values by tracing back to financial behavior (debt repayment, part-time job shifts).
- Created our own structured breakdown of phases and weeks across cohorts for clearer visualization.
- Developed consistent questions and feedback loops with mentors to ensure future data is more organized and reliable.

