



## STEM Community Training Best practices

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How to effectively create and manage your STEM community training programs:

- **Research community service organizations and community centers in your area.** A lot of community centers are always looking for programs to host in their venue.
- **Keep in mind the needs of your audience.** What is lacking in the community? What do the students want to learn? These are the key questions that must be asked and answered in order for your center to be successful.
- **Research pre-made curricula.** There are curricula and program ideas readily available on the internet. Most of them are free and can be tailored the needs of your program.
- **Use your resources effectively to find students.** Keep in mind the location of your venue and the availability of your audience when planning your TORCH center. If you go the community center route, most already have a selected audience that they serve.
- **When in doubt, don't be afraid to turn to your college for help.** There may be resources at your school that may solve most problems. Need funding? Some colleges allocate funds to students groups to fund their community service project. Need volunteers? A lot of students need community service hours in order to keep their scholarships. Don't forget to use your school resources effectively, especially your chapter advisor.
- **Keep an open mind.** Remember to be creative in your planning. Don't be afraid to step outside the norm. It doesn't have to be the traditional classroom setting to get the message across.
- **Contact the National TORCH Committee for assistance.** If you have any specific questions or need help coming up with ideas for your STEM Community Training Programs, contact the TORCH Chair, Sarah Brown, at [torch@nsbe.org](mailto:torch@nsbe.org) or the STEM Community Training Coordinator, Krystal Cunningham, at [nsbe.torch.stem@gmail.com](mailto:nsbe.torch.stem@gmail.com).