Startup Weekend Encourages Group Collaboration and Business Innovation

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(ORLANDO)—StoicDan, the organizer of Orlando Stoics, and a team of entrepreneurs recently won the Startup Weekend Orlando, hosted at Rollins College on April 5 – 7. The team presented a new app called Dinner Table AI that can help families heal from conflict and division.

"In developing philosophy discussion groups over the years, I've focused on methods for promoting civil discourse, common ground issues, and handling awkward conversations," said StoicDan. "This new venture will bring these important topics into the family sphere."

The weekend event included nine teams, each with 5-8 people per team. The final presentations on Sunday were five minutes long each, followed by Q&A from the judges. After deliberating for two hours, the judges picked three winners, and Dinner Table AI took first place.

"We live in a world where families can become easily disconnected, and where parents and kids communicate little, which can create division and conflict," StoicDan said during their presentation. "With this new app, parents can answer some key questions, and it will generate ideas for family engagement. It can also allow teens to communicate with their parents on awkward topics."

Startup Weekend is an international competition where entrepreneurs can spend an entire weekend coming up with an idea, researching and developing it, and presenting it to potential investors and supporters on the final day.

According to their website, participants will "...meet the very best mentors, investors, co-founders, and sponsors." Some past attendees from this event have moved on to global competitions, raised millions of dollars, and created jobs in Orlando and elsewhere.

"Our event helps entrepreneurs accelerate their startup ventures," said Rajiv Menon, the organizer of Startup Weekend Orlando. "StoicDan's team proposed a new app that will bring together families and increase engagement between parents and kids."

Further, Startup Weekend focuses on team collaboration, but it's also an exciting experience. Teams quickly learn to conceptualize a product and then build it all in one weekend. StoicDan's team was able to develop a concept that will have a large positive impact on the community.

Startup Weekend Orlando was sponsored by the City of Orlando, Orange County Government, Orlando's Innovation League, plus many established businesses in the area.

For more information about Startup Weekend Orlando, visit the website (<u>https://orlinnovationleague.org/startup-weekend-orlando</u>) or their Facebook page (<u>https://www.facebook.com/StartupWeekendOrlando/photos</u>).

For more information about the Orlando Stoics and their upcoming events, visit the website (<u>http://www.orlandostoics.com</u>) or their Meetup page (<u>https://www.meetup.com/orlando-stoics</u>).

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About Orlando Stoics:

The Orlando Stoics is a philosophical discussion group that originated in 2015. It hosts four weekly meetings both online and in-person, uniting participants from the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, and Nepal. The group focuses on the examination of Stoic principles and their intersectionality with diverse philosophical frameworks.