

Introduction: "WeAllocate" is a new application that aims to modernize how community services distribute resources. By predicting the supply and demand of food items in food banks, this app proposes an improved strategy for food allocation. The main beneficiaries of this system are food banks, with a spotlight on the IMAN Food and Wellness center located in Chicago. Using the power of machine learning, WeAllocate intends to enhance resource allocation by studying past data, ongoing trends, and other significant factors.

Why We Need It: Food banks are essential, especially during tough times. However, they face challenges like fluctuating demand and the possibility of food wastage. "WeAllocate" aims to change this by improving resource management in charitable food distribution. Partnering with IMAN, the goal is to start a new phase of efficient and impactful resource distribution.

About IMAN: IMAN, or the Inner-City Muslim Action Network, is a notable community organization focusing on health, wellness, and healing in urban areas. Their Food and Wellness Center in Chicago plays a vital role in providing necessary food resources to the community. But, there are hurdles like predicting demand and allocating resources efficiently. This is where "WeAllocate" steps in, hoping to enhance IMAN's operations with the power of predictive analytics.

Aims and Outcomes: The main objective is to boost the efficiency and outreach of IMAN's Food and Wellness Center, ensuring the community has steady access to food and wellness services. The success of WeAllocate is not just about its technological achievements but its real-world impact on the community.

How We Measure Success: Regular evaluations will check if WeAllocate meets IMAN's goals. Metrics to be considered are:

- Resource Utilization: Reducing food wastage.
- Beneficiary Outreach: Serving more of the community.
- Beneficiary Feedback: Understanding user satisfaction.
- Operational Efficiency: Making resource allocation faster.
- Return Beneficiaries: Ensuring people come back for support.
- Inventory Management: Adjusting to changing demand.

Project Scope: "WeAllocate" focuses on making food resource allocation and distribution more efficient. The goal is to predict food demand, manage inventory better, update inventory in real-time, and provide data for informed decision-making.

Current Methods: Right now, IMAN's Food and Wellness Center combines manual methods with some digital tools for their operations. Most decisions are based on previous trends and direct feedback. But this method has its inefficiencies, highlighting the need for a system like WeAllocate.

Integration with IMAN: Designed to fit into IMAN's existing operations, WeAllocate sits at the heart of food inventory management, demand prediction, and distribution. It's planned to work with current inventory systems, feedback mechanisms, donor systems, and even local event calendars.

Competition: There are other inventory management tools out there, but they often don't meet the specific needs of food banks. "WeAllocate" stands out by addressing the unique challenges faced by food banks and seamlessly integrating with IMAN's operations.

Who's Involved: The main players in this project include IMAN, their Food and Wellness Center, and the community they cater to. The users of WeAllocate range from Food Bank Managers and System Administrators to Volunteers and Beneficiaries. The diverse roles of these users mean WeAllocate needs to be versatile to ensure smooth operations.

Technical Details: "WeAllocate" will operate as a cloud-based tool, designed for user-friendly dashboards and role-based access. It's built for fast-paced environments, catering to different tech skill levels, and can be accessed from various devices. The project aims to be ready before the busy holiday season.

Funding Details: The funding for WeAllocate is limited to IMAN's budget and any potential grants. This budget covers the software's development, testing, training for users, and ongoing support. Some of the main terms related to this project include Allocation Algorithm, Dashboard, Database, Resource, System Admin, User Profile, and of course, WeAllocate.