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344 Web Programming

11/6/2014

Website Planning

The primary focus of the organization is to help families, especially single mothers and to help them learn how to raise their kids in a healthy environment. They provide things like programs, home visits, and education to help these families raise their kids. The primary focus and intent of the website is to help find investors and volunteers. It is also supposed to act as a resource for the families and kids, providing information on programs, how to contact them, events, and so on. What the website is not supposed to be for is fun or fluff. The website also does not want to make the families feel guilty for turning to them for help.

The design goals for the website are for the website to be professional and very easy to navigate. Being easy to navigate is obvious for any website, any potential investors or volunteers should be able to find why they should help and families should be able to find their help easily. The website should look professional so that anyone who comes to it is instilled with a sense of confidence in the organization.

The audience for the website can arguably be split into two main groups. One group is people who wish to help the organization, either investors or volunteers. The other main group is clients who need help. They may be the mothers or fathers or they may be kids from the families. The primary group is arguably the people who wish to help. What differentiates each group is their purpose for going to the website. The kids and families are looking for help and assistance, the other group is looking to provide help. For the primary group that wishes to help, there should be links to pages that provide information to tell them why they should help out or donate. There should be a method of donating that is very simple, easy and secure. There should also be an easy way to volunteer. For the other audience there should be links to pages that talk about programs and other methods of assistance.

We think that most of the website will most likely be done in php and html, with a bit of javascripting. We will very possibly have a database or server based script running to help out with the website. Our development tools are the very powerful notepad++ and sublime. Yes, we hope to make the website accessible as possible.

Our short term plan for the next few weeks is to get the html, design, and layout for the website finished, so we have a strong groundwork to build up from. At the moment we are all working together on the design, layout, and html. We are pitching ideas and trying things out and throwing things together. We plan on meeting before and after class on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to work on the project. We have decided there are more times on Tuesday and Thursday if we need more time. We will likely research on our own time outside of meetings. During meetings we will make decisions and come up with things that need to be researched. Once the layout and design are finished we will have a strong base to work from and will split up the functionality of the website and work on them separately. If the design and layout take too long we may not have enough time for the coding and functionality portion of the website. If this begins to happen we may have to cut corners on the design and flashy parts of the website to make sure we have time for our strong suite, the coding and functions.

Right now Adam is currently working as the coordinator for the team meetings and making sure everyone is up to date on when and where to meet. Chris is making sure everyone has access to the shared code and files, and that they know how to get and upload them successfully. Asiqur is the timelime manager. He’s keeping track of the deadlines and making sure everyone is working hard to meet them. Ryan is acting as the user of the website and giving input from that perspective.

Things that we need to find out from the client is the donation information and how it will be done so that we can implement it. There are still many things we do not know about javascript, php, and html so as we progress through the project there will of course be things that we need to research and look up. We may need to write test code for different functions of the website. This is our current plan for the website.