

Bridging the Gap

Website

PROJECT PROPOSAL

CODE THE CHANGE, UBC CHAPTER

PRESENTED 02/08/2016

1. Introduction and Motivation

Bridging the Gap (BTG) is a newly formed group of students at UBC focused on reducing the stigma of mental illness. Code the Change would like to help BTG be more effective in their outreach by providing them with an internet presence. We also believe in the power of students helping students, and would be proud to help support such an initiative.

We believe that providing BTG with a simple, friendly website will help them reach a broader community than they would otherwise. By integrating their social media outreach, informational resources and contact information all in one place, a website allows people to quickly understand the group's goals and impact. For those who seek more immediate help, it allows for quick contact with either the executives of BTG or mental health professionals. Furthermore, we hope to provide a sense of community for those who are feeling vulnerable and/or depressed; a community of those who have been - or are in - a similar situation.

2. High-Level Project Summary

We plan on building a basic, information driven website. The site will contain information about the group and how to contact the executives and resources for those undergoing any sort of mental health trauma (and their friends or family). If legalities allow, the site may also allow for visitors to ask club executives to help them with setting up an appointment with a mental health professional. Finally, the site will integrate BTG's social media posts.

3. Project Details

Specific tangible motivations

- Provide a source of info on Bridging the Gap
- Emergency Contact info in case of crisis
 - Suicide Hotline
 - UBC Counselling Services
- Remove administrative barriers for those seeking professional help
- Provide information and non-professional help from those who have been/are in a similar situation

User Stories

- *What a is a user story?*
 - *A user story is a method to show possible use cases. It always takes the format: As a <type of user>, I want <some goal> so that <some reason>.*
 - *The user stories accurately reflect the deliverables of the project*
- Student in Crisis

- As a ... I want to quickly find local resources so that I can talk to someone that can help me.
- As a ... I want to see posts and anecdotes of people like me that have been through crises so I do not feel alone.
 - Filter by tags/keywords/emergencies
 - EG: depression, anxiety, academic, health, family, suicide...
- As ... I want to send a message to a moderator to share what I have been through so that I can get feelings off my chest
- Friend or Family of someone in crisis
 - As a ... I want to find resources that better enable me to help my friend or family member so that I can provide effective help and support.
 - As a ... I want to read stories of others who are going through a similar situation as my friend or family member so that I can better understand what they're going through.
- Club Admin
 - As a ... I want to be able to edit site content so that I can update descriptions based on my club's current needs.
 - As a ... I want to receive messages from visitors who want to seek professional counselling services so that I get them help.
 - As a ... I want to receive stories from visitors who want to share their experience through our social media platform so that I can reduce the stigma of mental illness.
- Student interested in the Club
 - As a ... I want to quickly find the goals and purposes of Bridging the Gap so that I can decide if this is an initiative of which I want to be a part.
 - As a ... I want to quickly find contact information so that I can find out how can I help.

Challenges

- Ensuring the layout of the site is informative but friendly and unimposing.
- Integrating the site with Bridging the Gap's social media stories from Facebook. This will involve dealing with the facebook API and potentially asking for specific access not typically available.

4. Timeline

Milestone	Finish Date	Notes
Static pages with styling	August 14	
Implement contact form and	August 20	Site to site meaning potential

site to site communication (if any).		communication between BTG site and counselling services, scheduling, etc. This requires more information from BTG than we currently have (access rights).
Integrate social media	August 28	Pull posts from the Bridging the Gap Facebook page to the site.
Basic Site Launch	September 6 (Imagine Day)	Site fully functional and usable.
Implement Root "Road Map"**	September 20	The road map directs the visitor, via a series of questions, to specific info on the site. Found at site root.
Final Site Launch and handoff	October 1	Website fully functional and tested. All deliverables implemented.

**Road map integration will happen after the site has officially been launched. This allows for the BTG site to be up and running and not held back by an unnecessary feature.

5. Conclusion

This project's goal is to create and deploy a user-friendly and information driven website for Bridging the Gap. Our motivation is to help the group reach out to their community more effectively. At the end of the project, we will handoff a fully functional and easily manageable website to Bridging the Gap.