Expanded Version of the Presentation of 16 07 2025 (revised 28/07/25 with Red font)

Good morning to you all, my name is Peter Mansourian.

First, I would like to convey a note of thanks to **Dr Chris Ewin and the School** for the opportunity to present this topic option to you the students.   Therefore, also a thanks to you all for your attention and consideration of the subject matter.

My take on this topic is that it has a noble purpose theme to it. **It is a topic that I refer to as 'Scheduling of Care Program' – it is a tool to assist and aid towards less stressful and respectable life outcome for people with special needs – it is inherently a tool to aid the people who care for them and manage their care to remain on task and focus on the outcomes required.**

I would like to first give very brief back ground to the subject matter and hope it stimulates your fertile/creative minds as to the benefit of the project. *Bearing in mind, that it is a subject matter that can be extended and utilised to other sectors of the community and I will outline briefly below.*

Background.

Person with special needs (person with a disability is a term you would have also heard), at some stage in their life (possibly for some and most definitely for others) end up living in a setting that is not their parental family home.   Some will live with some occasional/routine support and others will require 24/7 care and support from other people.

Subject to the capability of the person, a range of setting types are available or sought for accommodation. In cases where the person is extensively challenged for self-care, the accommodation ends up being one where the day-to-day management of the premises and the person or persons is provided by specialist service providers.

The service providers, do the best they can, but often staff turnover or availability and other human factors can and do impact on the nature of care provided to people with special needs.

As a person with special needs may be unable to gauge their day-to-day care needs, they can be totally dependent on the staff that support them. Bearing in mind, like all of us, people have a range of abilities and discipline to do the best for themselves and others.

Although this is a project to address needs of people with special needs, it can be utilised for the support of the elderly who receive in home support or other aged care facilities. It can also be used for an individual to maintain some order in their life, if they wish.

It is important to keep in mind; most people can attend to their needs without programs and the like and attend to matters as their needs present. However, special needs people are left to the eagerness of others, and this tool is intended to maintain a safeguard on the level of care and costs.

The Project Preliminary Outline

The purpose of the project is to develop a cloud-based application to achieve the following broad requirements:

A cloud-based application where Care Need Items and how often the items need to be attended to are identified in a calendar arrangement. The period of scheduling would be for the person's life time requirements. Most items would require cyclical attendance (say weekly, three monthly, 6 monthly or yearly etc) but the accommodation of the occasional or even one-off items would be accommodated.

The purpose of the app is to attend to the care need items; to record attendance dates and to record any comments for each item (when required) and to identify costs for the procurement of any items will be required to be incorporated in the schedules. It therefore also becomes a method for managers to 'Inspecting what you Expect' and to learn and modify for future requirements or modifications to existing items of care.

The ability to upload files (say photographs and/or reports) shall be possible for events. Alternatively, a link for access to the files presents for an associated activity. *Think of say the person receiving a photograph from the dentist which will require uploading to the event of the visit day, or a report from an Occupational Therapist etc.*

Amplification on Project Outline.

To amplify on above, the following is outlined:

1. A person's needs, we refer above to these items as '**Care Need Items**', are identified and scheduled in an appropriate arrangement.

   The student would not require the identification or formulation of the needs – I will provide several samples to enable the app to be populated.

   In normal circumstances the Care Need Items would be formulated by a spectrum of people such Occupational Therapists, Speech Pathologist, plan managers, psychologists, immediate family members etc

2. The number of Care Need Items, in the schedules, shall have the capability of expansion to as many items as necessary (which could be many hundreds) so no limitations.

3. The schedules would require identification of the routine cycle for each item. For example:

   - Item A requires attendance every 2 months;
   - Item B every 3 months etc.

   Therefore, on a calendar scrolling through, each item will present when the item is due (e.g Item A - will show up say Jan Mar, May etc (with the option on occasional deletion of an entry date by the administrator if required).

4. The attendance and addition of comments will be possible by general care staff (attending to the person with special needs), but modifications of its cyclical requirements and the addition of the occasional or one-off will be attended to by higher administration level (of the organisation caring for the person) or family member or others. So, the options to interact with the App will consist of:

    - General entry by immediate care person (e.g tick item done and date and add comments),
    - Higher level administration to add or change cyclical or one-off requirements,
    - Just read not able to add or change requirements.

    The intent of above modes of access, is to enable different people to interact with app and view and act on matters as appropriate for their position/skill sets. **The formulation of these levels of access will become project requirement.**

5. The procurement of items, to achieve care need items, will be required in the App. This would be treated just as any other care need item. For example, Item 'A' is identified and has a cyclical requirement to be purchased every year. When it is purchased entry of price occurs and any comments added. The App would provide a tally of costs for the end of the year (or financial year end [30 June] and this would be used as a budget tool also.

<u>Other Matters</u>

The student to note, **in the first instance**, the App is not intended to serve matters of day-to-day requirements such as say outings, training and food consumption and the like for the person with special needs. However, the App should not be limited from incorporation of such, should it be required – it would become just another item.

The student can consider the schedules - more like an industrial maintenance program (many exists) where routine service items are attended to on a pre-defined cyclical basis, comments are added when required for each item before attendance (to indicate any specific issues for an item) and when items are attended to, the validation and any findings are recorded.

Examples of Care Need Items.

The student will be provided a number of these Care Need Items, for the project, but for now some *basic* examples, to assist in the interpretation of the intent, are:

1. *Tooth brush related example*

   A person may have an electric tooth brush; how often should it be changed? – one would tabulate this and a calendar would identify the day/year/month when the next replacement should be done. It would also maintain record of all past attendance to such requirements. The person attending to it would also sign/date that they had attended to it.

   Taking this simple example, it is not just a matter of changing the brush head, but also schedule when the box of heads (be it 3, 5 or 6 in a pack) should be purchased in correlation to the cycle of replacing the heads is required as an item. Therefore, this then becomes another item on the schedule with a different cyclical requirement. The purchase of the box of heads would have a cost base and that would be recorded at the time it is purchased.

   Furthermore, the cleaning of the tooth brush cradle and hand-held unit, is in this example, become matters for scheduling. Similarly, on occasions, the replacement of the unit in total (and its cost recording) becomes necessary for consideration and scheduling.

2. *Clothing example*

   Clothing require replacement from time to time, if left until they show significant wearing may not be wise, and can delay appropriate quality of care. Individual care providers may not appreciate when it should be done, therefore some cyclical routine may be more appropriate. So the underwear, as a sub category example, may be decided to be replaced every1 year or 2 or as appropriate.

   Shoes, socks, and the like all require similar treatment and consideration.

3. *Health Care example*

   Medical visits, dental/hygienists visits would require cyclical scheduling.

4. *Technology example*

   TV Remotes or DVD units (yes old technology) or CD/DVD's or other items may have to be procured in multiple units for years ahead of time, as change in technology is not able to be accommodated so swiftly by some special needs people and day to day anxieties are very high for some and these are considered in the formulation of the items. But as indicated students will be provided a list of Care Need Items.

In my opinion, this project does have practical purpose and the student should be able to enjoy it, as a worthy commitment. As a side point, I am in communication with service providers to gauge their specific requirements and practical applications for further consideration and such matters can perhaps be for future augmentation of the program.

Should you consider it suitable for your students, and should some students select the project, I would be very pleased to liaise with your office and assist your students to the extent that is required and appropriate.

Regards
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