

Virtual Legal Clinic

Sharon Austin

<https://github.com/sharon-launchcode>

Description

1. A remote connectivity platform (such as an app) that can be used to set up remote/virtual legal clinics specifically designed to service rural areas.
2. A user would access either a web platform or app and would be guided through a series of plain-language questions on income, eligibility, etc. This alone would save a tremendous amount of time and energy in empowering a user -- or her guardian, or her caregiver -- to find the right resource much more quickly.
3. A user could be virtually connected with an "on-call" pro bono attorney (either in real time or by appointment) who would provide pro bono counsel and advice through the web portal

Planning - User Stories

1. Motivated by problems described by lawyers at a Hackathon in trying to reach clients that are hard to reach by disposition, or are located in hard to reach places. The lawyers are trying to do pro-bono work for them, but cannot connect.
2. The project actually combined two user stories; a lawyer in Florida, and a lawyer in Tennessee. Each lawyer was working with a different problem, but both of them sought an online centralized location that could be expanded to areas beyond their own jurisdictions.

Planning - User Story 1

“Every year, approximately 20,000 youth age-out of the foster care system throughout the U.S. The statistics on how youth fair after they leave foster care are grim. Compared to their peers, youth who age-out of foster care without being connected to caring and committed adults are less likely to complete their education and obtain employment that pays a living wage. They are at greater risk of homelessness, incarceration, becoming parents early and having their own children involved in the foster care system. Many are left to deal with the trauma they experienced at home or in the foster care system without adequate access to medical and mental health care.” *Jessica Rae*

Planning - User Story 2

“Build a remote connectivity platform (such as an app) theoretically be set up so that the user would access either a web platform or app and would be guided through a series of plain-language questions on income, eligibility, etc. The user would then be virtually connected with an "on-call" pro bono attorney (either in real time or by appointment) who would provide pro bono counsel and advice through the web portal on behalf of the legal services organization in the same way as if the person attended a traditional walk-in clinic. Ideally, the platform would be a secure connection (thus avoiding the problems of waiver of confidentiality) and the user could upload documents such as warrants, etc, directly into the screen through their smartphone or other web access device through photos, screenshots, or even just pointing the camera toward the document if they lacked technological sophistication. Something that was built in plain language that is universally acceptable for an LSC org but was also available for other types of legal clinics (bar associations, non-LSC funded partners, etc) would be ideal. Preferably, no set-up would be required by the LSC org on the user side as the accessibility would be user-friendly and in plain language.” *Kimi*

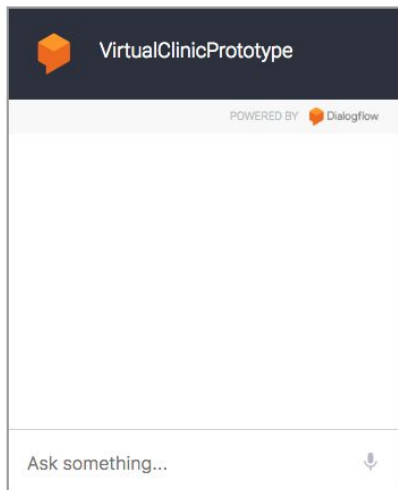
Features

1. Chat
2. Video Conference
3. Intake Forms
4. Ability to upload documents

Technology Stack

1. Language: JSON
2. Dialog Flow
3. Firebase
4. WebRTC
5. Bootstrap

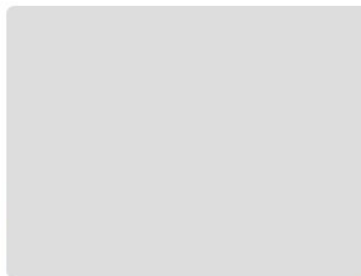
Overall View -- Components may be separate



Upload file

Choose File No file chosen

Proof of Concept: Virtual Legal Clinic

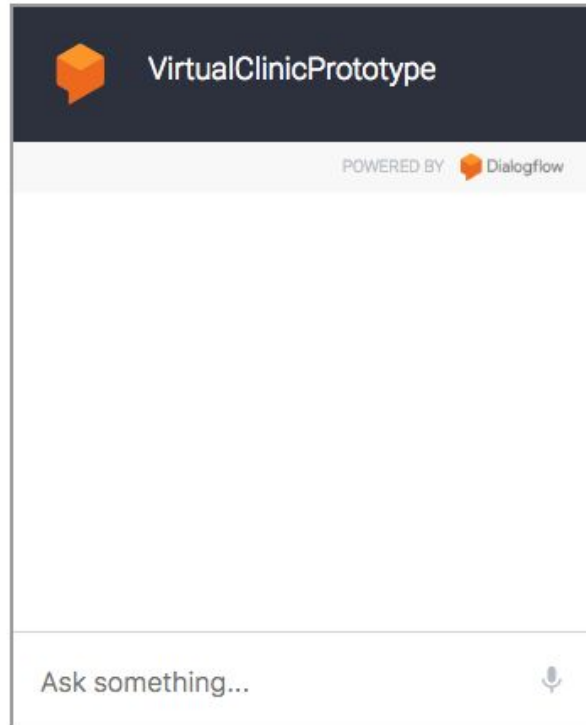


Call

Please fill out the contact form in case we lose the video connection.
This is for proof-of-concept purposes only! Not for legal use!

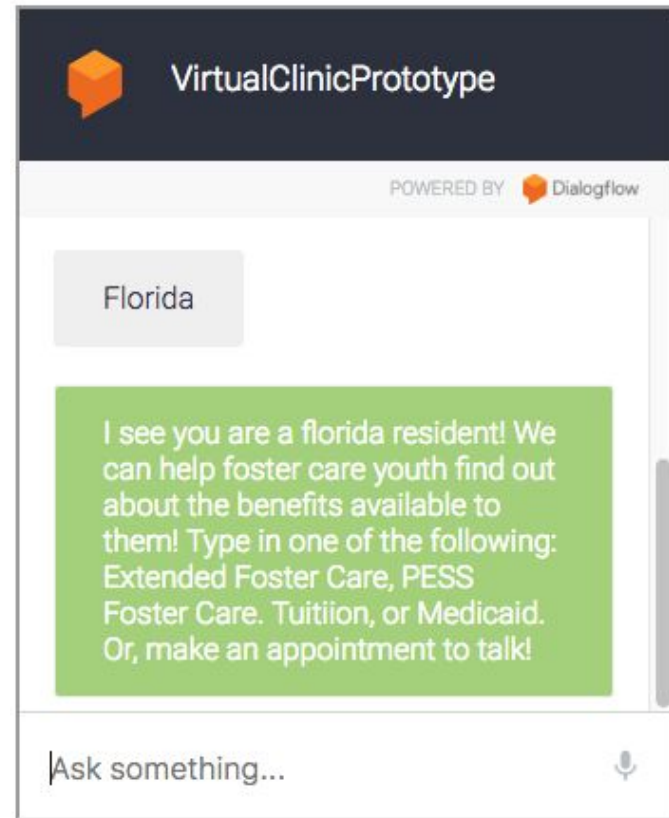
Initial Intake Form

Chat -- Initial Interface



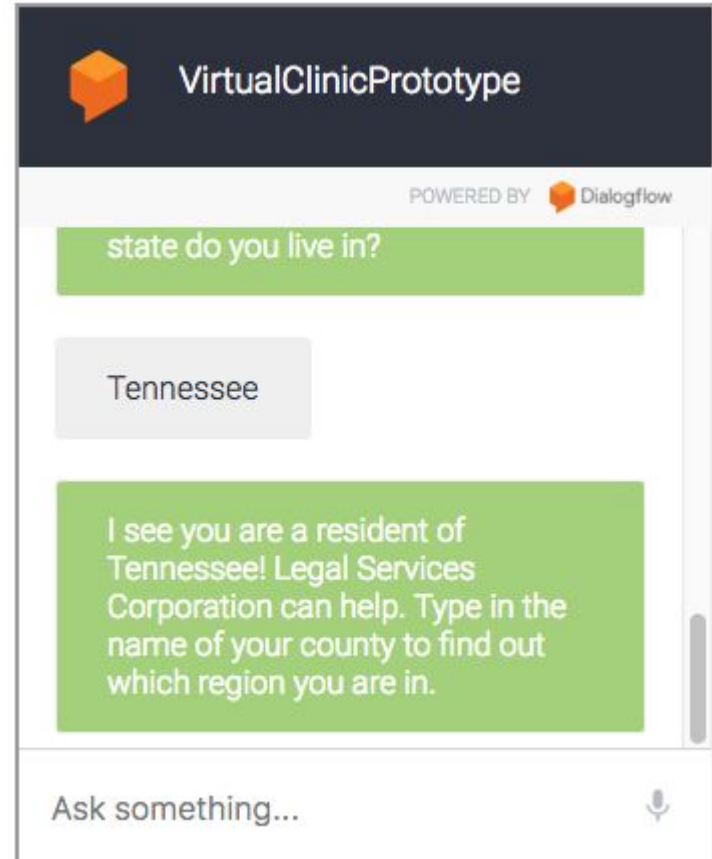
Chat - Florida

When a user types, "Florida"



Chat - Tennessee

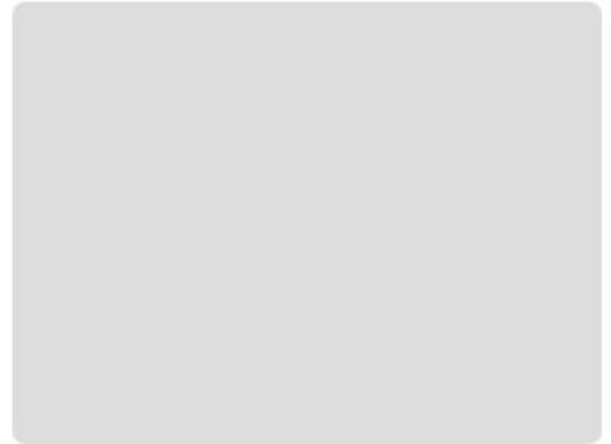
When a user types, “Tennessee”...



Video Chat

Press call to start..

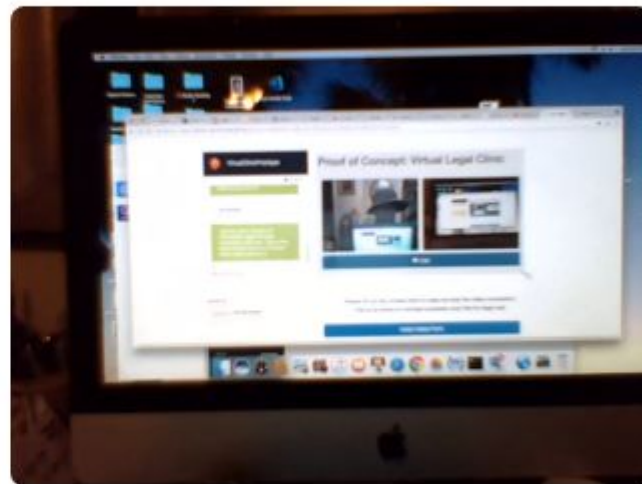
Proof of Concept: Virtual Legal Clinic



 Call

Video Chat -- Continued

Proof of Concept: Virtual Legal Clinic



 Call

Initial Intake Form

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[Initial Intake Form](#)

Initial Intake Form

Initial Intake Form

Please fill out the contact form in case we lose the video connection.

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Alerts Go here

Your Name:

Sharon Austin

State of Residence:

Florida

Date of Birth:

05/26/1900

Email:

test-email@testmail.cor

Contact Phone:

555-555-5555

Submit

Upload files

Important to the lawyers to be able to upload legal documents

Upload file

Choose File

No file chosen

Upload file

Choose File

Screen Shot ...35.25 PM.png

What I learned

1. Working with JSON and JavaScript
2. Structuring data for DialogFlow
3. WebRTC
4. Concepts of NoSQL through Firebase JSON data structure
5. Handling Form data for Firebase