

# **Charity Source**

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**91.462 GUI Programming II Alpha Memo**

**March 10, 2015**

**Review of Goals:**

On Charity Source, it is easy to find charities to donate to using our search and filter features. Through this method and the use of PayPal, the ambiguity of where the financial transactions are going is removed by pulling real data of where the finances are going. We have the databases set up to be filled with real data that can be put onto our site. We are certainly on track to create a user friendly environment to make smart donation decisions.

**New Issues:**

A new issue brought to us during the usability tests was that the “browse” link that is part of the header was difficult for people to find. Being that browsing charities is one of the most important factors of our site, the browse function should be easier to find. Other issues were found with our login systems. Those issues included duplication of login emails in the database are allowed. If a user signs up with an email and another user signs up with the same email, nothing is implemented to not allow that. There is also no way for a user to delete their account. Another issue is that users can login with a fake email and password without signing up first. There is no safety net in the back end. There is no error checking and if a user breaks something on the website, an error line will appear on the website.

It was discovered that Charity Source’s contact page had a couple of issues. First, when expanding the text box that a user can type their message into, it will extend over the submit button and the footer of the page. The footer page is also misplaced and not at the bottom center of the page. Lastly, the search bar in the browse page does not cooperate with the filters we have in place.

**Current Features:**

An unseen yet very important feature that is being implemented on this site is using HTML templates for our code. By creating HTML templates for the charity and user pages, the site not only has visual consistency, but also will generate the content of these pages on the fly with data from the databases. By using these templates, charities and users can easily be added with little guidance from developers.

One of the more important pages on the site is the browse page. The browse page is able to display multiple charities with the ability to filter, sort, and search the results. The filtering and sorting are both based on a pre-determined filter and sort set, and search is done live. The functionality of this page is powered by the jQuery shuffle plug-in.

<http://vestride.github.io/Shuffle/>

Each charity page has unique data to that specific charity. This is built from the database of charities with their information. This allows us to be able to scale the project easily as to add more charities; their information simply needs to be added to the database.

An important, and core feature is for each user to be able to decide on whether or not they would like to create an account to track their donation habits and see suggestions to charities they may be interested in. Currently, a user is able to create an account as well as sign in with an existing account. Once they have created an account, they are able to view their profile where they have the option to update their account information.

Having a form of communication is necessary, especially when dealing with user accounts and transactions. We implemented an email form into the website in order to make it easier to contact the team. By doing this via form, users do not need to leave the website in order to create a help request, or request more information about the site.

**Assessment of Incomplete Features:**

The features yet to be completed include a search bar in the header, a way to track donations and store that information in our database, and a blog system for our users to post questions or concerns about charities or our site. The search bar in the header at first seemed like a simple feature to implement but upon feasibility testing we realized that it may not serve the purpose we wanted it too. We wanted that search bar to just search the charities and not the entire site but the placement of that bar in the header makes it seem like it will search the whole site for things. In order for us to not confuse our users this will most likely be scrapped but for now we will continue to search for a way to make a search bar in the header that is not misleading. If there is time we may implement a global search for that search bar. Another feature yet to be implemented is the tracking of donations. After some feasibility tests this is definitely possible because all it requires is saving the amount that people donate and just sending the data into the correct position in our database. This feature will definitely be included in our final release. Finally the last feature to implement is a blog. Blogs are a very common feature for most sites so our team should have no problem implementing this. It will most likely be a very simple blog with posts and replies but the replies may be a little tricky. This feature is very likely to be in our final release, the only thing stopping it being the implementation of the reply system.

**Contingency Plans:**

The only issues that can be foreseen down the road involve the blog. Finding a way to structure the blog with posts and replies may be a little tricky. This feature is very much on the fence of whether it will be added or not. Some feasibility tests down the road will shed more

light but for now our team is hoping for the best. The blog was listed as unlikely so it is very much a stretch. Therefore if it provides issues it will most likely be scrapped.

### **Delivery Schedule:**

According to our preliminary schedule, we have completed future milestones. If we continue along this course, all other milestones will likely be met with ease.

### **New Resources Needed:**

As of right now, we only have four charities in our database. We plan on expanding this and adding at least 20 more new charities. Also, a lot of people mentioned that bootstrap would be really convenient. We have discussed the idea on using it, and it is a strong possibility that we will implement it in the near future.

### **What Will Be Removed:**

There are a couple features that we will be removing. We had a 'View Full Summary' button on the charity pages that we have decided to remove. This button would have brought you to another page with a complete list of statistics for that charity. We can fit all the data on the charity page therefore this button has become obsolete.

We will also be removing the option of logging into our site with their Gmail accounts. We decided to remove this because it seems very complicated. We have a lot of other, more important things to do.

### **Final Look and Feel:**

In the end, we plan on having a complete backend that generates all the data for our charity pages and stores all the login information. A lot of our features depend on this backend so

having a solid backend will definitely be a part of our final solution. The features we know for sure that will be in the final release are the fully functional login system that tracks donations on each account, the database full of real data for each charity so users can make smart donating decisions, charity pages generated from the backend with all the data laid out in a visually pleasing structure, and finally a fully functional browse page with many different ways to search for the charity the user wants to donate to. Once these are all complete and we add some CSS whether it be on our own or with Bootstrap our site will be easy to use and a powerful tool for donors.

### **Overall Where Things Stand:**

Overall, we are definitely on pace to have our site fully functional and looking good. Most of our core functionality is complete. All that is really left is tweaking some issues in the backend and adding a lot of CSS. The bulk of our work will be the CSS. Some new features like the blog and search bar will be implemented but that shouldn't be much compared to the CSS work that needs to be done.