Beaver County Humane Society

Executive Summary

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Background

The Beaver County Humane Society, founded in 1950, is home to roughly 250 animals, and helps around 4000 animals annually. It provides opportunities for locals to volunteer as dog walkers, drivers, foster caretakers, retail store clerk, cleaners, fundraisers among other exciting activities. Beaver County Humane Society also hopes to advocate their mission statement and assist families with pets through their educational programs and various animal welfare events.

Project Description

Project Opportunity

Currently, the Beaver County Humane Society uses the paper donation form to process every donation. Donors fill out the donation form and turn in at the front desk, but the paper form introduces a lot of issues in the organization. The form does not specify which information is necessary so it leaves a lot to be desired in terms of information tracking. The second issue is keeping track of in-kind donations. The organization currently does not track the materials in donations like dog food, blankets etc. This makes it hard for when they are audited, as the auditors need to understand any assets they gain including these donations.

Project Vision

Our team aimed to build a web-based application that streamlines the donation process at the shelter. The online donation form was made so that the donors are able to input their personal information as well as their in-kind donations on a donation kiosk when they come to donate. The information gathered from this donation kiosk also feeds into a basic inventory management system which allows the organization to keep track of the quantity and value of their inventory.

Project Outcomes

Building upon the vision of the project, we have developed an electronic donation form, integrated with an internal inventory system for the shelter. Throughout the development, we developed prototypes and wireframes, working with the clients on any issues that they had with the flow of the application. This helped to produce a much more user-friendly system overall.

We also delivered the previous team's documentation to Matt, Beaver County Humane Society's current IT professional. He did not previously have access to the documentation, and this helped to alleviate some of his concerns in handling issues with the previous team's project.

Project Deliverables

Our deliverables include the Ruby on Rails web application, wireframes, entity relationship diagram, a Github repository and documentation on our implementation and deployment process.

Recommendations

We recommend in the future that the Beaver County Humane Society continue development and enhance the donation experience. There are many improvements and additional features that can be added to the application, especially the inventory management system, for more valuable report generation. It is essential that volunteers in the organization are trained to use the application properly.

Student Project Team

Dexter Epouhe served as the Project Management lead. He is a third-year student majoring in Information Systems with a minor in Computer Science. He will be interning as a Software Engineer at AmerisourceBergen this summer.

Siting Jin served as the Quality Assurance lead. She is a third-year student majoring in Information Systems and Human Computer Interaction (HCI). She will be interning at Oath as a Front-End Software Engineer this summer.

Arnav Luthra served as the Client Relations lead. He is a fourth-year student majoring in Information Systems with a minor in Sound Design. He will be working at Etsy as a Software Engineer after graduation.