WFSPA Fleet Management System

Executive Summary

Community Partner
Wesley Family Services
Student Development Team
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Background

Wesley Family Services is a non-profit organization that provides healthcare services and support programs to children, adults, and families. They are located in Pittsburgh, but have locations all over western Pennsylvania as well. For this upcoming year, their goal is to merge business processes from both sides of the recently merged companies. As an organization, Wesley Family Services strives to be more effective, efficient and sustainable and to continue to innovate in what they do. Their mission is to empower children, adults, and families by providing transformational care.

Project Description

Project Opportunity

Wesley Family Services is currently having difficulty managing their vehicle fleet through the decentralized use of paper logs and various databases. The processes of viewing vehicle information, reports, and checking vehicles in or out is currently time-exhausting to complete and quite inefficient. The client has thus decided to optimize this process by creating a SharePoint application that would handle their vehicle fleet management, in addition to the rest of their business processes. This will help save the staff time that would otherwise be spent poring through paper logs or searching for the employee that has them, allowing them to focus on other core business processes and work.

Project Vision

The project proposed by our clients will be a SharePoint based system that keeps track of WFSPA's vehicles, generates reports, and allows users to log vehicles in/out with use. Currently, the data is spread out across three systems and is resulting in a loss of time and efficiency. Our project will significantly speed up the transfer of information in the organization regarding their vehicle fleet. This will allow requests and lookups for information to be significantly easier and faster than before. While we could propose solutions using other database systems or software, such as a Ruby on Rails app, this idea offered by the client seems to be most appropriate due to the client's prior experience with the software and maintainability.

Project Outcomes

With our Sharepoint application, users can now access all the vehicle information from one online source. Previously, the information was spread out across three mediums and it took a lot of time to consolidate data and track down staff. This optimization in time and efficiency better allows Wesley Family Services to serve their customers, by reallocating the time saved to other aspects of their organization.

Project Deliverables

For this project, we are delivering the client a zipped folder containing all the relevant project artifacts, such as a large documentation file including both technical and user documentation. The client also already has access to the SharePoint subsite that we developed and it has been deployed. However, since this subsite will only be part of the final site that the client plans to use, the site will need to be remade by the client's programmer. We have thus included information on how to rebuild what we have developed in the documentation.

Recommendations

We recommend that WFSPA hires additional technical staff with Sharepoint experience. This project has dispelled many negative stigmas about Sharepoint, demonstrating its efficacy as a unified intranet platform for WFSPA. As more of the company's business processes migrate to Sharepoint, the amount of dev work and the potential of the system will increase. Realizing these opportunities with adequate technical staff will lead to increased time efficiency and better information transparency. We also recommend that they train their existing employees and admins to use the Sharepoint system. This will eliminate their learning curve and offer them a better understanding of Sharepoint in general. Lastly, we recommend that they continue developing new features for the fleet management system.

Student Development Team

Devansh Kukreja served as the project manager. He is a third-year student double-majoring in Information Systems and Computer Science. He will be interning with Facebook this summer as a software engineer and is looking forward to one day starting his own company.

Dylan Schwartz led back-end development and documentation for this project. He is a junior in Information Systems with a minor in Business Administration. He will go on to another consultation project in the summer with a Pittsburgh steel erection company.

Sally Zhao served as the lead for front-end development and quality assurance. She is a senior Information Systems/ Human Computer Interaction double major. She will be graduating this May and working at a startup in San Francisco this coming July.