Elizabeth A. MacHaffie

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I'm thrilled to bring my knowledge of behavior and psychology to the development field. Genuine, skilled communicator with a strong drive for learning. Seeking a position in the RDU area to meaningfully contribute to improving lives through technology.

Relevant Skills

- JavaScript
- HTML
- CSS, including Sass and BEM
- React
- React Router
- JSON
- jQuery
- AJAX
- Git, GitHub
- Agile development
- Firebase
- Visual Studio Code
- Writing
- Effective interpersonal communication
- Creative problem-solving
- Team collaboration
- Conflict management
- Teaching and mentoring

Technical Experience

Momentum Learning   **Present**

Associate Instructor

- Provide students with guidance for coding with JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Ruby, Rails, git, and more.
- Answer students' technical questions and aid in troubleshooting their coding projects.
- Communicate technical concepts clearly and in a way that new developers can understand.

Momentum Learning   **2018**

Front-End Engineering Student

- A 12 week immersive coding training program focused on language fluency, object-oriented programming, and project-based learning.
- Envisioned, pitched, and co-developed web app, "Spot Check", spotcheck-quiz.firebaseapp.com
  - "Spot Check" guides users toward reputable dog adoption sources while also collecting data for canine behavior and health professionals.
  - Applied knowledge of human psychology and scientific standards to design many aspects of app's interface.
  - Currently preparing this app for integration with an existing website. Data collected will help focus public education where it is most needed.
- Enjoyed successful collaborations with others in pair programming, projects using GitHub for version control, and Agile development.

Professional Experience

Trinity Animal Hospital   2017-2018
Head of Training and Behavior and Veterinary Technician

- Created, managed, and taught training classes to help clients raise well-behaved, well-socialized pets and solve behavior problems.
- 100% client retention rate and consistently positive reviews for the 6 months the classes ran.
- Provided regular presentations and one-on-one mentoring on dog and cat handling, body language, and behavior. This led to:
    - Markedly increased staff ability to safely handle patients and interpret their behaviors.
    - Decreased patient stress, leading to better experiences for pets and their owners.
- Educated clients through private training, providing concise and understandable instruction.
- Consistently recognized by clients for quality and clarity of my verbal and written feedback.
- Applied conflict management skills and emotional intelligence to counsel client families through emotionally difficult decisions.

NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine   2017
Clinical Behavior Technician and Research Assistant

- Collaborated with computer science, electrical engineering, and veterinary staff and students to conduct a pilot study to crate train shelter dogs via an automated computer-assisted training system.
- Created and edited educational media for clients, veterinary students, and veterinary staff. Included a bi-weekly presentation on puppy socialization and behavior for fourth year students and rewriting of several core handouts for behavior clinic clients to take home after consultations.
- Co-designed and presented a clinic-wide lecture with a resident veterinarian on effective low-stress handling techniques for cats.

Education

MS Clinical Animal Behavior   2012
University of Lincoln, England

- Relevant studies included human learning and behavior, the science of emotions, cognitive biases, visual cognition, and client communication skills.

BA BDIC: Animal Behavior   2008
University of Massachusetts

- Educated in a wide range of human psychology topics relevant to web and software design, including visual cognition, goal-oriented behavior, Gestalt principles, and learning theory.