

Acknowledgement:

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Abstract/Executive Summary:

The system intends to implement an electronic web based information management system in Kenyan orphanages to aid in their running and expand their services to the whole public. Each and every Orphanage is assigned the orphanage administrator who is responsible for registration of orphans into the system, carers(those taking care of the orphans within an orphanage) and registers orphans within the same orphanage and their adopting parents in-case of an adoption. Each orphan is assigned to one carer and each carer is assigned to at least one or more orphans to whom he/she will manage the orphan's information. The orphanage provides adoption and sponsorship services to potential adopting parents and well-wishers and an adopting parent is allowed to adopt one or more orphans who will move to stay with the parent's residence. Parents and well-wishers can sponsor a child or more children by setting a monthly payment to the orphanage bank account for orphan's care expenses. The system is able to keep all these information and provide the expected services to users who interact with it.

The system is intended to reduce paper work documentation of information related to an orphanage and also easen the method of communication between various users of the system who interact with it in one way or the other e.g the adopting parents and orphanage, carers and the orphanage administrator.

Chapter One (1)

1.0 Introduction:

Background:

In the Kenyan Orphanages, tracking an orphan's progress through the manual way (paper work) has been handled separately and disjointly by different Orphanage officials based on what they oversee on the orphan. As multiple aspects of the orphan data must be shared for various tasks e.g. for adoption, sponsorship, and directed funds from donation activities, to respective individuals within the orphanage dealing with such a task, this data is often shared via email and stored redundantly in papers or excel spreadsheet across the orphanage. This manner of storage often leads to hardships with regards on how data was updated, managed and shared. All copies must be updated manually when data regarding an orphan is updated all thorough various departments within an orphanage so as to ensure outdated information is not kept and recirculated through the orphanage system e.g. if such an orphan is adopted.

In addition, various governmental and other non-governmental organizations request for periodic surveys in trying to determine the orphanage conditions in terms of population and status of orphans whether total, partial orphans or most vulnerable children. Currently this is done by sifting through hundreds of papers containing information about an orphan and manually obtaining the statistics from them. With this integrated and centralized system, it could take a very little amount of time to obtain statistics about an orphanage in Kenya and its population.

Objective:

The objective of this project is to create a system to centrally handle the information of all the orphans within an orphanage and to provide access to this information with an easy to use web-based interface that can be accessed by various devices with basic html rendering capabilities.

An orphanage is able to carry out all its activities within the system and expand their services to major parts of the country or even beyond Kenya being an online web-based system. The system is built and designed so that users would be able to complete their intended tasks in a streamlined manner to cut down on wasted time, and in a concise way to switch between tasks. To address the security issues of the system each user is assigned a username and password that will enable him or her get authenticated and allowed access to the system.

The system also intends to strengthen and enhance the use of I.C.T in solving problems that people experience in their daily lives and learn to appreciate and acknowledge IT as one of the problem solver.

The system also intends to provide the statistical data on the number of orphans currently in Kenyan Orphanages with their respective status i.e either total orphan, partial orphan or neglected vulnerable children within specific years and the growth rate of orphanism.

Overview And Literature Review

Currently we don't have the kind of system in the Kenyan market implying that my project will be the first prospect that will be tested on the same field. The current method involves one to make a personal/physical visit to an orphanage to have the services offered to him such as adoption, financial support and others since he/she has to get the methods of financial payment from within an orphanage. This method may seem to be tiresome for some potential members of the public or foreign well-wishers who may wish to contribute in the process of sponsorship or any financial assistance because of the distance one has to travel through in order to get the services from an orphanage, given that different orphanages are located in different places within the country.

Problem Statement

The Kenya Orphanage Information Management System project intends to implement an electronic web based information management system in Kenyan orphanages to aid in their running and expand their services to the whole public by allowing members of the public to have access to various orphanage services. Members of the public/well-wishers are given an opportunity to adopt children of their wish i.e based on gender and age from an orphanage at their own pleasure/homes or places of work, although for children safety and avoidance of children trafficking one has to present himself/herself to an orphanage adoption department for clearance by proving the real identity of the person using his/her documents as presented.

Being an online web based system, one must not physically present himself/herself for other services e.g sponsorship, donation and helping host a charity event since the information and procedures regarding the same can be adopted from the website.

This system will reduce the paperwork since most of the information is contained within this electronic web based system and retrieval of this information is much easier and faster when needed as compared to file-based system.

Justification

One of the most attractive benefits of implementing this system is to ensure all the activities within an orphanage are well integrated within one system and easy access of the services an orphanage provides to

the public by the public. Most of Kenyan Orphanages face financial crisis as the number of orphans and vulnerable children keep increasing each and every day. The only way this can be solved is through financial support, fundraisings and financial sponsorship thorough the government and the public in general. This system provides an enabling platform for these services of financial aid to be easily provided by a wide range of people both locally and internationally.

The system will provide the following services too:

- A database that will able to store the orphan information, his/her carer and any related information concerning the orphan..e.g adoption, sponsorship etc.
- Creation of users accounts by the public for those who wish to have any service done to him.
- Incase of any orphan or vulnerable child in any unrecognized place, any person will be able to report the issue to any nearby orphanage through the contact us page provided in the system, hence the system provides a communication link between the general public and the orphanage.
- Sponsorship, donation, adoption, food drive and helping host charity events. Incase of an orphanage project, the project is posted on the website and users of the system are able to help fund the project using any method that might have been posted.
- The government can easily take the statistics of the orphans in each and every orphanage for easy planning .

Objectives

Chapter Two (2)

Proposed Solution

Methodology

Better volunteering, care, sponsorship, donation, better and much increased adoption and funds drive in our orphanages can only be done by the togetherness and cooperation of each and every willing individual to do the same. This can only be done by people being informed of the ways/procedures that these services can be done and these procedures be as simple as possible and reducing the distance as much as we can for people to access these services.

Through the Kenya Orphanage Information Management System, all these services have been integrated in one system and created a platform where they have been exposed to the whole public and outside Kenya for well-wishers to get informed and aid in any of them as per the laid procedures. Members now can easily access these services through an online web-based system and do transactions with individual orphanages in different parts of Kenya with the implementation of this system.

The system will reduce the time spent in travelling to these individual orphanages for any of the above service to be provided. Within the system, an orphanage is able to keep its records and transactions hence reducing the retrieval time and paperwork if recording and document keeping was done using the filing system.

Reunifying most vulnerable children or orphans with their relatives is made much easier in this system since users of the system are able to view list of orphans in different orphanages and adopt them easily to reduce the orphan population and enhance better care.

To be able to achieve all these, the system allows the following steps in its operation:

- 1) The creation of **Orphanage Administrator** for every registered orphanage who is responsible for the following.
 - Register carers and orphans.
 - Assign carers to orphans
 - Reply to parent adoption and sponsorship requests.
 - Verify other user accounts i.e adopting/well-wisher accounts
 - Announce and host a charity event (any date and time of the year)
 - Write testimonials (optional)
- 2) Grant the **orphan carers** the following privileges:

- Manage assigned orphans' records by adding ,updating/editing and deleting their information
- 3) Grant the **adopting parent /well-wisher** the following privileges:
- Register his/her own account
 - Apply for an orphan adoption
 - Apply for an orphan sponsorship
 - Privilege to donate
 - Privilege to aid in a funds drive for any undergoing project or a fundraising upon advertisement on the website.
 - Contact any orphanage through the contact us communication methods provided.