**SAMSAARA Website**

**Background**

The Samsara application is meant to address the needs of the elderly (60+ years of age) and is a platform where they can interact with like-minded folks. It will serve general information that is of use to this demographic, information of qualified service providers for various categories such as Healthcare and Security; it will also enable users to create or join Groups & Events based on interests and volunteer or find volunteers for activities.

**Types of Users**

1. Elderly: primary user / 60+ years of age / looking to find relevant information and interact with like-minded folks.
2. Service Provider: a vendor who is listed on the Samsara website under Services.
3. Volunteer: any person who is outside the target demographic (user 1) that is willing to volunteer for activities.
4. Admin: the website admin who can create / assign and moderate roles.

The roles of these various users are described in detail in the Functional Specifications.

**I. Functional Specifications:**

User 1 – Elderly person

Workflow

* User accesses the Samsara website.
* He can browse all general information and service providers. He can see only a preview of conversations in the discussion page.
* Any time he tries to perform an action, such as comment on an article or contact a service provider or see more of the conversations or ask for a volunteer, he is prompted to login.
* Login will have the following fields: Name, Email ID, Location, Birthday and Sex.
* Login confirmation will be through Email.

Following are some important features that the user will be able to access:

1. **Information Repository**

* User must be able to search for relevant information based on keywords and topics.
* User must be able to comment on the article (on login / signup).
* User must be able to rate the article (on login / signup).
* User must be able to share the article on social media or email it to others.
* User must be able to ‘add to bookmarks’ – so he can read it on the platform at a later point.
* User must be able to add his own articles and tag it with relevant topic / keyword.
* User will be notified when other users comment on his / her article.

1. **Services**

* User must be able to search for relevant services based on keywords or topics.
* User must be able to filter services based on criteria.
* User must be able to select the service and message the service provider through the platform.
* User must be able to review a service and leave remarks. We can mention criteria, such as “I have used the service” / Rating based on parameters.

1. **Volunteers**

* User must be able to search for volunteers based on activities / help required.
* User must be able to browse through detailed profiles of volunteers.
* User must be able to select a volunteer and message him through the platform.
* User must be able to review a volunteer and leave remarks. We can mention criteria, such as “I have used his service” / Rating based on parameters.
* User must be able to request a volunteer for service / activity if it is not mentioned on the list.
* User must be able to volunteer for service or activity.

1. **Community**

* User must be able to create a profile with his interests and experience.
* User must be able to find people based on interests and locality.
* User must be able to start topics of discussion.
* User must be able to comment on topics of discussion.
* User must be able to message other users through the platform.
* User must be able to add other users to his circle of friends.
* User will be notified of activities within his circle of friends.
* User must be able to add contacts of friends / family to his profile, who will be notified of key activities of the user.
* User will be assigned roles (moderator / influencer / etc) based on activity on the website.
* Users will be able to report abuse / block other users.

1. **Shop (to be renamed to products)**

* Products of interest to the user will be listed and he can browse through the same.
* When he clicks on the product – he is shown where the product can be purchased and other details.

1. **Groups**

* User will be able to search for Groups based on his interests.
* User can create a Public Group (open for anyone to join) or a Private Group (needs user’s approval to join) based on his interest.
* User can post content (text / photo / video) on Groups and fellow members of the Group can reply to the same.

1. **Events**

* User will be able to search for Events based on calendar and interests.
* User can create a Public Event (open for anyone to join) or a Private Event (needs user’s approval to join) based on his interest.
* User can post content (text / photo / video) on Events and fellow members of the Group can reply to the same.

User 2 – Service Provider

1. **Sign up**

* User will be able to add his / her products & service by submitting relevant information: name, company, company mail id, & service.
* Details and profile will not be reflected until approved by Admin.

1. **Messaging**

* User will only be able to reply to messages from users on the platform.

User 3 – Volunteers

1. **Sign up**

* User will be able to create his profile by submitting relevant information: name, company or college, Mail ID.
* Details and profile will not be reflected until approved by Admin.
* User will be able to update his calendar and activities (when and what he wants to volunteer for).
* User will be able to fill up a comprehensive profile: name, age, locality, sex, bio, interests and skills.

1. **Messaging**

* User will only be able to reply to messages from users on the platform.

User 4 – Admin

1. **Users**

* Admin will be able to approve sign up of service providers, volunteers, content writers and sub-admins.
* Admin will be able to create sub-admins for relevant tasks, such as Services or Information or Volunteers or Shop and assign relevant preset privileges.
* Admin will be notified of any abuse or “reported user”.
* Admin can message all / individual users.
* Admin can ban single / multiple users (including service providers / volunteers / content writers / other sub-admins).

1. **Information Repository**

* Admin will be able to approve all articles.
* Admin will be able to add / modify / delete articles.

1. **Services**

* Admin will be able to add / delete service providers.
* Admin will be able to message service providers on the platform.
* Admin will be notified anytime a service provider is contacted on the platform.
* Admin will be notified anytime a purchase is made.

1. **Shop**

* Admin will be able to add / modify / delete products and categories.

1. **Community**

* Admin will be able to add / modify / delete discussion threads and comments.

1. **Volunteers**

* Admin will be able to add / modify / delete requests for volunteers.

1. **Groups / Events**

* Admin will be able to create events.

1. **Communication**

* All communication to the user from the platform can happen through 2 key ways:

1. Through platform itself – user will be notified on logging in.
2. Through email – user will get emails of activities.
3. **Content**

* Admin will be able to edit content on all static pages without technology intervention through a content management system.