Hello Health Catalyst,

First Off, I want to thank you for the opportunity for a potential internship this summer with your organization. Even though I have only learned how about databases and developing software for them, they quickly became my favorite facet of computer science. During the course of my People Search Application development I had ups and downs. The ups were working with databases and learning new technical skills to complete the task at hand. The downs were learning new technical skills to complete the task at hand in such a limited time. Upon receiving the email from you seven days ago, your take home test has joined the ranks of three other semester long projects and finals looming around the corner to help fight my already wounded sleep schedule (you guys remember the drill). Coming into the take home test I had never used Entity Framework and only used WPF and MVVM (Improperly) once. Entity framework came pretty naturally and I learned how to use migrations along the way. I found out while building the app that I had way too much code behind in my past MVVM trail. My WPF experience while working on this application has taught me that databinding is the way of the future. The thing I had most trouble with were adding unit tests to my application. I regretfully haven’t taken any courses or found out how to implement them properly on my own, but I am enrolled in a testing course during my next semester at WSU. Something else I had trouble with was adding images to the database and creating a data migration for them. I figured out that I needed to read in the images into a stream and convert that stream to a byte array before loading it into the database. It was too little too late though because the deadline had come too quickly. I didn’t really want to rush the last two features because as a coder it is better to do the things you know how to do well, rather than rush through features and implement some improperly. The seed data That I used for my application was generated from <http://www.generatedata.com> . If you haven’t checked out that website it is pretty cool and lets users generate data in CSV, HTML, JSON, various scripting languages, SQL and XML. Using the application is pretty straight forward, either type or select an entry from the combo-box and users whose first or last name matches the text return the query results to the view. All in all I had a great time working on this task and hope I can work on more as a future Health Catalyst employee.

Best Regards,

Corey Neal