Twilio Grant Proposal

From: Daniel Cobbey, Kyle Henry, & Noah Ruby

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Contact Information: henry311174@student.aisd.net;

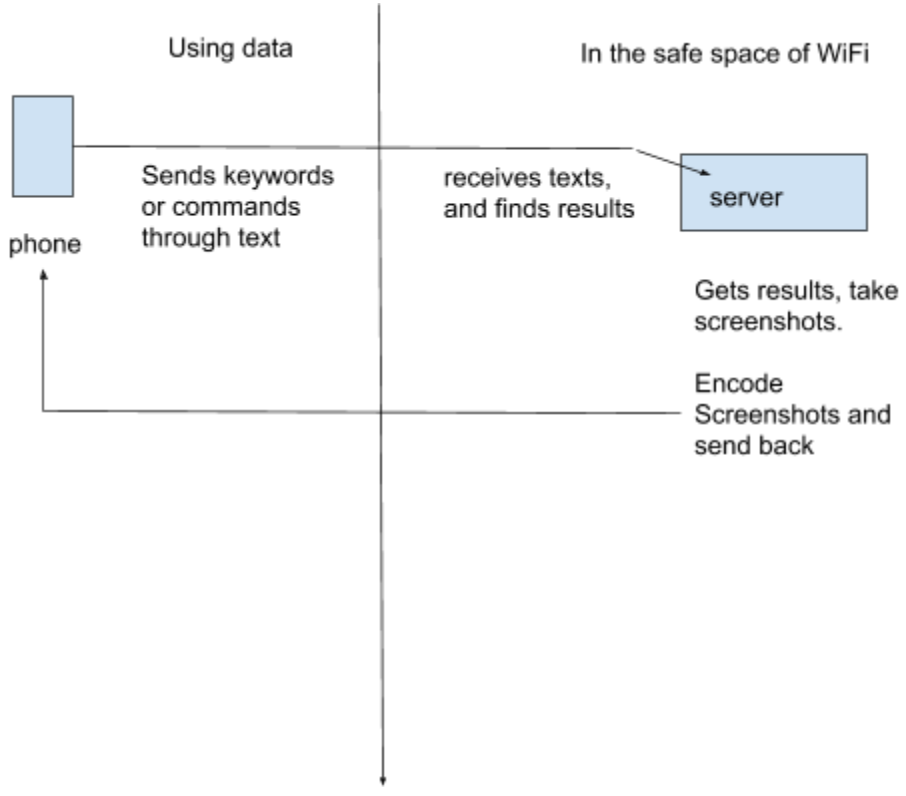
ruby339572@student.aisd.net;

cobbe455091@student.aisd.net;

Subject: A proposal to fund web service for project

Purpose

We write this document in order to get our project off the ground again. Our project has to do with avoidance of extra fees for phone data usage. Imagine if you could search anything you want without having to worry without a data cap. All you would have to do is text a number connected to our server. Whatever you text will be searched and the results would be sent back as a image. From that image, you can decide to follow a link to a page to find the information they would be looking for if not already present in the image. Below is an image of a diagram showing the process.



At first we had this program working to a degree with a service called Textnow. However, since the program was seen as spamming, which is a violation of Textnow's policies, they revoked our account. Since then, we have been looking for a new way of getting our program to work. After a couple of days, we finally stumbled upon a service called Twilio that could help us do everything our old application did plus more. But like with everything, there was a catch.

Main Problem of Project

The catch of using this service is that money is required to have this service fully optional. Right now, we are able to use a trial account to test out our program. We have been interfacing with Twilio to send back images to the customer. We have recently set up a website for all our picture data, which will be accessible to Twilio. However, we can not move forward until the problem of money is resolved.They charge for both incoming and outgoing texts. Every incoming text will cost $0.0075. Every outgoing text will cost $0.02.

Solution to the Problem

What we can do is, using the grant you would have given us, have $15 uploaded every interval for approximately six months to Twilio for the program to use to send out the text. An interval of time is defined by how long for it to take to use up the $15. While the money is being used by the program, it will also be used to ask customers to take short surveys of the program they would be using. After the $15 dollars for that period of time is used up, we will turn off the servers to tune the servers to adjust to the customers suggestions that will be from the surveys. We would then add new features for the next time we start up the server. After a couple of days, the server will be turned back on, and the process will repeat itself.

Costs

Like we said before, every incoming text will cost $0.0075 & every outgoing text will cost $0.02. The $15 per interval will be used to cover the price of the program sending messages. We will also set $5 apart each interval for possible database changes that need monetary support. If we plan to do this for 6 months, then the amount of money we would need would be $120. Since the program would be in trial mode, no money will be made from it during this time.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I believe that the funding of this project will not only be used to help develop a possible real-world product, but it will also set the standard for future projects wishing to be funded through the STEM Academy. I do believe that this project can cause a revolution about how the world looks at how data flows and push more competition in the related fields it can be pushed in, such as the phone network market.

My team and I appreciate your consideration of our proposal. Have a great day!