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MAKERERE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE GROUP 21

GIVAR

"Give and make believe"

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BACKGROUND:

It's 7:00 pm on a somewhat dark evening. You are watching the evening news on NTV. A boy with a chronic heart disease is narrating the agony he goes through every day and is requesting for any form of assistance from whoever could be watching the news then. You want to help. You want to know more. You want to share that story with your rich friends. But all that is not as easy as it sounds. Why?

The only link between you and the plight of this young man is a telephone number displayed in the news ticker at the bottom of your screen and probably this news segment.

But wait! What if there is an easier way? What if this boy's story had a dedicated page on the internet? And you could share that page on a single click. What if you don't need a credit card (as most internet financial transaction processes demand) to donate to this young man, and all there is are a few clicks and your mobile money pin number to send them some money? What if you could create a smaller donation drive on your company website or even work place, linked to his main page, to pull more support from your network?

What goes around comes around. Let us assume that boy is you. Wouldn't you have loved to know all there is about your fundraising campaign. How many people are contributing to it? Where are they contributing from? What are their average contributions and an estimation of when you will most likely hit your target? How often has it been shared on social media? Couldn't you want to send an email thank you message or progress report to whoever would have cared to lend you a hand in this regard?

These questions are at the heart of Givar's mission.

PROBLEM:

What is the exact problem we are solving?

There exists a great deal of fundraising platforms, majority based and custom-made for western markets. This has led to an unbalanced usage cases, where it is on one side relatively easy to publish a fundraise campaign on these platforms but on the other side challenging to contribute to a campaign. This is so usually due to the low adoption in Africa of most of the payment gateways used on these platforms, for example PayPal, Stripe, Mastercard among others.

SOLUTION:

What is the exact solution we are offering?

We are developing a web based fundraising platform where users can publish verified fundraising campaigns from a range of categories like personal projects, health and emergencies, education-related, memorials among others. Givar will be a platform tailor-made for the average local and one that will be able to support not only large campaigns but as well as relatively small low transaction volume campaigns.

FEATURES:

Some of the vital features of this application will include:

- Flexible payment mode: We plan to employ the mtn-momo api and airtel-money as our primary payment gateways. We believe this will promote inclusivity within the platform.
- Verified users and campaigns: We intend to consequently (future prospect, since it is a premium api) employ the <u>shiftpro-kyc-api</u> that will enable us verify our users and campaigns on account registration or before publishing in their first campaign. This will be a means to mitigate fraud on the platform.
- Location-guided services: We shall integrate the <u>google-maps-api</u> into the platform. With this, users will know where their support is coming from. We shall also be able to recommend campaigns to funders based on proximity.
- Sharing a button away: At the click of a button, users and donors will be able to share campaigns on popular social media platforms. This will be achieved by the service of majorly the facebook-web-sharing-api, the twitter-tweet-button and the whatsapp click-to-chat-feature.

These above are some of the APIs that will support our platform features. It is to note that a particular api will only be used in this project if it automates a core vital process along the fundraising journey.

TOOLS:

This platform is being developed primarily using the MERN stack, that is MongoDB, the Express framework React and Nodejs. Our core programming language of choice is Javascript. Our api testing tool is Postman. We shall deploy both the backend and frontend on Heroku. Our source code will be hosted on Github at https://github.com/sharifbubuka/recess-fundraising-project.



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