

## FeedingKY reflective write-up

During our first client meeting with Sarah, she mentioned how farmers were not different from growers. This influenced our decision of removing the grower table and condensing the growers and farmer tables into one table. Also, Sarah mentioned that some attributes like the KY Kids eat field in some tables were no longer used by the organization and we could remove them from our implementation of the database. This feedback helped us during the conceptual modeling phase of the project.

When we sent an email to our client about the different proposed solutions, Sarah selected the solution that we build an email template service that helps her easily write emails to farmers and food banks. As a team, the email template solution was our least popular solution and we did not feel like we had the technical expertise to handle the project requirements in the time we had for the project. Also, different email platforms like Google and Outlook already have email template features. We communicated these concerns to our client and scheduled a zoom meeting to show her the existing template features and discuss details of other solutions we can complete in the time we had.

We presented the pros and cons of the different solutions to Sarah on April 1st and received feedback. Sarah agreed that the search bar feature would be very beneficial and serve as a good extension for the Feeding Kentucky website. This meeting allowed us time to discuss with Sarah the different questions that she would like us to add to the dropdown menu of the search bar. We also got an opportunity to clarify some of the questions that we had not fully understood. We also communicated with Sarah a few more times to get clarifications on some of the attributes of the table to ensure that our data are consistent with our intern. For instance, found out that the totalCost in an invoice already includes the delivery fee and the buyer fee so we did not have to do additional calculations to get the totalCost.

“ I like visual representations,” Sarah explained during this meeting. Sarah shared with us the types of visualizations like pie charts and bar graphs that she would find most helpful. After this meeting with Sarah, we discussed the details of what features she would like to see in our application and what would benefit her most for her job. This feedback helped us decide on bar graphs and pie charts as the two forms we used to visualize query results in the project. During our implementation phase, Professor Wilborne suggested that we use the Google Charts API for displaying the graphs which provide us with many options of graphs. We decided that some information could be represented better using bar graphs while other information is better represented in pie charts. So, we created query options that would display bar graphs or pie charts depending on the dropdown option selected. Bar graphs served a better purpose because some information was too small in the pie chart to see. This brought us to another feature to our application.

Since the bar graph would eventually become overcrowded with data we implemented a search bar for the table that displayed all the data. The search bar allows you to search for information specified by certain values in a column, for example, search for a farmer name in data to find data related to that farmer.

Another feedback we received from Sarah that impacted our decision-making was during an email to her last week. When we emailed Sarah to ask whether she preferred viewing the table results in one or multiple tables, she asked how she would use an export feature to get the data

from our tables to Excel in order to perform advanced operations. This made us think of adding an export feature so that Sarah would have the data table at hand. We were not sure which type of file she should be able to download so we emailed her, and she preferred Excel because it allowed her to sort the table in depth. In the implementation we allow the user to export the tables in PDF and Excel files to meet our client's preference and also allow them to have a report in PDF.