# Servant’s Network

## Purpose:

To connect people who need help to qualified individuals wanting to use their gift of servanthood.

## Background:

1. Most people feel uncomfortable asking for help or don’t know who to ask
2. There are people in the church with varied skillsets and talents
3. Many people with the gift of service don’t know how or where to use their gift
4. The challenges of 2020 could change lifestyles forever, creating more need for helping hands

## Benefits:

1. People who need help can find help from people they can trust
2. People who have the gift of service can use their gift and edify the body of Christ
3. People who use their gift feel fulfilled

## How it works:

The idea is to create a network of users, separated into two groups: “servants” and “requesters”. Each church would have their own network within the website. Future plans may integrate churches from the same community.

Similar to Home Advisor (<http://homeadvisor.com>), the network would allow church members or community members to create a Servant Profile, describing themselves and their talents, skillsets, experience, etc. This could range from tax consulting, raking leaves, car mechanic work, electrical work, making a meal, or moving furniture.

The other half of the website would allow “requesters” to create a project he/she needs help with, categorizing it and providing a description of need. The system would then try to match his/her needs with servants that may have the required skillset and notify those servants about the project. The servant would be able to contact the requester through the network to coordinate the project.

## Example:

John is a mechanic by trade and has the gift of servanthood. So he creates a profile and checks all the boxes for skills that he has: car mechanic, general yard work, moving furniture. His son, Brian, is 14 and creates a profile with skills: general yard work and moving furniture. Beth is a 65 year old widow, needing help with shoveling snow. She completes a request, and both John and Brian get notifications that Beth needs help and they have matching skillsets. They can then contact Beth to offer help. When that happens, her request would change to pending so that other servants with matching skillsets see that the need is in the process of being met.

## Assumptions:

To make this work, we would assume that this service will not be taken advantage of. There are many aspects that could go wrong, but there may be ways to protect users in each instance.

* A user creates 10+ requests in a month, taking advantage of the volunteers’ time
* A servant could not be reliable, honest, communicative, qualified, etc.

## Cost:

* Domain: $20/yr
* Hosting: $20/mo
* Total: $260/yr

Note: this website could be subsidized by inserting ads to cover all costs