

Center for Organ Recovery & Education

Executive Summary

Community Partner

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Background

The Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE) is an organ procurement organization based out of Pittsburgh with an office in Charleston, West Virginia. They work to find donors for organs and service nearly 6 million people across 155 hospitals they are connected with. The organization uses “computerized matching of donated organs, tissues, and cornea ” to match donors to patients and does a lot of work to celebrate the lives saved by the donors, attempting to showcase and empower people who donate to encourage more people to donate.

Project Description

Project Opportunity

The A Special Place (ASP) ceremony mentioned in the program overview is one of the largest events that CORE organizes. For this event technology is used heavily to collect and distribute information from the donor families to CORE staff working on the main video for the event. In the past, issues have arisen from mishandling the data donor families have submitted to CORE, resulting in missing photos, misspelled names, and lost contact information within the system.

Project Vision

Our vision is to create a mobile friendly web application that will serve as an add-on to the current website CORE Gallery of Heroes. This can be a one-stop shop for all of the data and forms necessary for the donor family to register for an event. We plan to build the web-app in Wordpress because that is what CORE’s current website is using. Utilizing a variety of plug-ins on wordpress as well as SFTP protocol and php code to create the responsive web-app. Features will include keeping track of users’ data, and registering for CORE’s events, as well as being able to see RSVPs on the staff side of the application.

Project Outcomes

The most important people, process, and technology outcomes are highlighted below.

- The *A Special Place* application streamlines the process of data collection and bridges the gap between data entry and the database, thus saving time and reducing human error.
- The staff interface (subset of application) gives CORE staff with editor or administrator level unique read and write access to all donor information.

- The end user form (subset of application) creates an easy process for end users to submit information, along with improved data validation, photo uploading, and data sharing.
- New technology capacity was developed. For CORE staff we improved their ability to read and edit user data. For the end-user we improved the user experience by autocompleting multiple fields with data that they previously provided based on the invite code.
- New possess capacity was developed, namely the removal of downloading and emailing the donor information table to multiple staff members.

Project Deliverables

Our project deliverables are the php code and plug-ins (all on the CORE development server already), as well as our testing plan, documentation for how to extend the code-base, and our final report on how to keep this solution running and sustainable in the future.

Recommendations

There are 5 recommendations that we believe will improve the sustainability and capacity of CORE and the web application we have built. These include:

- Makes our web application more user-friendly through providing email confirmation after users register for an event using the web application.
 - Allowing for donor-related video upload and download on the web application so that there is one single source and easy access to videos to be used in main *A Special Place* tribute video.
 - Adding the ability to send automated emails for missing information that users did not enter when registering for an event or entering legal next of kin/donor information.
 - Generating weekly recap reports that summarize new additions, deletions, and updates of information by users.
 - Creating auto-generated pages that can be used in presentation slides for the tribute video shown during the *A Special Place* ceremony.
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Student Consulting Team

Ethan Nankervis served as project manager. He is a third-year student majoring in Information Systems with an additional major in Business Administration. He will be interning at Meta this summer and is looking toward a career in software engineering management.

Anthony Lees served as the tech lead. He is a third-year student majoring in Information Systems with a minor in Computer Science. He will be interning at Google this summer and is eager to pursue a career in software engineering.

Emily Zhang served as design lead and risk manager. She is a third-year student majoring in Information Systems with a double minor in Computer Science and Human Computer Interaction. This summer, she will be interning at Amazon and is looking toward a career in software engineering or project management.