HOPE MINISTRIES

Discussion

Initial discussion began with an introduction video to HOPE Ministries and a few programs   which they offer

HOPE Programs:
- Training Workshops
    - Budgeting - Help individuals learn money management skills
    - Enlighten individuals about breaking the continuous poverty chain
    - Food Pantry - Give qualified families free food from donations

HOPE Revenue Streams:
- Grant Money
- Donations
- Fee Base - Community Marketplace
    - Girl scout cookies is an example offered by the Girl Scout Association
    - Social Enterprise to raise money while keeping non-profit status
        - "Social entrepreneurs identify resources where people only see problems. They view the villagers as the solution, not the passive beneficiary. They begin with the assumption of competence and unleash resources in the communities they're serving." - David Bornstein
        - "Social entrepreneurs are not content just to give a fish or teach how to fish. They will not rest until they have revolutionized the fishing industry" - Bill Drayton

Conclusions:

HOPE seem to want a way of making money using Social Enterprise as stream of choice.
They would like to use other organizations which agrees with HOPE ideals and potentially receive donations from them to continue their own program. This would be accomplished by   selling items on HOPE (this will not correspond to HOPE MINISTRIES but will be another part   of their organization unit) Marketplace and HOPE would take a share of items sold.

Action Items:
- ✓ Community Marketplace
- ✓ Social Enterprise

Discussion
    Talks began about their website and a potential mock-up of what they would like to see

    Website Content:
    - Overall theme is a community marketplace
        - Terrell C. mention a shopping mall layout
        - Target audience - Women 30+
        - Options to donate
        - Website Revision
        - Color Schemes (soft greens, soft blues, Louisiana culture)
        - Advertising Space
            - Gold Sponsors
            - Top Sellers: organizations which sell the most products, of course their advertising would be the first to cycle through - I believe that's what she's talking about when she mentioned "Features of the Month"
    - Contact Form
        - Database to keep and track new/old clients
    - Checkout System
        - Paypal
        - Google Checkout
        - Options to donate also at checkout system
        - etc....
    - Spreadsheet Report - Reporting System
        - Way of reporting money (IRS - Internal Revenue Service)
        - Reporting of items sold
    - Potential Sponsors Involvement
        - How would others access website system to upload their own content
    - Hosting Providers
        - Tim mentioned DreamHost as a possibly provided - her concerns were available space
    - User Tracking
        - Heat Mapping
    - Website Certificates
        - Need prices

Conclusions:
    HOPE would like to see a website with organizations as investors that support their ideals and would sell their products on a HOPE owed website. They would receive a percentage of all items sold and Donation, Donations & Donations :)

    Note: They seem to have a pretty open budget right now so if you guyz think of anything that   cost still include those ideas.

Action Items:
    - Donations

- Advertising Space
- Managing other users access
- Website Hosting
- Database Design with Reporting System

References
- Website Mock-up Ideas HOPE liked
  - http://www.charityusa.com/
  - http://www.fundraisers.com/

- They purchased these domains...not sure if they are correct will check with Janet...its one of these I believe
  - http://www.lacommunitymarketplace.org/
  - http://www.lacommunitymarketplace.net/
  - http://www.communitymarketplace.com/
  - http://www.communitymarketplace.net/

- Website Certificates
  - http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST05-010.html
  - http://www.verisign.com/

A. Website Design
- o Tim suggests an eBay like design.
- o Terrell still likes a virtual mall design.
- o The majority dislikes both ideas
- o Voted that the group comes up with an original design.
- o Tim recommends the entire group design their own layout and bring to next meeting.
  - Agreed. Design sheets tabled to next meeting.

B. Programming Language Decision
- o JAVA nor C++ is an option.
- o Tim suggest Ruby on Rails because of its customizable functions.
  - We all watch a Ruby on Rails tutorial.
- o Devin suggests using PHP.
- o Terrell, Matt, and Hailong agree that they will learn either language because they aren't very proficient in creating websites.
  - Agreed. Group will use PHP. Devin will send out tutorial links for it.

C. Mockup Docs
- o Tim and Devin make mention of mock up docs.
  - Tim makes a brief overview of what he likes to do when creating website designs.
- o Devin agrees along with the rest of the group.
- o Terrell and Matt state that it will be hard to design a mock up when we have no concrete idea of what we want the website to look like.
  - Agreed. Mock up tabled until next meeting when we bring the individual design sheets.

D. Next Meeting w/ HOPE
- o Next week is hectic for everyone.
- o Hailong suggests that we plan for the week off 9/28-Fall Break week.
- o Group agrees but has some doubts about who will be available.
  - Agreed. Will revisit next meeting.

E. Open Floor
- o Tim suggests that we meet weekly; as if we are in class.
- o All agree with this idea.
- o Also limit use of laptops during meeting to stay on task.
  - Agreed.

F. Next meeting topics
- o Mockup Design
- o Website Design
- o Back-end implementation

A. Website Design
- o Everyone has their design sheets.
- o Group decides on a static layout for all pages.
- o Mrs. Simmons mentioned during our first meeting that she wants to keep the "bayou" theme with the site so group decides to use earth tone colors such as green, brown, beige, off white, yellow etc.
- o Group decides to take 45 minutes to design a more elaborate design for the website.
  - o Design is coming together very nicely.

B. Mockup Design
- o Tim shows an example of what out mockup design can look like.
- o Group agrees that this will be the best way to show what their ideas should look like as a website.
- o Devin recommends and vote to use Photoshop.

C. Back-end Implementation
- o The group has to figure out a way to implement this keeping Mrs. Simmons idea in mind.
- o It has to be manageable from every aspect.
- o What will the charities and other organizations see when they log in to create, modify, and add material to their profile.
- o Tim volunteers to look more into it for the next meeting.

D. Open Floor
- o Next week isn't looking good for a meeting with Mrs. Simmons.
- o Reschedule for the week of 10/4.
- o Group agrees that too much time is being wasted discussing other ideas and design layouts. If it has already been discussed, move on.
- o Group also vote to keep meeting under 3 hours at the most.
- o Terrell mentions that we should not begin any in-depth coding until Mrs. Simmons has seen our mockup sheets and give us any input she may have. Group agrees.

E. Next Meeting Topics
- o Progress on mockup sheets in Photoshop.
- o Back-end implementation.
- o Pair Programming
- o Begin actual coding.