

**Northland Children's
Mental Health Collaborative (NCMHC)**

Collaborative Website Final Project Report

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The report outlining Jeremy's contribution to the collaborative site
that was designed with Rikki Swetzof and Adam Mornes.

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Group Members

This was a rather unique project and everyone's roles and responsibilities combined to work on all aspects of the project. Unfortunately because of this, although we can narrow down their primary roles, in doing so it limits some of their contributions. So keep in mind the fact that all aspects of the designing and implementing were not just the sole work of the individuals listed as their role, but it was instead a collaborative effort done on all levels by the following group members.

Name	Primary Roles	Responsibilities
Jeromy Graham	Layout Editor PHP Editor Logo Designer Layout Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversees design and application of the main layout section and the css behind it by using group decided design ideas. • Implemented the integration of the layout into the Pulse editor and its interaction. • Assisted with logo designs in the primary designing process and also with layout ideas. • Assisted with the cleanup of content in Pulse.
Adam Mornes	Pulse Editor Content Editor Logo Designer Layout Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversees work done in Pulse. • Assisted with the editing and implementing of content and pages. • Assisted with logo designs in the primary designing process and also with layout ideas.
Rikki Swetzof	Project Coordinator Content Editor Logo Designer Layout Designer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversees and coordinates the work of the project and the communication between the project members and NCMHC. • Handles the research of content entered into Pulse as well as content design changes. • Created the chosen logo design and the chosen layout that NCMHC decided upon.

Note: Again, although it may seem one person's contribution on a project was over another's, this was a very coordinated and collaborative effort where the group met at least once a week to design and discuss the implement the Website.

1. Final Project Summary

Over the period of time the team accomplished many tasks and managed to come up with a logo as well as a layout that can be added to or altered by the NCMHC.

1.1. Content Summary

Scope

From the beginning this project's scope involved the creation of a Website for NCMHC that would be used to provide information to both its members as well as to prospective clients and the community. Because of the various age groups that NCMHC members provide service to, the target scope of the Website was to include information that would pertain to the needs of a wide variety of individuals who were seeking services for anyone from the date of birth to eighteen years of age.

The content would need to be tailored not only to the individuals in the age group, but also their parents, family, friends or other professionals seeking information and services. To narrow the scope a bit, the site's primary design was to provide some information about members' services, resources and events.

Schedule

The schedule began through documentation about NCMHC, their wants and expectations, at the beginning of the semester, January 13, 2014, and isn't ending at this project report. Although the schedule has been followed closely, there were a few minor delays that prevented the project from completing all goals on time.

Costs

A few costs were incurred by the project and although this report could give estimates, they would not be exact and have been omitted.

Service	Cost	Description
Website services	Unknown	Webhosting services fee.
Domain name	Unknown	Domain name fee.
Pulse	Unknown	Pulse product fee.
Shutterstock	Unknown	Shutterstock image fees.

Risks

Risk	impact	Probability	Mitigation
The scope being too broad to handle and the project suffering from it	High	Medium	<p>In the beginning this had a high probability because the scope was very broad and included many elements that would either make the site very difficult to create or would have posed as a security risk.</p> <p>In order to deal with this issue, the scope was adjusted with the Lesa Radtke. Many of the questionable services had been addressed in the meeting and the scope was narrowed in order to bring about a more agreeable solution.</p>
Lack of experience with Pulse	Medium	Low	<p>Because most of the team was unfamiliar with the PHP program, it would become a learning experience for our members. Adam Mornes had the most experience with the product and was a valuable asset to understanding and implementing it.</p> <p>To prevent from a possible issue with Pulse, other products that were analyzed but the team would keep in mind that Lesa Radtke was going to be updating the content and that she already had an understanding of Pulse.</p>
Lack of content	Medium	High	<p>Although there was a lack of content from the beginning, more and more was provided as it was obtained. To prevent from the content delaying the project, the project was based on the layout and how the content would be entered into the pages.</p> <p>The site's development anticipated the lack of content by designing the site so that it could be easily maintained by an individual with some knowledge on how to create pages and content.</p>
Project cost	Low	Low	<p>Although there is a need to prevent from creating a large bill for NCMHC, the costs associated with the project were projected to be minimal.</p>
Lack of overall experience with Website development	Low	Low	<p>Each of the group members has various skills that provide the knowledge needed to overcome obstacles. If there had been any issues, there are also avenues at the college that could have been utilized to get around them.</p>

Communications Strategy

For the most part, the team communicated a majority of the content through either the meetings or through email, but it wasn't uncommon for them to communicate information through texts and phone calls.

In order to limit the clutter of communication between the NCMHC and the team, the team established that Rikki Swetzof would handle the communication between her and Lesa Radtke, who was designated as the team's point of contact with the members of the collaborative. From the beginning, Rikki had established a solid line of communication that continued to mold and clarify content for the Website.

As far as dealing with issues involving the Website provider, Adam Mornes made contact as needed to fix Website issues.

1.2. Lessons Learned

1.2.1. Reinventing the wheel

The biggest lesson learned was that reinventing the wheel was not the best solution to the project. Overall, the team's initial assessment of the Pulse was to take the blocks that Pulse created and include them into rather ridged pages that couldn't be altered without a programmer's knowledge on how to include the content. Although this might have been the beginning thought on how to use Pulse, when they started implementing Pulse, they realized that it not only had the ability to create content blocks but also the pages themselves based off of a predefined layout. This was a valuable find, knowing that Lesa Radtke would need to be able to develop the Website and content after the project's completion. The only thing she won't be able to alter without a programmer would be the basic layout which includes the header and footer sections.

1.2.2. Lack of a beginning logo

If there had not been a logo, the team could have worked around it by providing the name as the logo but the design would have been incomplete. Anticipating the lack of a logo, several layouts were designed without a logo included but because the look was incomplete a temporary logo was created.

Unfortunately this set the design project back for the next three weeks because of multiple designs of new logos being created and reviewed by NCMHC, using their recommended changes. Although this was a design setback, overall it evened out the layout and made the site look more professional.

1.2.3. Lack of beginning content

Content had not been established prior to the development of the Website. This proved to be an obstacle from the beginning to the end. Although, Lesa Radtke was providing as much as she could provide as quickly as she could provide it, the site continued to lack content and altered as new content was included.

Even though the content is still coming, the pages and content can continue to be added to the site as it becomes available.

1.2.4. PHP magic quotes

The team also ran into issues dealing with PHP magic quotes. This issue hasn't been resolved yet, but the Website provider has been notified, by Adam Mornes, that it is a problem with Pulse. Because this feature is on through the php.ini file, extra code is being placed in the content blocks. It's code that is normally used to identify quotes, slashes

and other content that normally would need marking to be stored in a variable. Unfortunately, this doesn't work well with Pulse and will be fixed as soon as possible.

1.3. Communications

The communication between the team members has worked well. Each member has brought valuable contributions to the table and been useful in the modeling of the layout, design and coding of the site. For the most part, ongoing deadlines have been met and the team was able to be flexible enough to make changes as needed.

Meetings and emails have been often challenged one another to complete important tasks and provided a unique insight that allows the team to understand and overcome a great deal many obstacles.

1.4. Critical Thinking

1.4.1. Team members did an outstanding job in analyzing the project from the beginning and communicating their need for changes which prevented the team from running into complications completing the project on a timely basis.

1.4.2. The team's approach by starting with the layout and working forward allowed NCMHC time to gather content that would assist in the forming of the project. As new content was gathered it was easily added to the project.

1.4.3. Because Pulse lacked documentation, the project's original understanding of Pulse was to provide the content blocks of the pages that would be created. After reviewing the PHP of Pulse a greater understanding of the content manager was developed and the site's index.php was altered to use it properly with the new layout. Since the discovery, the site's progress has increased and the pages and content have been easier to add.

1.4.4. Because an issue with the php.ini file and the use of magic quotes, which hasn't been resolved yet, further research into the Pulse PHP revealed that it created html pages that could be altered, bypassing the issue with magic quotes. Although, this is not the preferred method of entering the blocks, it was the breakthrough we needed to make the site present the content we needed. Eventually, when magic quotes have been disabled, the site will no longer need this work around.

1.5. Design and Implementation

After the team established an acceptable layout design that NCMHC could agree upon, the rest of the website was able to be developed and implemented as content became available.

1.6. Content Management System

Development of Pulse as a content management system has made the Website easier to manage and design. Because of the included features of Pulse, its design will make it easier for NCHMC to make modifications to pages and content as needed.

Features:

- The layout design is an integral part of Pulse but cannot be modified without programming knowledge. This makes it so the layout can't be altered unless it's intentionally altered.
- The pages can be created with only a small amount of knowledge of html, which makes it easy to train someone on how to alter and develop future pages.

- Content can be modified using the built in Pulse editor and can also include html modifications. Once the content block is created, Pulse provides the include statement needed to render the content within the page sections.

Overall, Pulse looks like a good fit as a content editor and will only require slight modifications to work the way the team needs it to work.

1.7. Security

A majority of the content is displayed through includes in PHP pages and Pulse requires logging in before any modifications can be made. In the pages being displayed, there's no personal information being provided or classified information being released.

The overall security threat in this site is minimal.

1.8. Deploy-ability

Currently, the site is deployable but still lacks some content and some minor CSS fixes. Soon, it will be presented to NCHMC members for review and when that occurs a few changes will be expected but the changes should be minor.

2. Project Direction

2.1 Project Support

Although the project's final report is being given, the project hasn't completed its cycle. Even after the completion, at least one team member plans to support minor modifications and training on how to implement and change the site and pages.

3. Design Contributions (Personal Involvement)

Archived information of design work personally done on the project. Although the none of the displayed designs were chosen, it represents a significant contribution to the project.

3.1 Layout Ideas





3.2 Logo Design Ideas

3.2.1. Original logo idea



3.2.2 Puzzle piece logos





3.2.3. Ribbons



3.2.4. Three Stick



3.2.5. Blocks logos

