Semester of Service at Homefull

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IT intern at Homefull
Semester of Service – Spring ‘18

Student Overview

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Spring 2018
Computer Science

Semester of Service

Semester of service is a program where students have an opportunity to have experiential learning through hands-on projects. Students grow through experiential learning, the creation of intentional community, and professional training and supervision from local social service providers.

Homefull

Homefull has truly come a long way since its beginning, back in 1988. It started out under the name The Other Place in the basement of Dayton’s Christ Episcopal Church with only twenty people coming for shelter the first day.

Today, Homefull assists more than 600 people daily. Instead of just a shelter, we now provide a comprehensive continuum of services designed to help people find and keep jobs and homes.

For years, Homefull served as a daytime homeless shelter and the St. Vincent Hotel operated as the overnight homeless shelter in Dayton. Then, in November 2009, Dayton saw the opening of a 24-hour “gateway shelter” for single men, giving the community two separate 24-hour shelters for the first time.

Homefull provides case management and programming for the gateway shelter system while St. Vincent de Paul provides all the meals and shelter operations. The organizations work closely together. (https://goo.gl/1D9iXy)

Homefull’s Mission

To work to end homelessness by providing housing, services, advocacy and education.

Homefull serves as an advocate for people who are experiencing homelessness or are in danger of losing their homes.

Homefull works to educate the community at large about the causes of and solutions to homelessness.

Homefull provides a broad range of direct services to persons who are currently experiencing homelessness, are at risk of homelessness, or are formerly homeless.

Homefull works with community partners to develop and operate permanent supportive housing that provides a way out of homelessness. (https://goo.gl/1D9iXy)

Project and Daily Tasks

Creating Asset Tags

One of my projects was to create an asset tag system to all the computers used in the organization. Currently every pc is named after its user, which is not very efficient because due to the possibility of two users having the same name. In this case, it would be really difficult for a person to identify which PC is used by whom while troubleshooting remotely. Therefore, I had the opportunity apply the information I learned from a course I took last semester to create a database of asset tags for the organization’s computers. This allowed me to use my knowledge in computer science and create a real-time application.

An Application for Resource Guide:

There are many clients who come from different backgrounds that reach out Homefull. The clients need assistance in a wide range of services in Dayton to address issues such as drug addiction, alcohol addiction, or food insecurity. Currently, Homefull has this gigantic list of all services complied in a PDF file. This makes it really difficult for case managers to search for a particular service to suggest there clients. I am in the process of designing a database to store all the data. I am using database concepts and writing queries to sort the data according to zip code, county, city. I am really passionate about this project because this will help the employees of Homefull by saving them time.

Many organizations around the city of Dayton donate computers, printers to Homefull. Once they reach the site we erase all the existing data and install all the necessary programs and provide them to the new hired interns and employees. Also, I train new employees on how to use the technology walk them through each step, provide necessary credentials like outlook mail, Dropbox etc.

Acknowledgements

A special Thanks to Semester of Service, Homefull’s admin staff and all the awesome people I met through this program. I have learned a lot in the past few months.

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