Butler University EPICS
Spring 2015

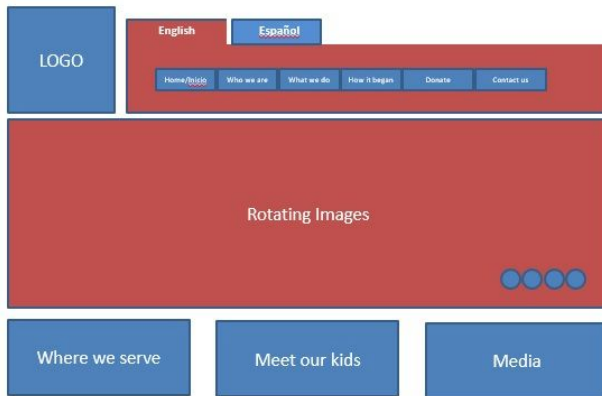|	
Team Leader	Peter Bult
Recorder	Dylan Cozad
Client	Tom Hinton
Client	Vanessa Gomez
Professor	Panos Linos

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1   Introduction

Mision Betel is a Christian, non-profit organization focused on rescuing needy children and restoring communities by promoting traditional, Bible-based family values. Through its children's home program, Mision Betel takes in neglected and abandoned children and provides them with a clean and safe home environment, proper nutrition, education and spiritual nourishment. The goal of the children's home program is to let the children know that they are not burdens or outcasts, but that they are special, loved and a key part of a family, and their mission is to provide Vision for children's physical and spiritual needs and give them a sense of belonging by bringing structure and security to their lives.

Taking on this project, the goal of our EPICS team was to utilize our time and talents to help a worthy cause. While other projects may have possibly seemed more flashy or intriguing, helping out Mision Betel has been a very rewarding project because we know that our efforts in turn end up helping orphans and homeless children in the Dominican Republic. Although we are not directly impacting them, we know that our efforts will benefit a worthwhile cause in some way.

This report will document are struggles and accomplishments throughout this semester as we actively worked to improve the original Mision Betel website. It includes information on our team, our system used, the design process, our management of the project, and our future goals for the site and possible future EPICS projects through Mision Betel and/or Tom Hinton.

2   Requirement Specifications

The group was given the task to redesign and modernize the Mison Betel website. The group was given an example layout for how the client wanted the website to look (shown below). We also suggested the idea of implementing a Spanish version of the website, and the client really liked that idea.

The group successfully modernized the website in a way that looked similar to the theme given by the client. The group also updated the content of the website with new content provided by the client and updated photos on the website.

3   Architecture

Web Design System:

WordPress

Plugins used:

Theme Test Drive

Contact Form by ContactMe.com

Polylang

WP Mobile Detector

Quick Page/Post Redirect DEV

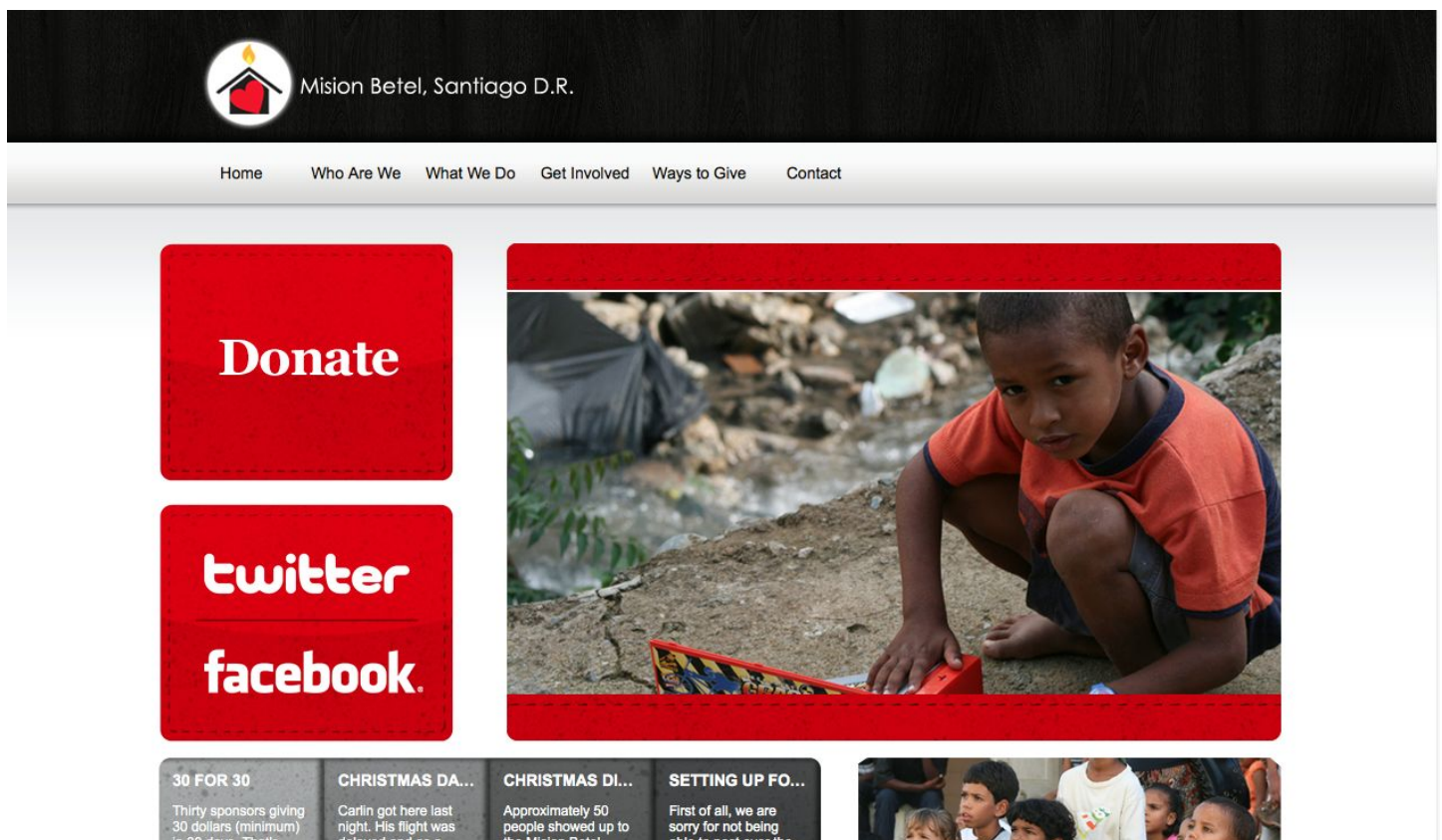Web Ninja Google Analytics

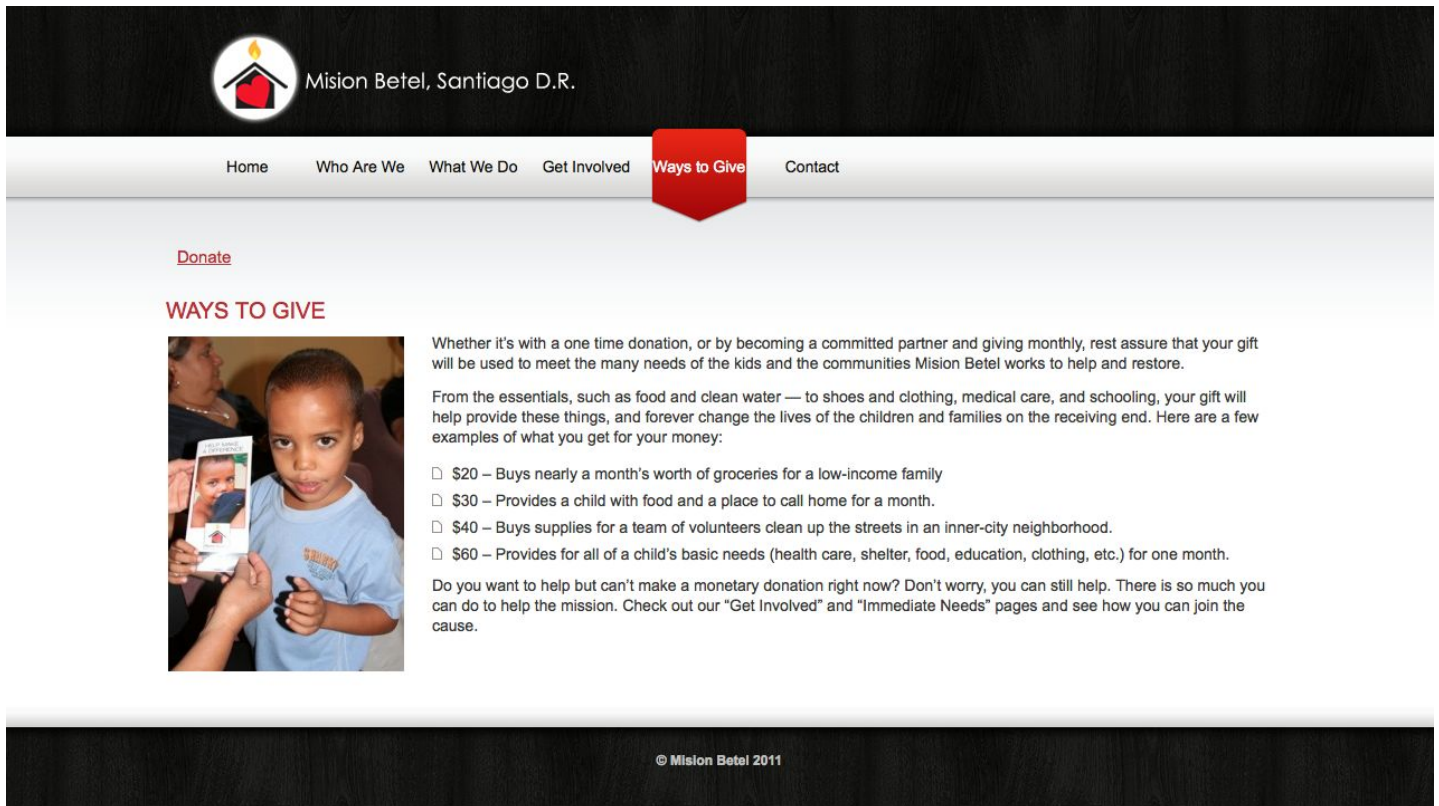XML Sitemap Feed

Theme used:

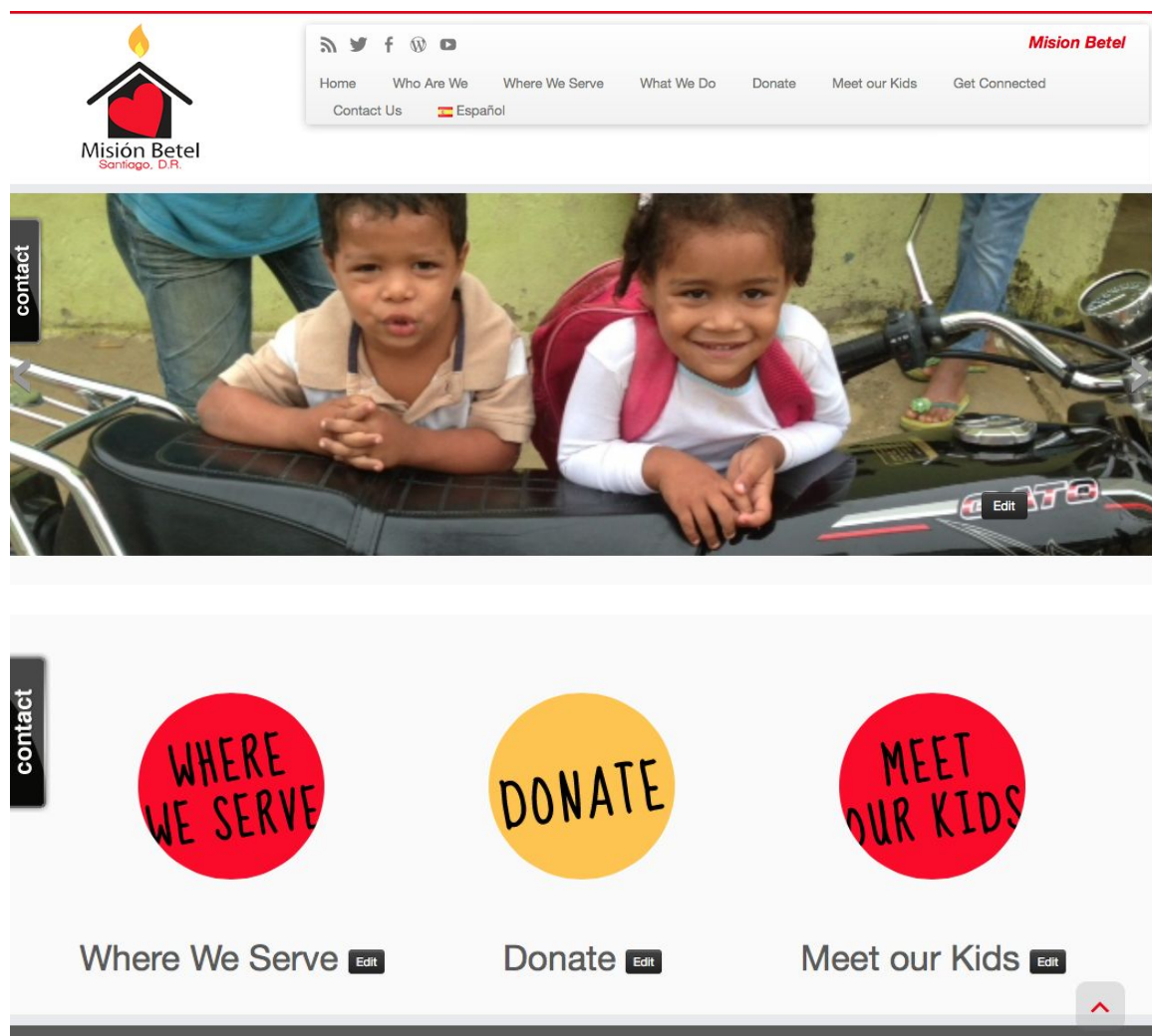Customizr

Widgets:

Language Switcher

4   Design

The original Mision Betel website was a prototype created by Vanessa
Gomez, daughter of one of the founders of the orphanage, in her spare time.
Overall the site appeared to be out of date in functionality, design, and
information. A few of the major issues included having an outdated blog from 2010,
too prominent social media links that were outdated, no information of the
orphanage children, and outdated low quality photos. Below is a screenshot of the
original homepage; make note of certain aspects that needed changed (buttons,
header, social media links, donation link, photos).

Below is an example of how simple and plain some of the pages were. With pages about donation especially, we wanted the content and layout to be exciting, cheerful, and able to get people to donate.

For the new website, we implemented all the changes previously discussed on the last page, as they were changes that Vanessa Gomez specifically pointed out as being necessary. We searched for a website theme that would match her wants of having a scrolling banner, containing more subtle social media links, containing prominent buttons for donations and other pertinent information, and placing the Mision Betel logo on the top corner. Some of the biggest challenges for us included getting acquainted with all of the unique features of WordPress and being able to translate all of the site's content into Spanish. Below is an example of what the new website homepage currently looks like.

5   Implementation & Quality Assurance

Again, our main form of implementation for this project was all features available through WordPress. We utilized plugins such as ContactMe for viewers to leave contact information, Polylang to translate the site into Spanish, Theme Test Drive to be able to create a duplicate site while not disturbing the existing one, and multiple smaller plugins for analytics and overall ease of use.

Our main form of quality assurance and testing (other than trial and error) was our two main resources, Vanessa Gomez and Tom Hinton. We showed them various versions of the website throughout the semester and made changes as they saw fit. We bounced a couple of ideas off of Vanessa during the semester and altered our outlook for the site based on her opinions and preferences. Overall, we accomplished several tasks through personal research and trial and error, including creating a scrolling banner, making our site multilingual, and creating a test site that would not interfere with the existing site.

6   Project Organization & Management

Peter Bult - Team Leader

Peter is a junior Computer Science major, with a minor in Chemistry. Peter took the role of team lead. He was in charge of maintaining contact with our clients, Tom Hinton and Vanessa Gomez as well as delegating tasks and keeping the project on track. He also was in charge of keeping the EPICS artifacts page and moodle updated with our documentation. Peter focused mainly on keeping contact with the clients to ensure that the website would be designed to their liking as well as updating the content of the website.

Dylan Cozad - Recorder

Dylan is a junior Actuarial Science major, with minors in Business Administration and Mathematics. Dylan took control of recording all actions that took place during team meetings in order to keep the team organized and complete Weekly Status Reports. In terms of the website, Dylan focused primarily on the graphics and design, including the themes, scrolling banner, high definition photos, and more.

Team Dynamics

Our team met twice per week every week--Mondays with Dr. Linos and Wednesdays on our own to work and accomplish our weekly tasks. We would upon occasion also meet on additional days to meet up with one of our clients, Tom Hinton, in person or call our other client, Vanessa Gomez. All web design was implemented through WordPress and personal online research, and work was divided up amongst the team as described above.

7   Future Work

1. Launch the updated version of the website for Tom Hinton when he travels back to the Dominican Republic this May.

2. Hand off site's responsibility back to Vanessa Gomez and help her become comfortable with the site's new setup.

3. Future EPICS teams could work on accomplishing some/all of the following tasks: keeping the Mision Betel website up-to-date and functional, assisting Tom Hinton with his personal website through Barnabas Task with features such as translation, and making a trip to the Dominican Republic to observe firsthand the great work of Mision Betel.

8   References

Contacts:

Tom Hinton

- taskisgreat@gmail.com
- 260 579-8275
- presented the project idea, but not a part of the organization

Vanessa Gomez

- vanessagomez07@gmail.com
- 786 457-9785
- Webmaster for the orphanage
- Main contact for working on the website

Research:

Example Orphanage Websites we looked at:

- http://soworldwide.org/about/
- http://indianorphanage.com/
- http://www.200orphanagesworldwide.org/orphanages.php

Tutorial used to help make the website multilingual

- http://www.wpbeginner.com/beginners-guide/how-to-easily-create-a-multilingual-wordpress-site/

Suggestions from Vanessa

- http://alliance-for-africa.org
  - "I like the rotating picture gallery and the header"

- https://www.michaeljfox.org/
  - "I like the dividing bat/break and the icons"
- Page layout from Vanessa

9   Appendix

Weekly Status Reports:

Weekly Status Report 1/26/15

Weekly Status Report 2/2/15

Weekly Status Report 2/9/15

Weekly Status Report 2/16/15

Weekly Status Report 2/23/15

Weekly Status Report 3/2/15

Weekly Status Report 3/16/15

Weekly Status Report 3/23/15

Weekly Status Report 3/30/15

Weekly Status Report 4/6/15

Weekly Status Report 4/13/15

Weekly Status Report 4/20/l5