

# Bridging the Gap through Technology

---

Exploring problems and solutions associated with the Area 38 online BTG form.

**Session: H210 The Technical History  
of two successful AA websites**

Presented by Area 38/Lois L.

# Agenda

---

- Brief overview of our existing application/process
- Current problems we face with the application
- Requirements driving a new solution
- Sharing session

# What is the application?

Physical Cards plus online website

**EASTERN AREA OF MISSOURI – AA**  
**BRIDGING THE GAP REQUEST FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number on Contact Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Email or Alternate Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Facility Being Released From \_\_\_\_\_  
Release Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMIT THIS INFORMATION ONLINE AT BTG.**  
Return this form to the A.A. contact person or email it to \_\_\_\_\_  
the information to (314)647-3677

**BRIDGING THE GAP**

Home Data Admin

**Eastern Missouri AA - Bridging the Gap Request Entry Form**

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Release Date \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
\*Sex  Male  Female  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State   
\*Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email or Alt. Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes \_\_\_\_\_

\* Required Field

Submitting this form will notify Bridging the Gap volunteers, in the zip code area, that the individual entered would like to have assistance getting to appropriate meetings.  
If there are any questions you can direct them to 314-647-3677 or email [btg@eamo.org](mailto:btg@eamo.org).

# How does it work?

**BRIDGING THE GAP**

Home Data Admin

BTG Representatives BTG Types Contacts **Districts** Candidates Errors History

	DistrictId	AADistrict	ZipCode	City	County	State	ModifiedDate	
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	1	43	63005	Chesterfield	Saint Louis	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	2	17	63010	Arnold	Jefferson	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	3	17	63011	Arnold	Jefferson	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	4	17	63012	Arnold	Jefferson	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	5	17	63013	Arnold	Jefferson	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	6	16	63014	Berger	Franklin	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	7	16	63015	Catawissa	Franklin	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	8	17	63016	Cedar Hill	Jefferson	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	9	43	63017	Chesterfield	Saint Louis	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>	10	17	63019	Crystal City	Jefferson	MO	4/20/2011 12:31:22 AM	<a href="#">Insert</a>

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...

Candidate Information – requires zip and phone

Entered Online

Application routes to the chairperson associated with that zipcode

Chairperson hands off to AA volunteer

Volunteer contacts candidate – usually by phone

# The Problem

---

- Wanted to update the online form
  - Application was on server in a member's home
  - Lost the source code for the application
- So far we've been able to transfer the application to an area-maintained server, but now we need to rewrite the code and ensure we don't lose it again.

# The solution

---

We have some requirements:

- Ability to modify who receives requests (current feature)
- Ability to modify what data is captured and stored
- Ability to modify the UI of the form
- Ability to maintain and modify the server and the application code over the course of rotation

# The Solution continued

---

- What we don't know
  - What coding language should we use to write the new program in?
  - What is the best for the future in terms of skills required to modify/update?
  - Who is responsible when something goes wrong?

# Sharing Session

---

In small groups discuss and suggest solutions.

- What qualities should be considered when choosing a programming language for an AA application?
- What best practices, policies and procedures should be put in place in order to ensure that an AA application is “rotatable”
- Who should write an AA application?
- Should we share reusable components between AA entities? How could that work?