iAware Community Portal

Abstract:

At iLink we are in the forefront of creating cutting edge web communities that are rich in content and easy to navigate. This project was to create a robust, scalable online portal/workspace environment, which will bring to life the tools, and frameworks, enabling individuals, organizations and communities to engage, interact and foster communication.

Client need:

The Client wanted an online community environment which would foster greater interaction among members and other site visitors to share their stories, increase awareness, and facilitate education, communication, and collaboration.

Solution:
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iLink developed an online community portal, iAware, integrated into the Client website, which offers connectivity and accessibility. The community was designed to be easily accessible despite location or lack of resources. This includes individuals in rural or underserved communities; people undergoing treatment who may not be physically able to attend a traditional support group and those who may feel uncomfortable sharing their experiences, concerns and fears in public settings.

iAware is an online community created by and for people who want creative means to connect with others, who have been touched by similar things, share similar experiences, and foster the renewal of spirit and personal growth.

iAware offers a comprehensive selection of topics, such as:
* Personal stories told by people
* Living with certain experiences
* Family relationships
* Strategies that have been helpful in daily living

In addition, iAware features a segment likely called "Tales of Triumph". In this section, the user can choose to hear and/or read first person accounts from other people with similar experiences.

iAware also provides a variety of tools that help the user find and connect with other people for support, information, resources and advice. They include:
* Personal Web pages
* Discussion Forum

* Personal Stories
* Expression Gallery
* Chat Rooms
* Resources

They are linked with a search capability that will allow one to find precisely the people, topics, and resources that are meaningful.

Success factors:
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* Security
* Ease of use
* Scalable for millions of hits to site
* Providing multiple mediums of communication that will suit the range of needs of users
* Quick response time
* Compliant with existing industry standards

Technology used:

Platform: Microsoft Windows 2003 and .Net
Front end: ASP.Net
Middle tier: C#
Back end: SQL Server 2000

iLink advantage:
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iLink System's Non-Profit Practice has evolved because of our desire to offer our technology expertise and growing knowledge of this "third sector" to ensure that non-profits can use technology cost-effectively to expand the reach and impact of their work. No matter how diverse non-profits are in the services they provide, the Internet provides an exceptional medium for education, advocacy, marketing, and fundraising. We believe our long-term success includes our responsibility to contribute to the sustainability of our communities and our environment, as well as the financial success of industry.