Project Doe: An Online Data Platform That Can Provide Identification to the Displaced and Homeless

Gaines, Jasmine (School: East Ridge High School)

Currently in the United States, there is a growing homeless population. In many cases these homeless / displaced individuals don't have any identifying cards that can provide quick to find information on the individual. It's not uncommon when a homeless person is taken to the hospital, it takes the hospital or emergency service staff a lot of time to identify who the homeless or displaced individual is. In many cases, this homeless person will be identified with a name such as 'John or Jane Doe' until proper identifying information can be obtained. Many homeless individuals don't have ID cards such as a driver license, or state ID because the individual doesn't have a car, home, or postal address that can be used to quickly identify who the homeless person in question is. Systems like CODIS (COmbined DNA Index System) will also fail to identify these homeless individuals in times of emergency because CODIS is used to identify and track criminals. Just because a person is homeless or displaced doesn't mean they are criminals and as such will not be found in the CODIS system. Today with all the technology we have at our disposal and with the help of the cloud, there should be a way for these organizations to be able to help register the homeless and displaced people they service and provide quick to find information about these individuals that can be linked to an ID card that could be quickly scanned that will in turn retrieve up to date information about the homeless or displaced person in question. My project sets out to do this; to build a data platform that is accessible to organizations that help service the homeless and displaced population and provide a safe, secure platform to store and manage this data.

Awards Won: