

Thanks for having us!



Who we are



Jim Olson
Manager, Product Design



Jon Wiggens
Ul Designer



Jim Olson

- UVic Visual Arts grad
- Front-end Developer > UX Designer > Product Designer
- Employee #12 at Benevity (now grown to just over 300!)



Jon Wiggens

- VFS New Media Grad
- 17 years in interactive design
- Web Designer > Game UI Artist > UI Designer



Benevity YYJ

What is Benevity YYJ like?

- We've had people in Victoria since June 2015
- We started with 2 people in our office, now up to 11
- Lots of teams within Product represented; Business Intelligence, User Experience/Design, Platform (Java) and Web Dev
- Remote collaboration isn't always easy
- Mostly quiet types!



Benevity helps companies **engage** their employees, customers and stakeholders around "**Goodness**" in ways that drive business value and social impact.



3 Stats Benevity Would Like to Change



70% Employees Are Not Engaged

Less than 7% of the \$380 Billion donated annually to North American charities is done online

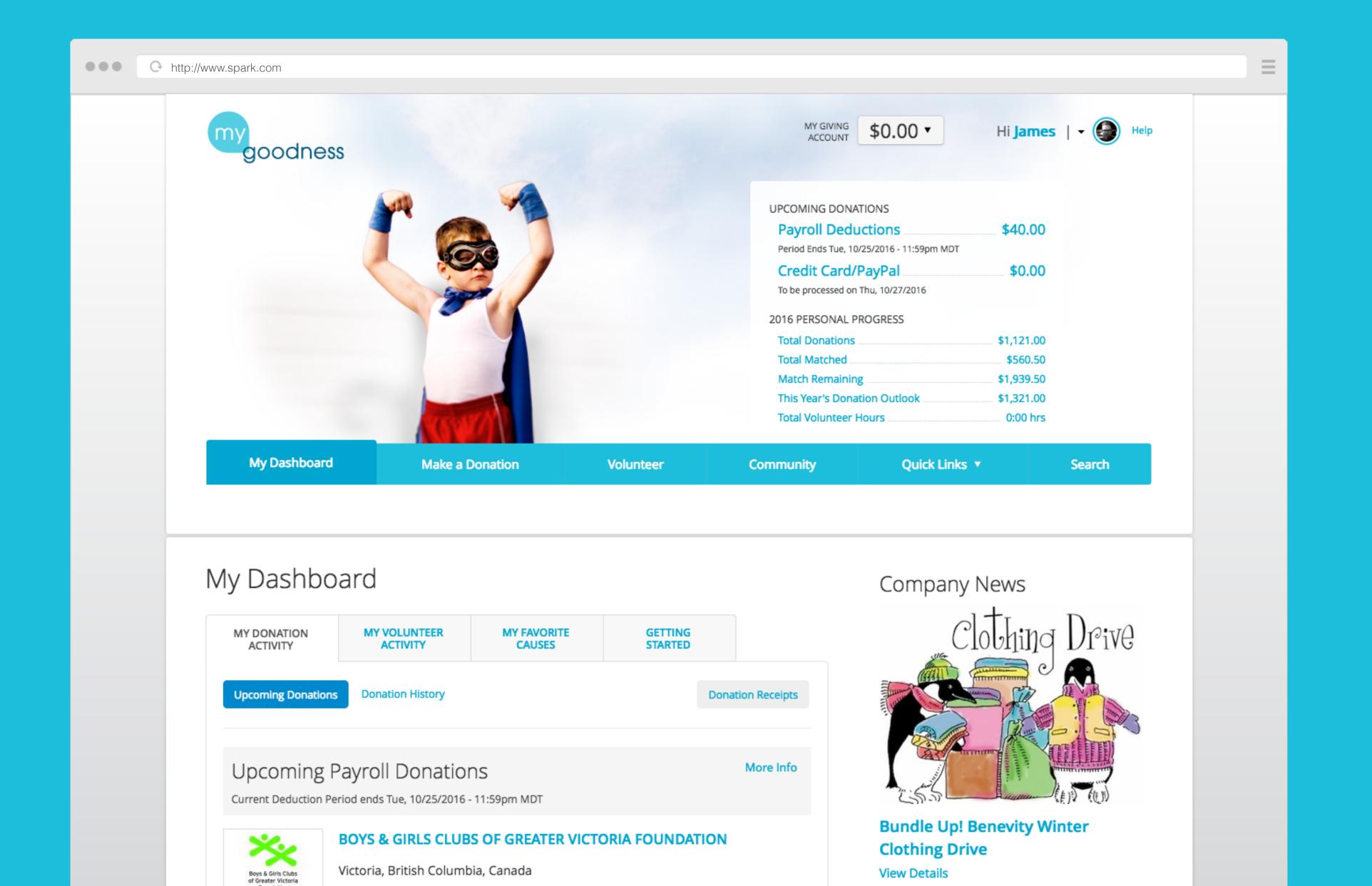
Less than 5% of that amount comes from corporations (despite CSR being more top-of-mind than ever)

70% of employees are not engaged in their jobs (and 25% are "actively disengaged")

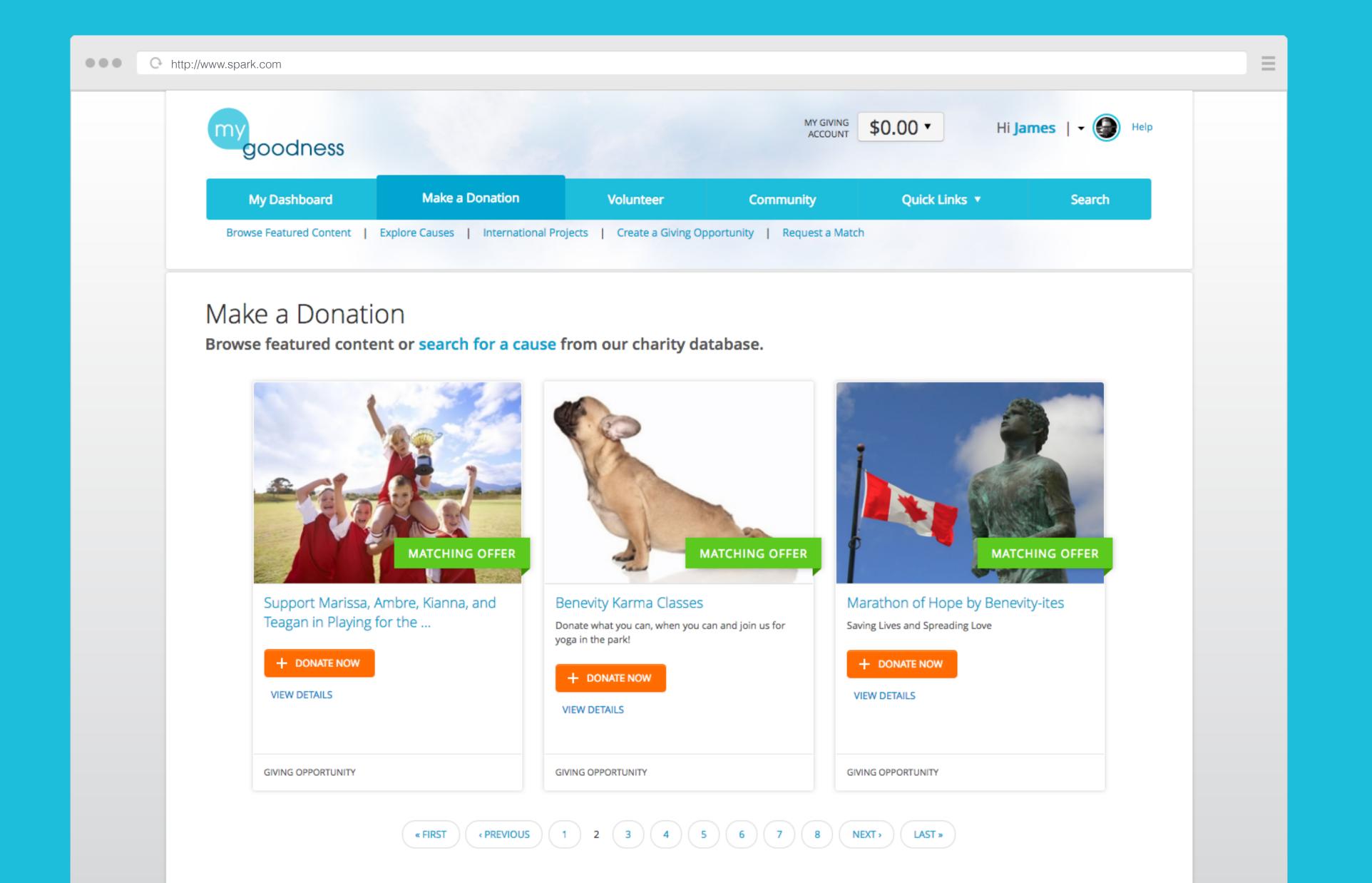


Spark is Benevity's flagship product; a workplace giving and volunteering solution targeted at large companies. Spark engages employees by helping them do good.

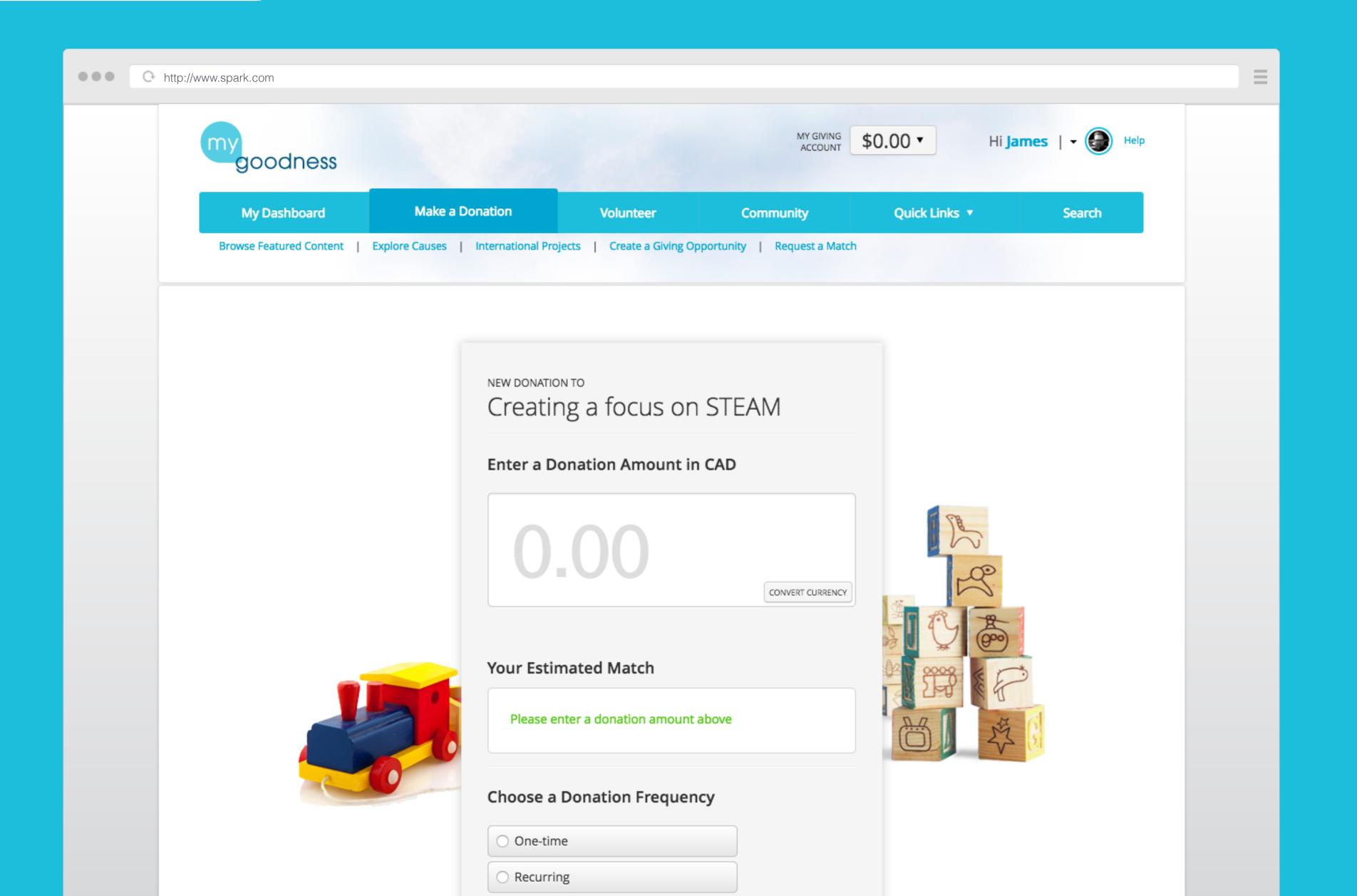














Why Spark?

- Originally Benevity rallied behind the idea of a donation API
- People had trouble imagining what to do with the API
- We built Spark to show what it can do; budgets, matching, etc
- Spark took off on it's own; people and companies love it's simplicity and ease of use
- Even with the huge success of Spark, the API remains Benevity's best long term chance of success



More of What We Do

Donation Management

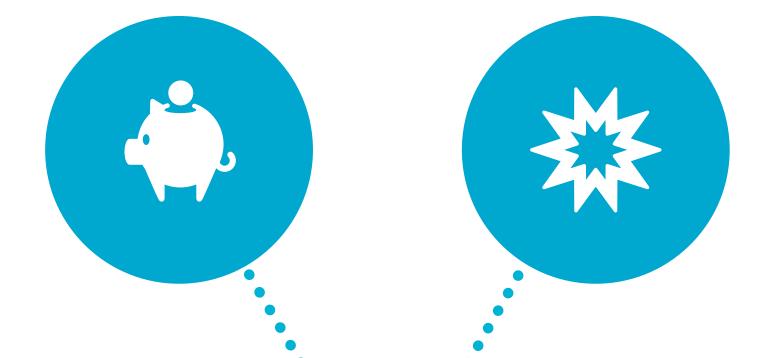
Add Giving Accounts to customer account, bill payment and other transactional interfaces.



Add charity-of-choice donations to loyalty programs, cash back credit cards, etc. Users can also top-up donations with their own money.

Mobile Giving

Mobile giving applications include text-todonate and the Givatron, charity-of-choice giving app for Android devices.

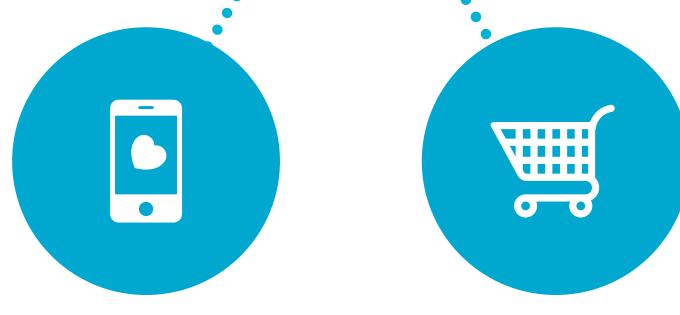


Workplace Giving & Volunteering

Spark: a cost-effective and comprehensive employee engagement tool!



Create Charity Gift Cards where the recipient redeems to give to cause(s) of choice on a branded redemption site.

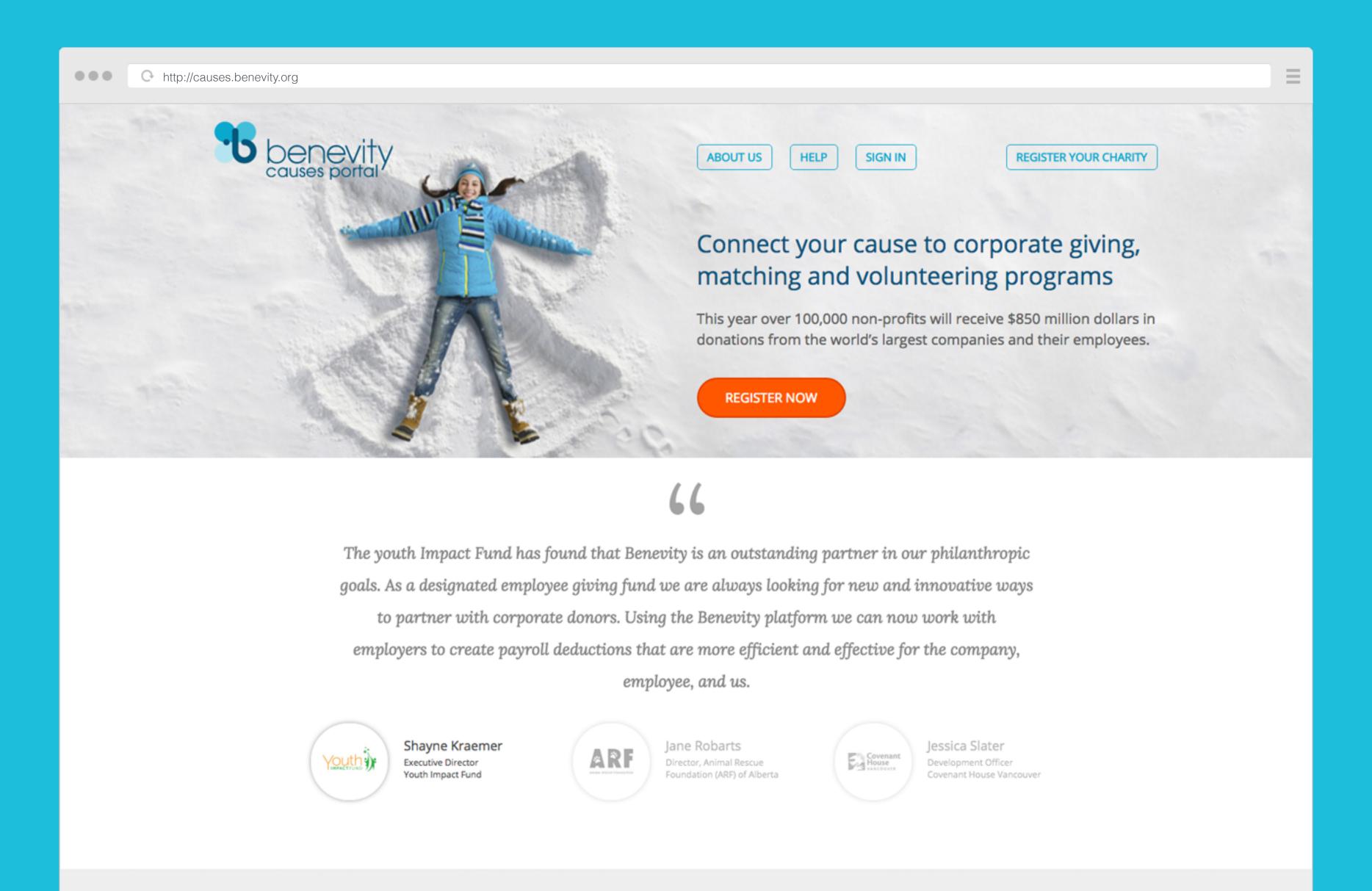


E-Commerce & Online Solutions

Add charitable elements to product pricing (i.e. x% or \$y from proceeds goes to charity) and top-up donations.

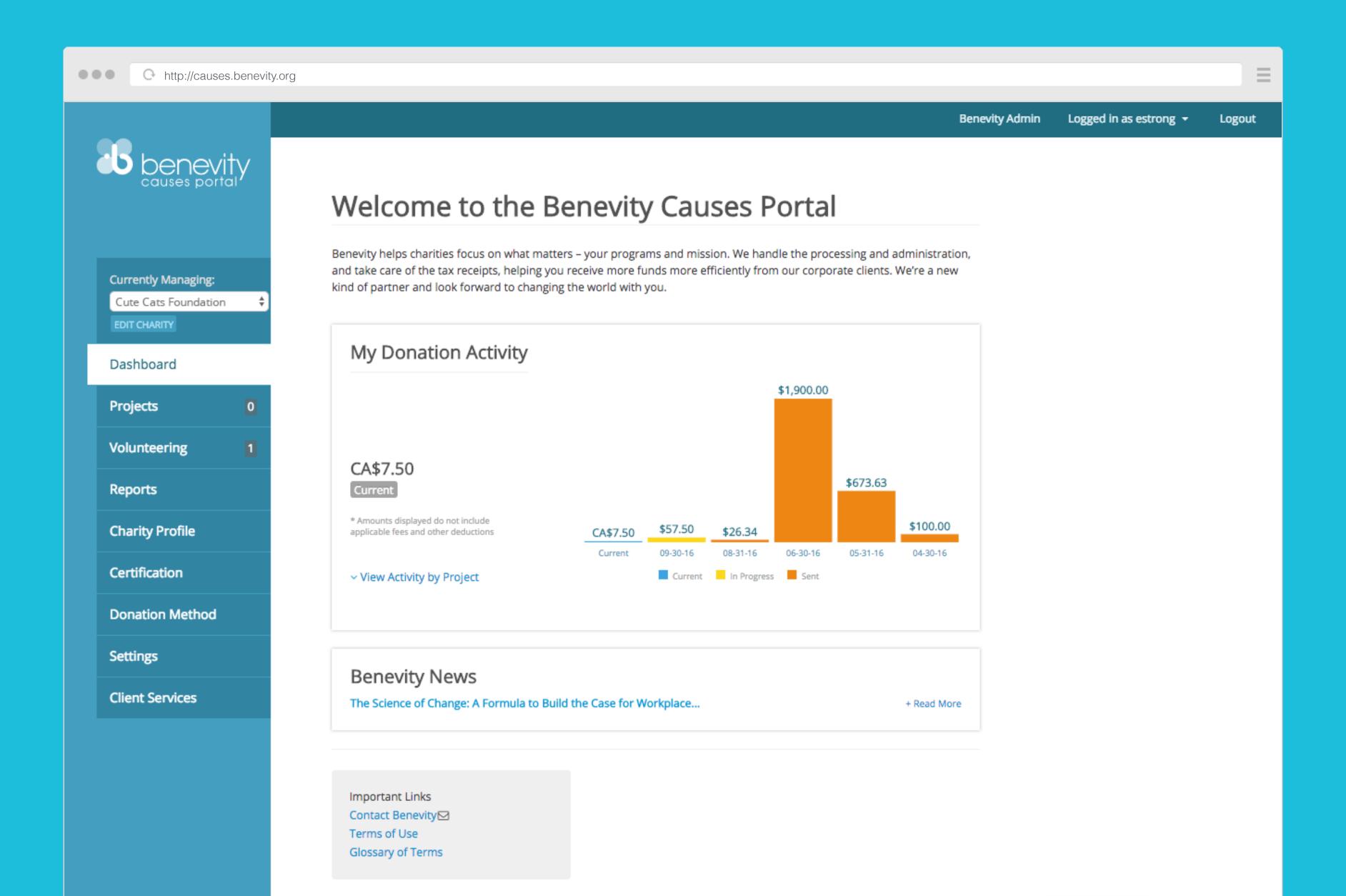


Benevity Causes Portal





Benevity Causes Portal





Product Vision 2016

WE help individuals see themselves as good people. We help people set, measure, achieve and celebrate the accomplishment of goals and doing of good deeds. These moments are the building blocks of our user experience.

WE gently guide people and organizations as they strive to become better versions of themselves and add something to the world on their own terms. We coach individuals, teams and organizations to become virtuosos of virtue, to rejoice in their triumphs and to reward others for doing good.

Personal fulfillment is only the start of this journey. We believe that the greatest accomplishments are those that better the world around us in the sense of nourishing, developing and enhancing what it means to be human.



Tracing our success

What's our secret sauce (a design perspective)

- Focus on simplicity; we're relentless in making the end user experience as simple as possible
- We don't let UX become a bottleneck
- Belief in the power of our company culture; we place a high value on qualities like humility, empathy
- Balance between product and services; software is easily copied, people are unique
- Understanding what it is we sell...

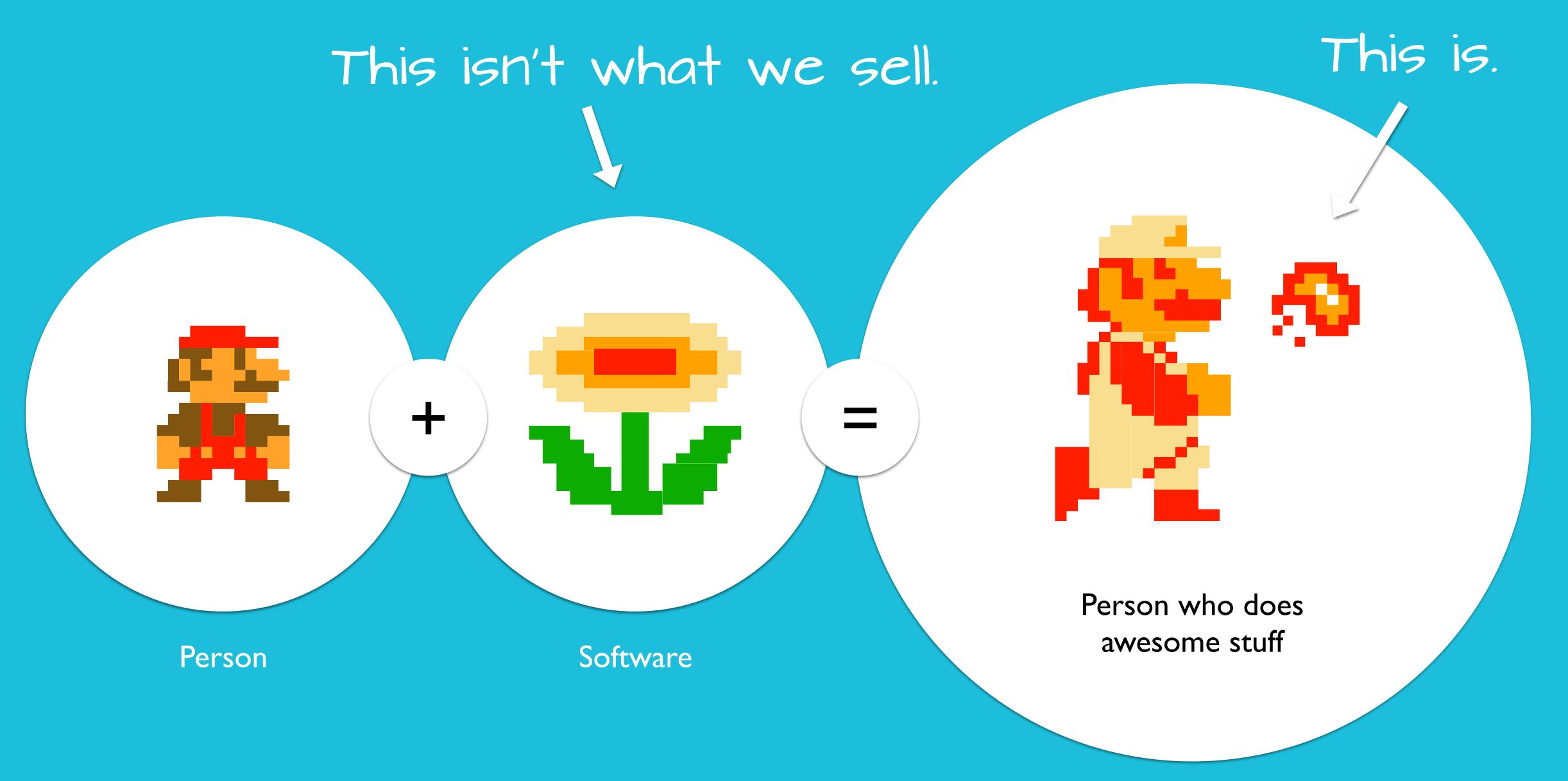


"Here's what our product can do" and "Here's what you can do with our product" sound similar, but they are completely different approaches.

- Jason Fried









Looking back...

A few things I wish we'd done differently

- Take analytics seriously from day one
- Build everything accessibly, adhering to WCAG
- Keep design closer to development processes
- Talking to the rest of the company about design regularly
- Not be afraid to let people (or myself) grow into new roles/ processes as situations develop



"Left unchecked, technology turns people into proxies. That's why it's so crucial that we integrate empathy and compassion into the design process."

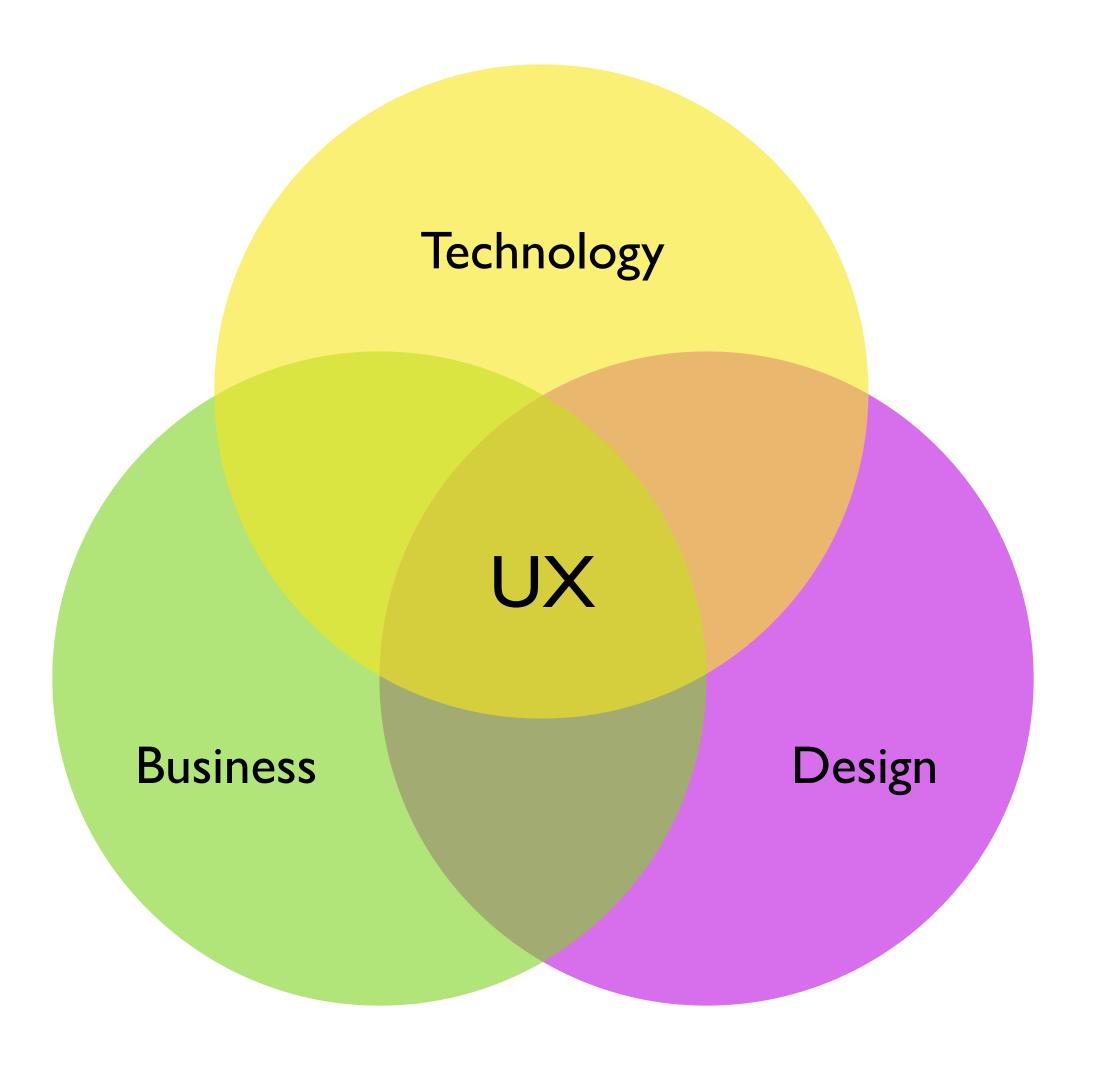
- Whitney Hess





So... what is our design process?







Identify the problem	What is the problem we're trying to solve for?
Gather data	Verify the problem; talk to people, look at the data, research
Business requirements	How will we know we've solved the problem?
Wireframing	Propose ways to solve the problem
Prototyping	What will the final product feel like to use?
Hi-fidelity mockups	What will the final product look and feel like?
Design sign-off	Product owner signs off on the design



Identify the problem

What is the problem we're trying to solve for?

Designers work with product owners and other stakeholders to accurately identify the problem we want to solve for.

Your problem is not necessarily the problem.



Gather data

Verify the problem; talk to people, look at the data, research

Look for data and other perspectives that will allow you to measure the problem.

Without a baseline, you won't ever know for certain you've solved the problem.



Business requirements

How will we know we've solved the problem?

Establishing your goals ahead of time is a key part of knowing you've moved the needle in the right direction after the fact. It's rarely enough to just 'do something'.

Business requirements should not only be a part of your plan but everyone should know and understand them.



Wireframing

Propose ways to solve the problem

We think through solutions as we wireframe using whiteboards, paper or tools like Balsamiq. A lot of the time wireframing and research happen asynchronously.

Wireframing is a process, wireframes are a deliverable that result from that process.



Prototyping

What will the final product feel like to use?

A key component of interactive design is prototyping. We use Invision to create clickable prototypes and Principle to create animatics.

Static mockups don't tell the whole story. Prototyping gets us that much closer to how the final product will feel.



Hi-fidelity mockups

What will the final product look and feel like?

Setting the right expectations with your stakeholders is key to establishing trust. If you have a product with a small footprint and and established look and feel, this step is not always as important.

Hi-fidelity mockups are easier than ever to produce. The kind of feedback you get from a prototype is amazing.



Design sign-off

Product owner signs off on the design

Knowing when design is finalized is tricky; it works best when a specific product owner is in charge of saying 'go'.

This is where development takes over but it should not be thought of as the end of design. Design feedback should continue throughout the development process whenever possible.



