

1. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM OR NEED YOUR IDEA ADDRESSES?

Ramily is a mobile app celebrating differences among non-traditional learners by connecting student parents with on-campus student sitters. Ramily seeks to assist the reported 26% of undergraduate students caring for a dependent child and bridge the gap in assistance left by 45% of universities without on-campus childcare centers. Ramily serves as an opportunity to further universities in being inclusive of all students who juggle with responsibilities that are demanding, such as caring for a child. Additionally, Ramily presents a low-cost, as-needed service providing users with the benefits of locality, familiarity, and community.

2. HOW ARE YOU SOLVING THE PROBLEM OR ADDRESSING THE NEED YOU IDENTIFIED?

The Ramily app addresses the problem of affordable and local childcare for students who are pursuing a degree. The app includes a messenger page that allows parents to post their childcare needs, which students can then reply too. The app has a geographical tracker feature which allows parents to know where their child is at all times. Ramily differs from services like Care.com or formal daycare by prioritizing affordability, locality, and community.

3. WHO OR WHAT DOES YOUR IDEA BENEFIT?

Currently, 1 out of 5 students are parents; Ramily works to serve the target market of non-traditional students by creating an accessible and easy-to-use resource which connects parents with student sitters. The non-traditional student demographic is comprised of mostly commuters and part-time students, who could greatly benefit from a resource like Ramily.

4. WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF YOUR TEAM?

We are a group of West Chester University (WCU) Honors students passionate about service-learning and community change. We care about this project because we have researched the childcare options available and have found that Chester County has one of the most expensive child care services in the state of Pennsylvania. As a computer science major, I am qualified because I have studied app development and have successfully developed applications in the past.

5. WHAT IS THE BENEFIT YOUR IDEA PROVIDES?

The Ramily mobile app addresses the unmet opportunity and need for affordable and accessible childcare services to WCU students. The benefit of this idea is the increased connectivity of the WCU community. Ramily not only connects student parents with student sitters, but it also serves to bridge together the community as a whole. Student parents will be granted peace of mind, knowing they can achieve their goals and pursue a degree while still having adequate childcare for their loved ones.