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Problem Statement

The Loaves and Fishes food pantry in Worcester uses an inefficient system to keep track of clients' preferences and volunteer sign up times.

- Clients must wait in line for hours to get food
- Clients sign up using paper slips
- Volunteers and admins must search large paper piles to find client information
- Volunteers sign up using an email chain

Competitors

Several apps mimic certain functionality of the Loaves and Fishes app, but lack other important features:

- Plentiful — tool for food pantries to manage reservations and reduce wait times
 - No tools for managing food preferences or volunteer signups
- Food Pantry Helper — stores data about clients, inventory, donors, and volunteer schedules
 - Cannot store detailed food preferences
 - No client frontend
- EZ Pantry — tracks clients and inventory
 - Requires barcodes and gives clients full control over what food they receive

Our Solution

Home page for user to login as a client, volunteer, or admin; or to create a new account

Preferences page for new clients to pick the foods they want/ don't want

Time selection page for volunteers to pick what days and times they are able to help to avoid an unorganized email chain

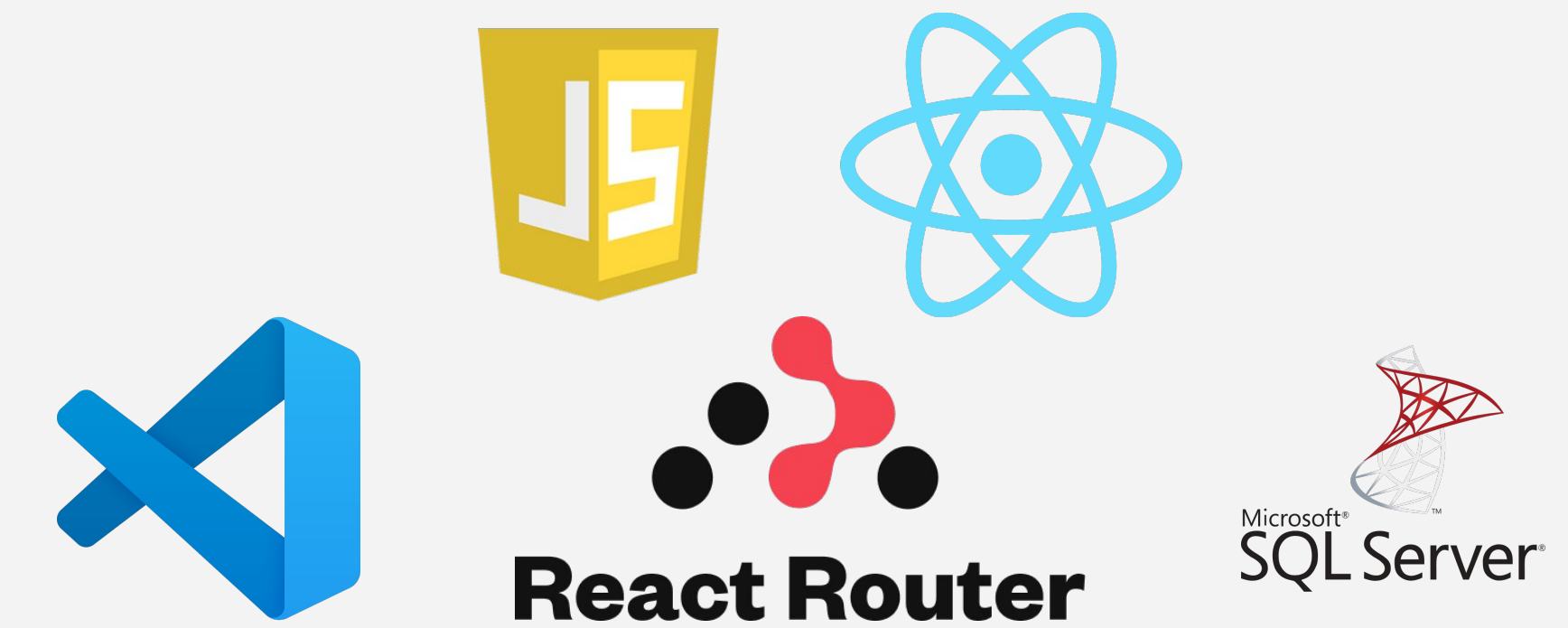
Admin page for the admin to be able to search for clients to easily find their preferences without having to deal with large piles of paper

Time selection [page for clients to pick the time period they would like to sign up for so they do not have to wait in line for hours

Database view of stored information

Technologies

- App is coded in JavaScript and React
- React: a javascript library for building user interface components
- React-router-dom library to link the pages to each other and enable page navigation
- MS SQL library to use the MS SQL database to store client preferences and client/volunteer times



Future Steps

- Adding a mobile version for those with access to mobile devices
- Making dates automatically update to the next two distribution dates
- Feature to scan paper slips to easily convert them to the digital version for those who do not have access to technology
- Adding an easier method to add new foods and make it easily accessible by the database