

Christopher Mead Creative Director and Designer





The Challenge

Trinity Health System under the leadership of Joyce Hagen-Flint (Director of Health Food Services) and George Cranmer (Executive VP Food Services) made the food service of the Trinity Ministries independent and phased out all contracted food service. With that decision, a directive was formed to unify the branding and operations for patient room service menus.

The Goal

Spanning over 120 hospitals, coming from a variety of ownership groups, this project needed to:

- Create consistent branding and identity across all the regions and hospitals
- Unify the operations of the menu creations and make them usable for all levels of computer ability

The Solution

Several meeting were held to create a strategy. It was decided the best move forward was to target an on-line solution which would be accessible to a network of dietitians with ease of use at the top of the list for concern. There is no software available that specializes in menu creation, much less hospital specific menu creation, so it was decided to use a Print on Demand system built by Alleyant called Pressero.

My Role

I acted in full capacity on this project, Creative Director, Designer, and Project Manager. I communicated directly with the customer and was the face of the project.

The Approach

Once we had a target solution, it was time to identify the steps

- Identify the pieces that need to be developed to put on the site
- Create a unifying design for said menus
- Develop the menus for use on Pressero
- Map site navigation
- Identify who would be utilizing the system and what resources they would need
- Identify Trinity's requirements for ordering
- Set a Six month time frame from first meeting to launch

The Pieces

Using these main pieces with the possibility for additional down the line



Creating the Design

Several things had to be in play here. We needed to balance the need to unify the branding and look as well as allow for the familiarity of the hospital to be plain to see, as that is how the communities see them.

The design went with a representation of fresh food and the elements that will tie it together, using the Regular menu as a base. Some challenges were adding icon placements so items could be identified as Heart healthy, Gluten

Free, or Vegetarian. The positioning is static, so the balance of text areas was for the average input. Additional Regular menu versions were added later, one accommodating more description, one more listings.



The accent colors will change by region and consist of:

Trinity Purple

Trinity Purple

Trinity Red

Trinity Red (pms 201)

Dysphagia



Fresh to you!

RENAL DIET DIAL 5-3663 (FOOD) to place your order.

The Food and Nutrition Services department proudly offers you our complimentary patient menu. Our goal is to make your stay as pleasant as possible. This menu meets the requirements of your physician-ordered Renal diet. If you need assistance to understand your diet, we are happy to help.

French Toast (1)

Fgg and Swiss Breakfast Sandwich

Sides

Scrambled Eggs or Heart Healthy Scrambled Eggs

Hard Boiled Egg

Turkey Sausage (1) Cream of Wheat Oatmeal

Assorted Cold Cereals
Blueberry or Apple Cinnamon Muffin
English Muffin or Plain Bagel

English Muffin or Plain Bagel

Sassorted Greek or Lite Yogurt

Granola

Lunch & Dinner Entrées

♥ ○ Chicken Breast♥ ○ Applewood Smoked Salmon Penne Pasta w/ Butter Sauce and Chicken

Saked Cod

BYO Chicken or Vegetable Quesadilla

*** Grilled Chicken Breast Sandwich Beef Hamburger Pulled Pork Sandwich

Custom For You

↑/∠ = ... ▼ ⊗ Turkey Tuna Salad 1/2 Egg Salad Sandwich Chicken Salad

Heart-healthy W Vegetarian (R) Gluten-free





Renal

Liquid



Carbohydrate

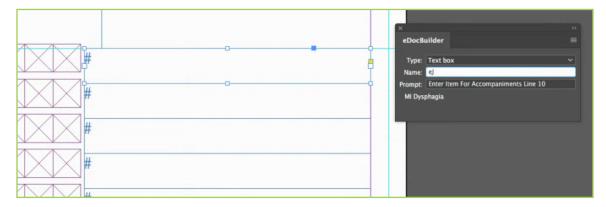
blood sugar in the hospital and at home. If you need help in u this guide, we are happy to help.	nderstanding	tne men
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CARBOHYDRATE COUNTING GUIDE

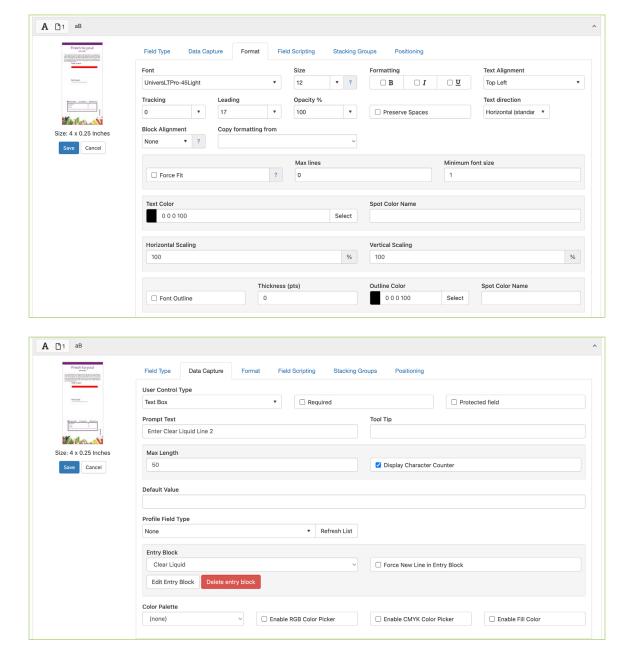
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On the Side		Grams of Carbohydrate	Carbohydrate Choices
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Carb Guide Bold Text Area 60 Characters Fit He		Up to 10	Up to 10
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11-20	1.0		
21-25	1.5		
26-35	2.0		
36-40 41-50	2.5 3.0		
51-55	3.5		
56-65	4.0		
66-70	4.5		
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Developing the Menus for use

Pressero requires certain steps for menus to be utilized as base templates for the site usage. Each text and image area needs to have instruction added in InDesign to make it react properly in Pressero.



After the menu base is built in InDesign, it gets uploaded to eDoc Builder and goes through "Coding" prep for each line for text and art. Logos and art are also assigned at this stage.



The process is extremely time consuming. The software is designed to utilize up to 100 lines of customizable information we are over 600. To do this we utilized freelance designers and others who had any prowess on a computer and taught them to go through the "Coding" process. Alone, a normal regular menu would take in excess of 50 hours to complete.

Mapping the Site

We decided to separate the maps into regions and were able to utilize that regions color in the design. Each region would have one login for menu creation, so menus could be 'borrowed' and altered for more than one location. Starting with the Regions:

Mid Atlantic North East West Indiana/ Illinois Ohio Michigan

Then the menus

Regular Dysphagia Renal Liquid Carbohydrate

The Homepage ultimately looking like:

Trinity Menu Site Homepage									
tabs: Home Assets Order History Retail Shopping Cart Logout Need Help?									
Mid Atlantic	North East	West		IN/IL		Ohio		Michigan	
Regular Dysphagia Renal Liquid Carb	Regular Dysphagia Renal Liquid Carb	Regular Dysphagia Renal Liquid Carb		Regular Dysphagia Renal Liquid Carb		Regular Dysphagia Renal Liquid Carb		Regular Dysphagia Renal Liquid Carb	

Users and Resources

Users The site will utilize a 'Shared User' system. The files created belong to the user, and are inaccessible to other users. As many locations have similar menus, using a shared approach will allow locations to use completed menus from other locations and save much time.

Approvers Regional managers will be set as Approvers and will have to sign off on each order created.

Resources A Menu User Guide has been created and put on the home page of the site under the Assets tab. It will contain all instructions for using the site, Checklists for Quality Control, and Maps of each menu showing the text placement, character counts, and flow of each menu. A user PowerPoint was created fir Trinity's intranet training as well.

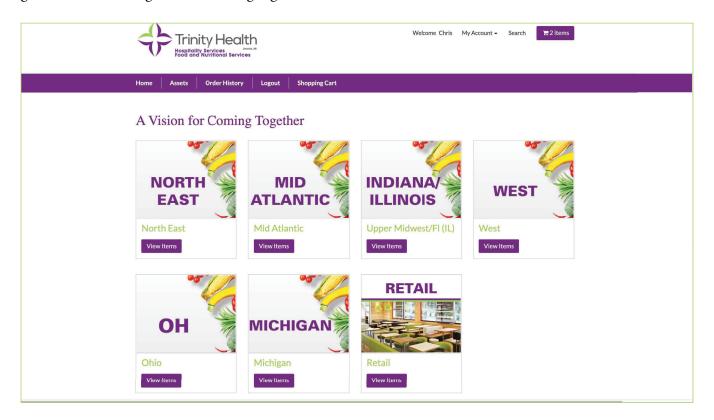
Trinity's Additional Requirements

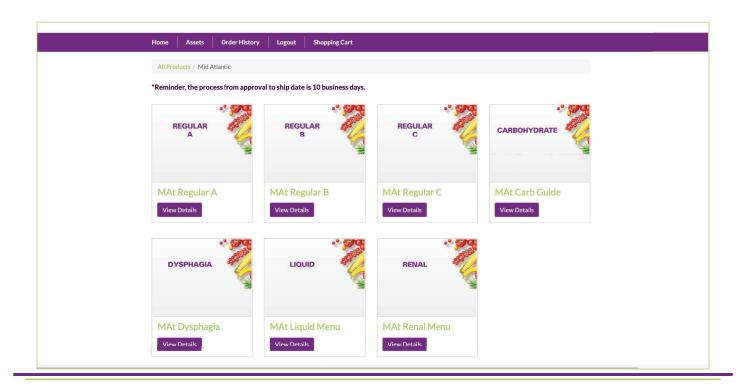
Approval System After several attempts at a multi-tier approval system, the complexity pushed us to a single tier approval. The system allows for download of proof files that can be circulated internally for proof reading. After the menus have been cleared internally, the order is submitted prompting approval. The Regional Manager then gives the final stamp before the order is released.

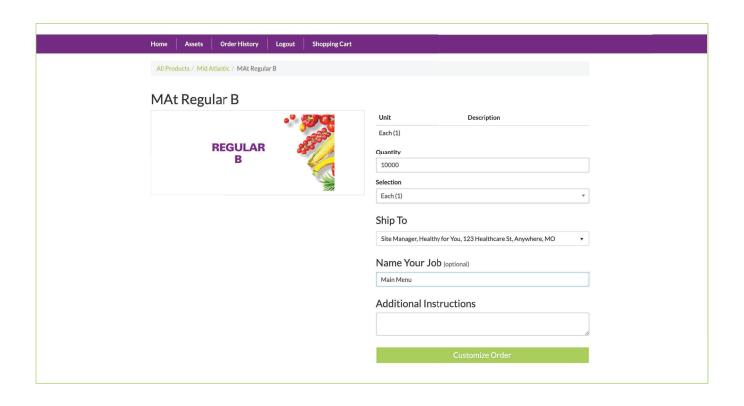
Support Emails have been added to the site under the Need Help tab for any needs **Order History** So users can easily find and re-order previous menus

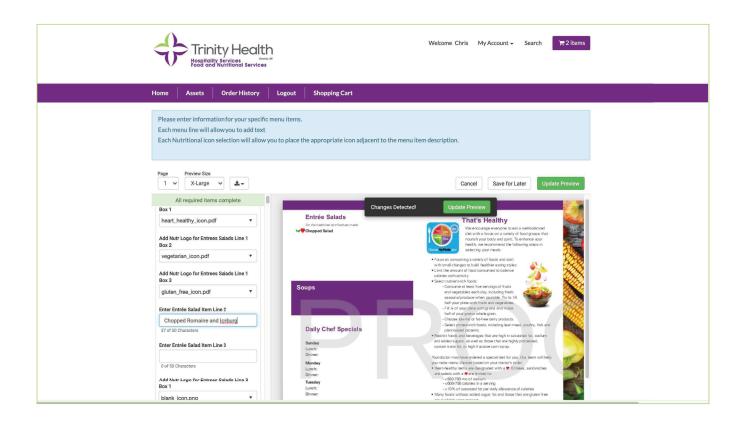
The Final Product

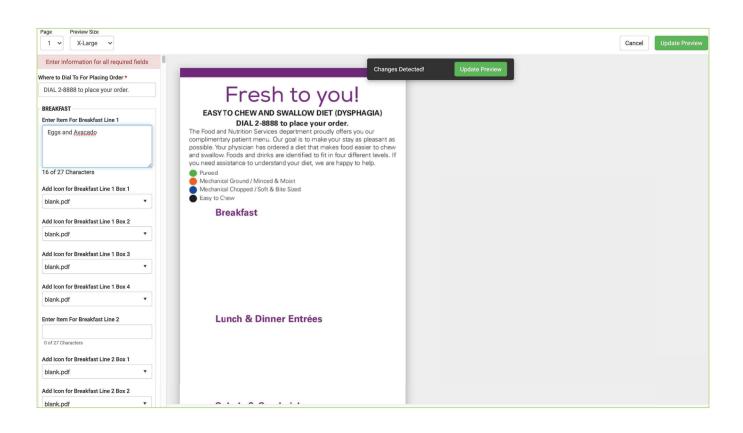
We did finish the project and launched the site on time. Even with various setbacks, shifting needs, and a major redesign, it launched with great success. Highlights below.

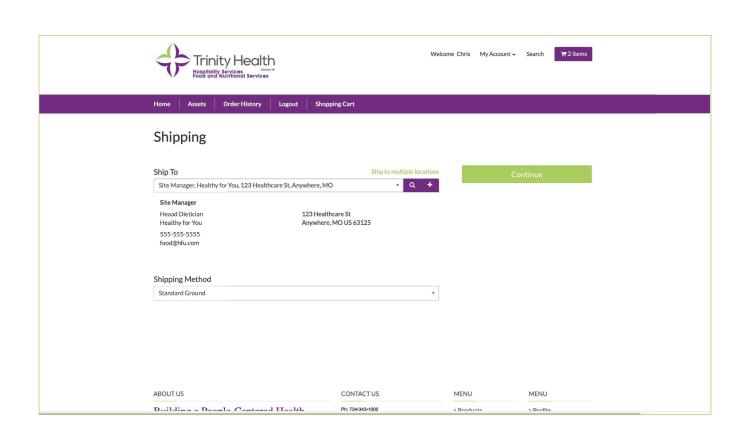












What I Learned

I learned several things from this project that have made later projects run much more smoothly.:

- Naming the text boxes in InDesign. I found out that items get exported in alphabetical order, which does NOT fit the final working version. It leaves the items in an order that is impossible for filling out forms. Rather than moving the items individually and keeping track of the 600 plus items and their orders, I renamed all of them using an Alpha-Numeric naming. That brought most things in correctly, and literally saved weeks of work.
- Getting designs through the approval of the Marketing Department can be a challenge. I have found that keeping explanations succinct about limitations of software and placement of logos or the final print process will go a long way. Being flexible helps.
- Notifications. This was something that escaped our attention until orders started rolling in. Be sure to do plenty of testing in advance.
- Managing time with internal deadlines and a crew of hired help can be a challenge. Be realistic about the time it
 takes to do the coding tasks and give it more time than it should take. It almost never goes better than expected.
 Get consistent updates.
- This was my first experience with C-Suite from a large corporation. I learned they are more receptive to questions than I was led to believe (by the sales team). When you are executing their vision, do not be afraid to make sure you are clear on instructions and reach out if you are not. Working through issues like that can often save a lot of time and keep you from straying on a bad path.
- Do not doubt your own ability to creatively think through established processes. I was able to take a system designed for a fraction of what I was asking it to do, and use it in ways the support team had never thought of. They kept a close eye on what we accomplished and have added levels to support it.