**Written problem and solution statement**

**Project Title:** MindMate AI

**The Problem**

In community health clinics and other under-resourced healthcare settings, there is a silent crisis. Overwhelmed administrative staff, who are not trained clinicians, manage a high volume of patients, making it nearly impossible to accurately identify individuals with urgent mental health needs during intake. This creates a critical bottleneck where patients experiencing severe depression, anxiety, or suicidal ideation can be lost in a queue for weeks, waiting for an appointment. This delay in recognition is a systemic failure that can have devastating consequences for the most vulnerable patients seeking care.

**The Solution: MindMate AI**

To solve this, we have built **MindMate AI**, a functional, full-stack prototype of an agentic AI assistant that serves as an intelligent and compassionate front line for mental health services. Our solution automates and enhances the pre-visit intake and triage process, ensuring no patient in crisis goes unnoticed.

* **Target Users:** The solution is designed for two groups: **patients** seeking care, who interact with a simple web form, and **clinical/administrative staff** in settings like community clinics or university counseling centers, who use a real-time dashboard to manage patient flow.
* **User Interaction:** A patient interacts with our responsive React.js web application, which supports multiple languages and allows them to describe their feelings via text or voice. In parallel, clinical staff monitor a purpose-built Clinical Dashboard that displays all patient submissions. The dashboard automatically sorts entries by urgency, allowing staff to immediately identify high-priority cases.
* **Creativity and Uniqueness with Agentic AI:** MindMate AI’s innovation lies in its **Triage Agent**. This is not a simple chatbot following a rigid script. When a user submits their symptoms, our Flask backend invokes this agent, powered by IBM watsonx.ai. The agent performs a dynamic, holistic assessment by **reasoning** about the user's unstructured, free-text answers.

Its novelty comes from its ability to synthesize information like a human would. For example, if a patient writes, "I feel hopeless and can't go on," the agent autonomously reasons that the qualitative despair and high-risk keywords outweigh any other factor. It then independently assigns a "High" severity classification and generates an appropriate, empathetic response in the user's chosen language. This ability to analyze, synthesize, and act assigning a reasoned severity score is the unique agentic capability that provides a level of nuanced judgment previously missing from digital intake tools, directly solving the problem of delayed recognition.