User Manual - Changing Lives App

How to set up the development environment

On your mobile device:

1. Download the Expo Android/iOS app at https://expo.io/learn to your test mobile device.

On your development machine:

- 2. Ensure the development machine is discoverable by other devices on the network (e.g. by setting the connection type to "Private" on Windows).
- 3. Download and install Node.js at https://nodejs.org/en/download/.
- 4. Globally install expo-cli by running npm install -g expo-cli.
- 5. Clone this repository onto your system and navigate to it.
- 6. Run npm install to set up the node modules.
- 7. In the .env file, replace the http://0.0.0.0:3000 after API_BASEROUTE with the IP or web address that the server is program running on. Every time this is changed, the cache must be cleared before testing. This is enabled by default; to disable it, change "start": "expo start -c" to "start": "expo start in package.json. Note that it must be re-enabled every time the address is changed.

At this point the app should be ready to test by running npm start. Run this command and follow the instructions in the terminal. If this crashes due to an invalid regular expression:

8. In all instances of metro-config/src/defaults/blacklist.js within node_modules (some may be nested), change the line:

```
/node_modules[/\\]react[/\\]dist[/\\].*/,
```

to:

```
/node_modules[\/\\]react[\/\\]dist[\/\\].*/,
```

Alternatively, running the attached Python script should do this automatically.

How to build the application

- 1. In the .env file, replace the http://0.0.0:3000 after API_BASEROUTE with the IP and port, or web address, that the server program is running on.
- 2. Follow Expo's instructions at https://docs.expo.io/versions/latest/distribution/building-standalone-apps/, but before running expo build, you must open another terminal window in this directory and

run npm start. It may be necessary to clear the cache beforehand (see step 7 of *How to set up the development environment*).

Features of the application

- **Login**. This will only be shown in online mode, and only if a server request fails and the user chooses to retry instead of enabling offline mode.
- Home screen. This is the main menu and entrypoint of the app. In online mode, the options on this
 screen will not be shown until the user is logged in. Has links to screens Resources, Forum and
 Settings.
- **Resources**. This is a list of sections corresponding to those on the management website/server. In online mode, the list of sections, and the section text for each one, will be updated every time this screen is accessed. Has links to screen **View section**.
- **View section**. This will show the most recent text information for the section accessed. In online mode, it will also show the list of resource links for that section. Clicking one of the links will open the resource in the phone's PDF viewer, which will usually have an option to save the file. Has link(s) to online PDF files.
- **Forum**. This is a list of posted topics, ordered from most recent to least recent. Each will have the topic title and the first line of the topic comment shown. Has links to screens **View Topic** and **Create Topic**.
- **View Topic**. Accessed by pressing any topic. The topic title, topic comment and any reply comments will be shown, and the user will have the option to submit a new comment. Replies will be formatted differently depending on the role of the person who made it: pink for staff, purple for non-staff topic creator, blue otherwise.
- **Create topic**. Accessed by pressing the button in the top right corner. The user may type a topic title and a topic comment, then press the button in the top right corner again to submit it.
- **Settings**. Contains buttons for the following options:
 - **Enable/disable offline mode**. Toggle button. Forums will be inaccessible, resource text information will not be updated, resource links will not be shown.
 - **Logout**. This button will clear the authentication token, prompting the user to log in next time they visit the home screen (in online mode).