**Scope Document: Understand**

**Version: 1.0**

**Date**: 8/16/2024

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Project Overview**

Understand is a platform designed to provide comprehensive resources and community support for individuals diagnosed with various conditions later in life, such as Autism, ADHD, and Bipolar Disorder. The primary focus is on offering curated learning and support resources for each condition, along with user-generated ratings to help identify the most valuable materials. The platform will also evolve to include interactive features like blogs and forums.

**1.2 Purpose**

This scope document outlines the boundaries of the Understand project, detailing what is included in the initial release (Minimum Viable Product, MVP) and what is out-of-scope. It serves as a guide for project planning, development, and stakeholder communication, ensuring alignment on project objectives and deliverables.

**2. Project Scope**

**2.1 In-Scope**

**2.1.1 Core Features**

* **Resource Directory**:
  + Provide curated links to external resources categorized by condition (e.g., Autism, ADHD).
  + Display relevant metadata for each resource (title, description, URL).
* **User Ratings**:
  + Allow registered users to rate the usefulness of each resource.
  + Display the average rating for each resource to guide other users.
* **User Authentication**:
  + Implement basic user registration and login functionality using Amazon Cognito.
  + Secure access to the ratings feature and prepare for future user-generated content.

**2.1.2 Technical Implementation**

* **Front-End**:
  + Developed using React, providing a responsive and accessible user interface.
* **Back-End**:
  + Hosted on AWS, with Amplify managing user authentication and API Gateway/Lambda providing back-end services.
  + AWS RDS (PostgreSQL) will serve as the relational database for storing user data, resource links, and ratings.

**2.1.3 Deployment and Hosting**

* **AWS Amplify**:
  + Host the front-end React application with continuous deployment.
* **AWS RDS**:
  + Manage data storage with automated backups, scaling, and maintenance.

**2.2 Out-of-Scope**

**2.2.1 Advanced Features**

* **Blogs and Forums**:
  + User-generated blogs or forum discussions are not part of the MVP. These will be considered for future iterations based on user demand.
* **Video Content Storage**:
  + Hosting or storing video content directly within the platform is not included. Any video content will be externally hosted (e.g., on YouTube) and embedded within the resource pages.

**2.2.2 Mobile Applications**

* **Mobile App Development**:
  + Native mobile apps for iOS and Android are not part of the current project scope. The web platform will be responsive and accessible on mobile devices, but dedicated apps may be considered in the future.

**2.3 Deliverables**

* **MVP**:
  + A functional web platform with a resource directory, user ratings, and basic user authentication.
  + Fully deployed and accessible through AWS Amplify.
  + Database setup and integrated with RDS for managing structured data.
* **Documentation**:
  + Project documentation, including design documents, user guides, and deployment instructions.
  + API documentation if custom APIs are developed.

**3. Assumptions**

* **Technology Stack**: The project will be developed using React for the front-end, AWS services (Amplify, RDS, Lambda, Cognito) for back-end and hosting, and PostgreSQL as the database.
* **User Base**: Initial user engagement is expected to be moderate, scaling up as the platform gains visibility.
* **Resource Links**: External resources are assumed to remain stable and reliable. Regular updates and monitoring will be required to ensure link accuracy.

**4. Constraints**

* **Budget**: The project will operate within a defined budget for AWS services, focusing on cost-effective solutions and scalable infrastructure.
* **Time**: The MVP will be delivered within the timeline specified, with adjustments based on development and testing progress.
* **Technical Expertise**: The development team will primarily consist of React and AWS-savvy developers. Any additional expertise required (e.g., for future mobile app development) will be considered as the project evolves.

**5. Risks**

* **Scope Creep**: To prevent scope creep, the project will adhere strictly to the features outlined in this document. Any additional features will be considered for future iterations.
* **Resource Availability**: Availability and reliability of external resources may vary, potentially impacting the quality and relevance of the resource directory.
* **User Adoption**: Initial user adoption may be slow. Marketing and outreach efforts will be necessary to build the user base.

**6. Approval**

**Project Sponsor**: Morganiron  
**Project Manager**: Morganiron  
**Date**: 8/16/2024