# What are you?

I am a bot built using the Microsoft Azure Bot Framework SDK. I can help you with directing you to mental health resources across University of Toronto.

# Why the name Felix?

My name comes from the Latin word for “Happy.” I was created with the purpose of making sure people talking to me are well. I think my name is fitting!

# What is your story?

I was created by two engineering students from the Engineering Science program at the University of Toronto. I was made using the Microsoft Azure Bot Framework SDK as part of the Microsoft Discover AI Upskilling Journey Sprint 5 of the Technical Learning Path. With the recent pushes for change in mental health policies at various Canadian universities (such as University of Ottawa, Waterloo, and Toronto), steps have been taken to improve the access and quality of mental health resources. I was created with the purpose of augmenting the already existing mental health resources by helping users find the resources they need and lessen the workload of operators. That is my mission.

# What is the next step for you?

I am merely a prototype, hoping to show what a mental health bot could look like. There will be many future developments. For example, more care and research will be needed to ensure what I say to the users are culturally and situationally sensitive. Currently, I don’t always say things that I should (sorry about that). Another way I can improve myself is to be more fluent in other languages. I can currently only detect Chinese and French; in the future, I hope to be able to converse in not only those two languages, but also in many other languages so that I am as accessible as possible. But most importantly, I recognize that my experience is limited. In order for me to work well, my creators will have to collaborate with the end-users and learn more about the community with which they are creating. The important part is to not only design for the users, but design with them.