Status Report

Date: 5/17/2020

Name of reporter: Ian Franklin
Names of others covered by this report: None
Open Source Project: OpenMRS

1. Since the last report, I have completed these tasks:

- Created a GitHub [repository](#) for project materials
- [Introduced myself](#) in the discussion board, gained access to wiki and issue tracker, and should earn my dev/null badge anytime
- Successfully set up my development environment in IntelliJ. I'm able to build and deploy OpenMRS to a server, but am having issues with the OpenMRS installation process.
  - A possible documentation contribution after I troubleshoot this
- Found an active [documentation roadmap](#) with tasks that need to be done updating wikis and documentation, which seems like a good place to contribute
  - Also noticed much of the wiki is outdated, unorganized, or needs editing in general
- Became much more familiar with the overall architecture and tech stack of the product, and compiled some notes for myself to help with this.
  - Notes uploaded [here](#)
- Spent time going through closed issues/pull requests to become more familiar with issues, the code, and the contribution process
- Joined the #OpenMRS IRC channel

2. Currently, the following issues or problems are hindering my progress:

One issue is I still don't have a good grasp on any of the code yet, and don't feel confident making any coding contributions. For that I'll need to get to know more about the software, or at least a portion of it, in order to take on any code-related issues. Learning about OpenMRS via the wiki is becoming confusing, as the wiki is fairly sprawling and inconsistent. However, cleaning up the wiki (at least on a small scale) offers a possible contribution.

3. By the next status report I expect to complete these tasks:

- Finish deploying and installing OpenMRS manually
- Investigate if the issues I faced installing could provide useful changes to documentation. If so, start by posting a suggestion on the doc page.
- Read up on how modules work in the wiki, as most issues come from modules as opposed to the core application
- After the necessary background research, claim a task on the documentation roadmap and attempt to update a documentation page for a contribution
- Continue familiarizing myself with open and closed issues
- Find an active module and learn about it, as it could provide an easier path towards developing than learning the overall core application

Status Report

Date: 5/10/2020

Name of reporter: Ian Franklin
Names of others covered by this report: None
Open Source Project: OpenMRS

1. Since the last report, I have completed these tasks:

- Create an OpenMRS ID, set up my account in the discussion board, and connect my GitHub
- Installed a standalone version of OpenMRS locally (intended for exploring the app as a user, not necessarily production use)
- Attempted/began setting up a development environment, manually installing Tomcat, MySQL, and Maven as instructed. I ran into issues deploying OpenMRS and finishing setting up Eclipse for development, however.
- Viewed various questions and discussions on the discussion board to get a sense of people's issues and questions, without contributing so far
- Read through the development manual and a couple other development guides I've collected, including an introductory look into the technical architecture
- Began analyzing JIRA issues in order to get a sense of what they look like, trying to understand their content

2. Currently, the following issues or problems are hindering my progress:

Successfully setting up the build and development environment is a current issue, as I've had some trouble thus far getting it working. However, there are numerous resources available for doing so and troubleshooting problems, which is a big plus. The scale of the application remains another issue, as learning the product as a whole is not likely possible. I need to begin finding ways to compartmentalize the product and learn just enough about a given portion to actually make contributions.

3. By the next status report I expect to complete these tasks:

- Introduce myself in the discussion board and earn the dev/null badge
- Complete setting up my manual installation and configuring my development environment
- Continue to browse discussions on the board, as well as JIRA issues for possible small contributions
- Continue reading the technical overview portions of the wiki
- Ideally identify some portion of the overall product that I could potentially get involved with and begin to get to know its development

Status Report

Date: 5/3/2020

Name of reporter: Ian Franklin
Names of others covered by this report: None
Open Source Project: OpenMRS

1. Since the last report, I have completed these tasks:

- Decided to choose OpenMRS for my term project
- Created a markdown file compiling relevant links for project information as well as personal notes, as OpenMRS has a wealth of developer info spread across several platforms
    - Uploaded [here](#)
- Read information on their website about the project's goals, vision, and what the software does
- Evaluated the project demo, observed how various aspects of the software operate
- Read through several pages on getting involved as a developer, including a step by step guide
- Learned the process for claiming an issue and submitting a contribution, including pull request and commit message guidelines
- Read the coding conventions used for Java and Javascript, as well as for unit testing
- Set up a Linux system to be used for my development environment for this project

2. Currently, the following issues or problems are hindering my progress:

As I investigate further into OpenMRS, there are a couple possible issues that could hinder me. Mainly, the size of OpenMRS is somewhat intimidating. The size of the wiki alone is quite large, with tons of information on the workings of OpenMRS. There is a lot of information to take in, which could pose a challenge for my research. Additionally, the large amount of source code makes it difficult to start evaluating the software and figuring out how to contribute.

3. By the next status report I expect to complete these tasks:

- Create an OpenMRS ID
- Join the mailing list and set up my account in the discussion board, OpenMRS Talk
- Read the development manual, and continue to read through the OpenMRS resources I've compiled
- Look at more info on contributing, including [Kummamuru's guide](#) for getting started with development, as well as this helpful [video](#) on making a contribution
- Attempt to set up my development environment, following the various posted instructions
- Begin an investigation into the architecture and technical overview of OpenMRS, as well as the source code if possible