Mantel Group - Beyond Blue

Situation: Beyond Blue supports Australians facing mental health challenges, often receiving high volumes of requests during peak periods

Complication: During these peak times, it's difficult for staff to triage and prioritise the most critical cases quickly and efficiently.

Question: How can Beyond Blue ensure that people in serious distress are identified and assisted as a priority, even before human interaction?

Answer: We propose a sentiment-aware AI chatbot that engages users upfront and uses natural language processing (NLP) to detect urgency, enabling smarter triaging and priority callback lists for staff.

What is your proposed solution or idea?

We propose a sentiment analysis-driven Al chatbot that acts as a **first point of contact** for Beyond Blue. The chatbot will:

- Respond to users via Al generated messages
- Analyse emotional tone and urgency using large language models (LLMs) and NLP sentiment scoring
- Categorise users into priority tiers for callback or escalation
- Provide empathetic responses and reassurance while data is processed for human follow-up

Who would benefit and how does it provide commercial value?

 Clients (Beyond Blue and similar mental health providers): Reduce callback delays for critical users, optimise limited support staff, and improve crisis response efficiency.

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- End users (Australians in distress): Get quicker help when most needed, feel heard even during busy periods.
- Commercial value: This product can be offered as a customisable Al triaging platform to NGOs, healthcare providers, and crisis centres scalable across sectors.

Technologies and Methods

- LLMs (e.g., OpenAl, Azure OpenAl): For natural and nuanced conversational responses
- NLP + Sentiment Analysis: Tools like VADER, TextBlob, or HuggingFace models to assess emotional tone
- Streamlit / React Frontend: For prototype interface
- MongoDB: To store anonymised user chat logs and triage results (if scaled further)
- Azure Web Apps / GCP: For scalable deployment (if scaled further)

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