

DRCP Server - Backend Overview

This backend implements the Disaster Relief Coordination Platform (DRCP) API, following a modular, scalable, and maintainable structure inspired by best practices and the SQLEARN/BACK project.

Key Backend Goals

- Secure, role-based authentication (victim, volunteer, admin, etc.)
 - Incident reporting, updating, and tracking
 - Volunteer selection, assignment, and navigation for incidents
 - Real-time group chat per incident (victims & volunteers)
 - Resource and donation management per incident
 - Admin management of users, incidents, tasks, resources, analytics
 - Ownership and access control for all sensitive operations
 - Input validation and consistent error responses
 - Scalable, maintainable, and testable codebase
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Project Structure

- **app.js**: Main Express app, middleware, routes, error handler
 - **server.js**: Server entry point
 - **controllers/**: Thin route handlers, delegate to services
 - **services/**: Business logic, DB operations, transactions
 - **routes/**: Express routers, organized by resource (incidents, users, chat, donations, etc.)
 - **validators/**: Joi or Mongoose validation for request bodies
 - **middlewares/**: Auth, role/ownership checks, request-level logic
 - **errorHandler/**: Centralized error class and Express error middleware
 - **db/**: Database connection logic (Mongoose/MongoDB)
 - **models/**: Mongoose schemas/models for all resources
 - **utils/**: Utility functions, helpers, and test suites
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Modules to Implement

- ☐ **User/Auth**: Registration, login, JWT, role management
 - ☐ **Incident**: CRUD, status, assignment, reporting
 - ☐ **Volunteer**: Profile, incident selection, assignment, navigation
 - ☐ **Chat**: Real-time group chat per incident (Socket.io)
 - ☐ **Resource**: Resource and donation management, allocation
 - ☐ **Admin**: User, incident, resource, analytics management
 - ☐ **Validation**: Joi/Mongoose schemas for all input
 - ☐ **Ownership/Access**: Middleware for resource access control
 - ☐ **Error Handling**: Use `CustomError` and centralized error middleware
 - ☐ **Testing**: Jest/Supertest for API and logic
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Error Handling Pattern

All errors should be passed to the next middleware using:

```
next(error instanceof CustomError ? error : new CustomError(
  error.message || "Failed to [action]. Please try again.",
  error.statusCode || STATUS_CODE.INTERNAL_SERVER_ERROR,
  error
));
```

Current Implementation Status

☒ Implemented

- **Project Structure & Scaffolding**
 - Modular folders: `controllers/`, `services/`, `routes/`, `models/`, `middlewares/`, `errorHandler/`, etc.
- **User Module**
 - User model with password hashing, JWT methods, geospatial location, and role support
 - User registration and login (with hashed passwords and JWT)
 - User CRUD: get, update, delete, get all, delete all
 - User service layer (all business logic in `services/userService.js`)
 - User controller (thin, delegates to service, robust error handling)
 - User routes (with authentication middleware placeholder)
- **Incident Module**
 - Incident model (basic schema)
 - Incident controller (basic CRUD)
 - Incident routes (basic)
- **Error Handling**
 - Centralized error handler middleware
 - Custom error classes (`CustomError`, etc.)
 - Consistent error handling pattern in controllers/services
- **Environment & Config**
 - `.env` usage for secrets and DB connection
 - `config.js` for config management
- **Dependencies**
 - All core dependencies in `package.json` (Express, Mongoose, JWT, bcryptjs, Joi, etc.)

☐ In Progress / Planned

- **Role-based Access Control**
 - Middleware for admin/role checks (to be implemented)
- **Input Validation**
 - Joi validation for request bodies (to be implemented)

- **Other Modules**
 - Volunteer, Resource, Donation, Chat, Admin, Task models/services/controllers/routes
 - **Socket.io Integration**
 - Real-time chat and updates (to be implemented)
 - **Testing**
 - Jest/Supertest setup (to be implemented)
 - **API Documentation**
 - Endpoint documentation (ongoing)
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Summary:

User and incident modules are scaffolded and functional with robust error handling and modular structure. Other modules, validation, role checks, and real-time features are planned next.

Next Steps & Implementation Guidelines

1. Scaffold All Folders

- Create empty folders: `controllers/`, `services/`, `routes/`, `validators/`, `middlewares/`, `errorHandler/`, `db/`, `models/`, `utils/`, and `tests/`.

2. Set Up Core Files

- Implement `app.js`, `server.js`, and `config.js` as described.
- Add a sample `.env` file for environment variables.

3. Implement Modules Incrementally

- Start with User/Auth (registration, login, JWT, role).
- Proceed to Incidents, Volunteers, Chat, Resources, Admin, etc.
- For each module, create: model, validator, service, controller, route.

4. Follow Error Handling Pattern

- Always use the provided error handling pattern in all async handlers.

5. Validation

- Use Joi or Mongoose validation for all incoming data.

6. Testing

- Write tests for each route and service using Jest/Supertest.

7. Documentation

- Document each endpoint and module in this README or a dedicated API docs file.
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Follow this structure for a clean, maintainable, and scalable DRCP backend.