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| Amr Al-RefaeToronto, Canada, +1 (647) 782-0779, alrefae.amr@gmail.com | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| LINKS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | [Portfolio Website](https://www.amralrefae.com), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/amr-al-refae/), [App Store](https://apps.apple.com/us/developer/amrezo-inc/id1787939061), [Github](https://github.com/amrezo) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| PROFILE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | iOS software engineer with 5+ years of experience delivering production-ready apps across mental health, wellness, and communication spaces. Strong background in Swift, SwiftUI, CoreML, and Firebase. Led the development of multiple iOS apps from ideation to launch in startup environments. Adept at user-centric design, rapid prototyping, and integrating AI-powered features. Now seeking a full-time iOS engineering role to contribute to innovative, mission-driven teams. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| TECHNICAL SKILLS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | **Languages & Frameworks:** Swift, SwiftUI, UIKit, Objective-C, JavaScript, Python, SQL  **Mobile & Backend Tools:** CoreML, CloudKit, Firebase, Cloud Firestore, Core Data, Git  **Design & Prototyping:** Figma, Adobe XD, Wireframing, UI/UX Design  **AI & Data:** Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, NLU | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| EMPLOYMENT HISTORY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dec 2022 — Present | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | iOS Engineer, Cara – AI Mental Health Chat Companion | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Toronto, ON | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Created a conversational AI using GPT-4o to support users through mental health challenges. * Collaborated with psychologists to craft therapeutic dialogues and feedback logic. * **Main Tech Stack** : Swift, Firebase, SwiftUI, UIKit, CoreML, GPT-4o * Visit to learn more: <https://www.messagecara.app/> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Feb 2020 — Dec 2022 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | iOS Engineer, Serene – Mindfulness & CBT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Mississauga, ON | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Built Serene iOS app with CoreML-based mood prediction and meditation features. * Created an active tracking machine learning model to predict a mood score for the day from digital biomarkers of mental health (e.g. food intake, exercise, social engagement, etc.) * Designed UI and implemented SwiftUI interfaces and backend with CloudKit. * Partnered with U of T researchers to align with clinical best practices. * Awarded $5,000 from the Canada Starts Grant program. * **Main Tech Stack** : Swift, CloudKit, SwiftUI, UIKit, CoreML * More info can be found here: <https://www.getserene.app/> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sep 2021 — Dec 2021 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | iOS Engineer & Research Assistant, University of Toronto | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Toronto, ON | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supervisor: Dr. Joseph Roy Gillis   * Designed and developed a mobile app chatbot intervention for COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy (CIHR-funded grant) to address national-level (and potentially international) vaccine hesitation. * Used and fine-tuned cutting-edge, large language models (OpenAI's GPT-3) and advanced psychology-based counseling approaches to create the intervention * Experimented with open-source language model alternatives (GPT-J-6B) to help address vaccine hesitancy * Developed and designed the UI/UX for mobile platforms (iOS) using new UI frameworks (SwiftUI) * Using BaaS (back-end-as-a-service) to integrate the back-end for both mobile platforms (Google Firebase) * **Main Tech Stack** : Swift, SwiftUI, iOS, Google Firebase, GPT-3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sep 2016 — Sep 2018 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | iOS Developer, Simpl – Mobile Messaging App | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Toronto, ON | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Designed, developed and launched Simpl from the ground up, including UI/UX design, BaaS (Backend as a Service) integration (Firebase) and front-end mobile development * Simpl was designed to help individuals communicate with their family members and friends internationally across borders through text, audio and video chat * **Main Tech Stack** : Swift, Objective-C, Cocoapods, UIKit, Firebase, Sinch * Ranked no. 4 in the Chinese iOS App Store and no. 3 in the Middle Eastern App Stores (UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, etc.) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| RELEVANT PROJECTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2025 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Designer & macOS Engineer - SessionWise (AI-Powered Therapy Tools) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Designed a privacy-focused macOS app for therapists using Swift and on-device AI, * Developed features for automated note generation, emotion tracking, and transcript analysis. * Built secure client management system using SwiftData and SwiftUI. * Visit here to learn more: <https://www.sessionwise.app/> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2024 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Designer & iOS Engineer - Coena (AI Weight Loss Coach) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Built and launched a psychology-informed AI coach for weight loss with SwiftUI and custom backend (Appwrite). * Integrated personalized feedback and nutrition tracking to improve adherence. * Led product vision, user testing, and development end-to-end. * Visit here to learn more: <https://www.coena.app/> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| AWARDS & GRANTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2020 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Canada Starts Grant – Ownr by RBC Ventures – $5,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Canada Starts was a newly-established $200,000 grant fund to help Canadian entrepreneurs start their business. * The fund is a joint project from Ownr by RBC Ventures, Staples, Shopify, and Moneris. * More details available here: <https://www.ownr.co/blog/meet-canada-starts-grant-recipients/#Serene> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2016 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Summer Company Entrepreneur Award – $3,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Part of a province-wide program, awarded the Summer Company Award for 2016 * Summer Company provides start-up money to kick-off a new summer business and advice/mentorship from local business leaders | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| EXTRA LANGUAGES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Egyptian Arabic | | | | | | | | | | | | Native speaker | | | | | | | | | | | |  | | |