

# kith&kin

It takes a village.



PROTOTYPE

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## TARGET AUDIENCE:

Our app is designed for **parents**, especially of **younger children**, who are looking to **build a community or find resources** for both their own health and their parenting journey. Since our interviewees reported experiencing **loneliness** and social **comparison** during parenting, we wanted to build a community for parents to learn from and support each other through this isolating journey.

## INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS:

Access on iPhone or Android:

Download the Expo Go app and scan the QR code at the top of this document. If you're using a Mac, you can use the XCode simulator. You may need to use the following login credentials for Expo Go:

Opening the source code

1. Download the [code from Github](#)
2. Download Expo and node and yarn
3. Open in VS Studio or another text editor
4. Run **yarn install** or **npm install**
5. Run **npm expo start** and open on Expo Go or iOS or android simulator

## TOOLS USED:

We built our high-fidelity prototype using **React Native** and **Expo**. We used Apple's Xcode Simulator to test the app as we developed it. For the backend database for posting questions on the community board, we used **Supabase** database where we manually added question posts. We also used **gluestack-ui** to help with styling and extra features.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS:

Click on elements on the screen to navigate to the intended page.

### Navigation bar:

- Main page and first icon link to Events
- Talking Bubble button links to Chat
- Post icon links to the Community Board
- Person icon links to your Account information

### Home - Events:

- User can add their own events with the plus (+) icon

- Clicking the event reveals event details, including an RSVP button and 3 dots to share or report the event
- Clicking RSVP reserves a space for you for the event and notifies the event organizer. You then have the option to see your full calendar from the confirmation page.

### **Chat:**

- Shows recent chat history with other users
- Allows you to search messages (not functional at this time)

### **Board:**

- Shows recent posts by users in the community
- Allows for the creation of your own posts through the plus (+) icon
- Clicking on a post allows you to see replies and the full post text
- You can sort posts based on options such as newest posts, posts made in your social circle (by your friends), or popular/relevant topics.
- There are different flairs/tags to categorize the type of post or question

### **Connect:**

- Discover other users on the app
- Click on a user profile to see a more detailed biography
- Message or connect with a user to strike up a conversation
- You can filter users based on various criteria (radius, age, child stage, language)

### **Account:**

- Click "See my calendar" to access your calendar directly
- Options to edit your user profile or change settings or logout (not functional at this time)
- See a list of your friends/connections (not functional at this time)
- See your posts/events and notifications (not functional at this time)

## LIMITATIONS: HARD CODED & WIZARD-OF-OZ

Much like our medium fidelity prototype, there were several elements in our high-fidelity prototype that we had to simulate or otherwise hardcode to present the intended functionality of our application. The messaging system, for example, is stored locally and resets upon reload rather than being a fully-fledged networking solution. We thought it would be more important to showcase the intended feature of being able to connect with another parent than to work on less-relevant details, like message encryption and database structure and storage of conversations between every possible combination of users. Similarly, the list of parents available to message is hard-coded, with no way at this time for a new user to sign up. This is again due to the social nature of our app that is hard to replicate in an isolated, standalone prototype. We performed the same curation of events on the home page. Additionally, given the time constraints, the Chat navigation is hardcoded to be the same chat page for any user you might choose to message. Ideally, we would individualize a chat page for each user with their name on top.

Finally, user settings and authorization are all nonfunctional as well. Ideally, in a full application the user would have the ability to change their privacy settings, have access to moderation features such as a block list or the ability to report others, as well as be able to change their profile information visible to other users.

If we had more time, we'd like to continue developing **kith&kin** by making the search feature connect to the backend database to narrow down results in real time, add functionality to the drop-down menu for "Sort by", and connect our calendar to a third-party integration such as Apple Calendar or Google Calendar to show reminders and send push notifications.