Different Types of OpenMRS Developers

There are several ways to contribute your programming skills to OpenMRS:

1. Be a casual developer
   - A casual developer just takes on tasks when they have time. Tasks are usually able to be completed in a few days time (less than 4 hours of programming).
   - A good place to start is probably the list of Introductory Tickets or Curated Introductory Tickets. Before starting work, assign the ticket to yourself by clicking the Claim Issue button.
   - You can work on any current unassigned active tickets. Before starting work, assign the ticket to yourself by clicking the Claim Issue button.

2. Be a project developer
   - We have many larger Unassigned Projects
   - These are typically 2+ week projects
   - If you ask for one of these projects, a “mentor” will be assigned to you to help you through the project.

3. Be a project mentor
   - We have been proud to be a part of the Google Summer of Code since 2007.
   - We can only take as many students as we have mentors, so providing your time here is helpful
   - Mentors are only asked to spend about 5 hours per week over the summer helping their student
   - “Helping their student” is defined as 1) email support 2) project direction 3) code review

4. Be a project mentor (non-GSoC)
   - The unassigned projects are all things suggested by real world needs.
   - You add a new page to that section to make a project available.
   - Get some feedback from the developers on the Developer’s Mailing list
   - Wait for a student volunteer to accept your project
   - Help guide that dev through the project and see it completed

5. Contribute to code review
   - There are regular code reviews where developers look at tickets with attachments or branches that need merged to trunk.
   - This is a line-by-line review of the code to keep code quality high.
   - The more eyes on the code, the more helpful it is, so we welcome everyone that is interested

6. Contribute to a specific implementation
   - There are clinics and hospitals all over the world using OpenMRS. These clinics often do not have a programmer available to them.
   - These clinics have modules and projects that would be helpful but no one to make them.
   - We can put you in contact with these installations for work on a custom project
   - (Travel is not required! ... But might be possible some day)

There are other way to be involved that may not be listed here. Send a note to the Developer's mailing list with your idea.

Contact other developers in our IRC channel or on the mailing list for help with any of these.