



Research Assistant

Organization: Hope Through Health (www.hthglobal.org)

Location: New York, NY

Summary

Hope Through Health (HTH) seeks a Research Assistant based in New York, NY for a minimum one-year commitment to coordinate and contribute to ongoing research projects and quality improvement initiatives at our growing health equity and social justice organization.

Structure

- Full-time position based in New York, NY
- Minimum 12-month commitment beginning on or around July 15, 2017
- One round trip to Togo included

Background

Hope Through Health (HTH) works to save lives by making healthcare accessible and effective in Togo, West Africa. Since 2004, Hope Through Health has provided high quality healthcare to thousands of individuals living with HIV/AIDS and strengthened healthcare delivery systems throughout northern Togo. In August 2015, HTH launched the Maternal and Child Health Program which implements an integrated clinic and community-based approach to health systems strengthening in four public sector clinics serving a population of 30,000. The program is designed to increase access to, timeliness of and quality of healthcare services for pregnant women and children under five. Hope Through Health is looking to expand its integrated primary healthcare model to an additional 12 clinics serving 150,000 people over the next three years and to launch a stepped wedge randomized cluster, pragmatic control trial to evaluate the efficacy of the model. Hope Through Health aims to develop the evidence base needed to convince the Government of Togo to adopt and scale our model nationwide. If replicated by the Government of Togo, an improved healthcare delivery model will bring healthcare to the nearly 5 million people in Togo who currently lack access and significantly reduce preventable deaths.

In support of this goal, HTH has developed a Research for Improvement Framework (RIF) to guide the organization's research, management and improvement activities. This framework is grounded in *implementation science*, which is defined as the study of methods to promote the integration of research findings and evidence into healthcare policy and practice (NIH Fogarty Center). Implementation science is core to our goals, studying *why* and *how* known interventions work (or do not) in a real world setting and informing efforts to accelerate learning and spread in order to reach all in need more efficiently and effectively. HTH views implementation science as an important approach to evaluate impact while continuing efforts to improve patient care. Given this philosophy, HTH's ongoing research, routine performance measurement, and quality improvement efforts have three primary aims, including:

1. To ensure delivery of high quality healthcare for the communities we serve,
2. To inform efforts to improve healthcare delivery throughout Togo, and
3. To contribute to global knowledge and efforts to achieve high-quality, universal health coverage.

Job Description

Hope Through Health (HTH) is looking for a humble, passionate and highly organized self-starter to serve as Research Assistant. This individual will help to implement the research, evaluation and quality improvement initiatives of the organization. S/he will be supervised by and work most closely with HTH's Chief Strategy Officer, and collaborate with the Togo-based Research Director and the rest of the Monitoring, Evaluation and Quality team.

The Research Assistant will play a major role in research design, protocol development, ethics approval and implementation planning and oversight for multiple population-level studies. The Research Assistant will also be charged with performing quantitative and qualitative data analysis, scientific literature review, data cleaning, drafting manuscripts and other tasks as assigned. The Research Assistant will help to coordinate and facilitate communication among the various teams involved in research, evaluation and quality improvement activities across the US and Togo.

The ideal person will believe that health is a human right and that health care delivery should promote equity and social justice. S/he must be self-directed, professional, humble, a lifelong learner, have strong research and analytic skills and be able to work well within culturally diverse teams. The Research Assistant will be expected to demonstrate maturity, respect and solid leadership skills in a challenging cross-cultural work environment.

Desired Skills and Experience

- Minimum 2 years of work experience
- MPH or MS in Epidemiology or Biostatistics or other relevant advanced degree preferred; Bachelor's degree required
- Statistical programming fluency required, STATA experience preferred
- Experience with qualitative methods preferred, NVIVO desired
- Prior research experience preferred
- Intermediate French required, fluency preferred

Success Profile

Success in this position would take the form of ongoing research projects producing high quality data and new research projects being planned and implemented effectively and efficiently. An effective Research Assistant will make clearheaded and just decisions in the face of complex challenges. S/he will motivate her colleagues and help them be efficient and innovative in their daily tasks.

In order to best position the Research Assistant for success, HTH commits to providing a fair compensation package, a flexible work schedule and vacation allowance and as much infrastructure support as budget will allow. The Chief Strategy Officer, who will supervise this position, commits to listen to challenges, help brainstorm solutions, provide assistance, and work to identify tools or other sources of support the facilitate the job of the Research Assistant. The CSO also commits to providing mentorship, support and access to professional development opportunities to the greatest extent possible.

Interested applicants should email a cover letter and resume to Hope Through Health's Deputy Director, Emily Bensen, at ebensen@hthglobal.org no later than June 15th.