



Research Fellow

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

Location: Kara, Togo

Summary

Hope Through Health (HTH) seeks a Research Fellow based in Kara, Togo 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 with living stipend and travel health insurance (additional allowance for one round-trip airfare to/from Lomé, Togo for international applicants)
- Minimum 12-month commitment beginning March 1, 2017
- Based in Kara, Togo

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 to an additional 20 clinics serving 150,000 people by 2019 and to launch a randomized controlled trial to further evaluate the efficacy of our 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 Fellow. This individual, who will be a member of Hope Through Health's Monitoring, Evaluation and Quality team, will help to implement the research, evaluation and quality improvement initiatives of the organization. S/he will be supervised by HTH's Monitoring, Evaluation and Quality Director and work closely with the Research Coordinator (both host national positions based in Kara, Togo). The Research Fellow will also collaborate closely with the Country and Medical Directors, who are also based in Kara, as well as with the US-

based Chief Strategy Officer and Deputy Director to ensure that all research, evaluation and quality improvement initiatives are in line with the programmatic and strategic goals of HTH.

The Research Fellow will serve as the point person in Togo for research design, protocol development, ethics approval and implementation planning and oversight for multiple population-level studies. The Research Fellow will also be charged with performing quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis, scientific literature review, data cleaning, drafting manuscripts and other tasks as assigned. The Research Fellow 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. The Research Fellow must be comfortable living and working in a resource-poor, urban environment, with periodic travel over difficult terrain to rural areas. 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 Fellow 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
- Experience with SAS or similar data analysis software preferred
- Prior research experience preferred
- Rural Africa work experience preferred
- Professional proficiency in French & English required
- Ability to relocate to Kara, Togo, required

Success Profile

HTH values community-engagement and capacity building, as well as organizational efficiency. HTH expects that these values be shared and put into action, in a balanced manner, by the Research Fellow. 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 Fellow will make clearheaded and just decisions in the face of complex challenges. S/he will motivate her team and colleagues and help them be efficient and innovative in their daily tasks.

In order to best position the Research Fellow 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 MEQ Director, who will supervise this position, and the CSO who will support this position, commit to listen to challenges, help brainstorm solutions, provide assistance from the US team, and work to identify tools or other sources of support the facilitate the job of the Research Fellow. 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.