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Post of Research Assistant (04 vacancies)

Project: Adolescent and Youth Friendly Health Service (AYFHS) assessment in Sri Lanka

Background of the project:

Adolescence, typically spanning from 10 to 19 years, and youth, ranging from 15 to 24 years, collectively encompass those aged between 10 and 24, often referred to as young persons. Globally, the youth population exceeds 1.8 billion, with a significant 90% residing in developing nations. In Sri Lanka, the 2012 census reveals that out of a total population of 20.4 million, 4.8 million are young individuals, comprising 3.3% adolescents. The mortality rates for these age groups in 2010 stood at 66 and 166 per 100,000, respectively.

Adolescence marks a critical transitional phase, characterised by rapid development and a mix of opportunities and health risks. Recognising the importance of investing in this demographic, Sri Lanka has launched the Yowun Piyasa initiative, setting up 40 hospital-based centres to provide Adolescent and Youth Friendly Health Services (AYFHS). Additionally, the Family Health Bureau has undertaken an assessment of AYFHS, funded by the UNFPA Annual Workplan 2024. This evaluation aims to gauge the current state of AYFHS centres, pinpoint strategies to address gaps, and evaluate the quality and coverage of these services. The insights derived will be instrumental in formulating evidence-based policies to enhance AYFHS's availability, accessibility, and quality of AYFHS and way forwards.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. To coordinate project activities in the selected district Hospitals, Schools and MOH Offices
2. To Collect data by using the assessment tool developed by Family Health Bureau based on the eight Sri Lankan standards for AYFHS
3. To collate and compile all the data received and collected at select hospitals, communities, schools and MOHs
4. To enter collected data into a database
5. To assist NPM in analysing the data

6. To assist NPM in documentation/preparing reports based on the collected data
7. Focus group discussions and assist in consultative meeting
8. To develop brief videos, text, graphics, and posters on adolescent and youth health based on the findings and unit requirements and upload them to the web or social media
9. Support maintenance of Yowun Piyasa website and social media
10. Attend any other activities arranged by the Director/MCH or head of the Adolescent and Youth Health.

Research assistant should work under Director Maternal and Child Health and Consultant Community Physician of Adolescent and Youth Health Unit Family Health Bureau. It is a full time job and usual working hours on week days 8.30am-4.15pm. But he/she will be requested to work extended hours and weekends if need arises without additional payment. Transport from Family Health Bureau to project areas will be arranged. For the Data collection outside the Western province accommodation will be provided within the province as applicable.

Desired qualification and experience for the post

- Pre-intern medical officer with MBBS qualifications
- Previous experience in scientific research, data collection, data entry and analysis
- Good command of English and Sinhala OR English and Tamil languages
- Ability to work with Microsoft Office applications (word/Excel/ PowerPoint/ SPSS /etc.)
- Ability to develop digital content -videos, graphics, text and ICT knowledge
- Excellent communication skills

Nature of the work

Full-time/part-time: Full-time for six months

No of days per week: 05/06 days

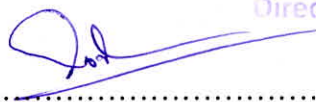
Working hours per day: Eight hours /8.30 am to 4.15 pm

Place of work: Family Health Bureau and field duty in the Yowun Piyasa centers of DH Madulla, DH Mathurata ,BH Muththur, TH Anuradhapura ,DH Thalawa ,DGH Nawalapitiya ,BH Hingurakgoda, TH Polonnaruwa ,DH Mathugama, DH Diwulapitiya ,DH Pimbura, BH Wathupitiwala and BH Kiribathgoda)

Monthly remuneration: RS.66,750/=

(Basic Salary-RS.48,950/=+ Cost of all-Rs.17,800/=)

A Research Assistant is not entitled to any other privileges or claims other than the benefits specified above from the Ministry of Health or the funding agency.



Director Maternal and Child Health

Family Health Bureau

231, de Seram Place,

Colombo - 10.

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Director
(Maternal and Child Health)



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Dr.P.V.S.C.Vithana
Coordinating Consultant

Dr. P.V.S. Chiranthika Vithana
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