



Job title: HIPZ Mental Health Programme Volunteer x 2
Closing Date: 5pm on Sunday 10th December, 2018
Interviews: TBC upon application, may be held on Skype
To start: June 2019
Reports to: HIPZ Mental Health Programme Coordinator
Location: Unguja, Zanzibar
Duration: Minimum 10 months

Organisational Profile

Health Improvement Project Zanzibar (HIPZ), a UK charity established in 2006, has created a unique model of healthcare delivery in Zanzibar. Through an innovative collaboration with the Government of Zanzibar, HIPZ endeavours to strengthen the services provided in two rural hospitals. Since taking over the management of Makunduchi Hospital in the south of Zanzibar and Kivunge Hospital in the north, HIPZ has transformed health services for 300,000 people – a quarter of the population of Zanzibar. This has been achieved primarily through a unique collaborative approach, building on local capacity and the expertise of our volunteer doctors and other healthcare professionals.

HIPZ has been working to improve mental health care in Zanzibar since 2014 with the initiation of weekly, nurse-led mental health service at both hospitals. HIPZ has been instrumental in increasing the awareness of mental distress and psychosocial disability within the Zanzibari community, as well as in the training and mentoring of Zanzibari clinical staff.

HIPZ has acquired funding to expand our work and focus development on community-based services that improve access to effective support for rural communities in the north and south of Unguja, Zanzibar. Key service developments underway include increased emphasis on psychological approaches, including the introduction of an initiative based on a successful “Friendship Bench” model used in Southern Africa, and improving collaboration with Zanzibar Ministry of Health-recognised traditional healers. HIPZ also focuses on expansion of our clinical team, training of staff and community outreach via awareness raising and training.

HIPZ is seeking two experienced and motivated individuals with an enthusiasm for improving mental health services in low resource settings.

About the Role:

The successful candidates will join our project coordinator in Zanzibar, and will be expected to:

- Support and mentor nurses leading clinics at Kivunge and Makunduchi Cottage Hospital, which provide treatment for patients with mental, neurological and substance misuse disorders, using the World Health Organisation’s mhGAP manual
- Provide regular training sessions for nurses leading clinics, with a focus on psycho-social as well as pharmacological approaches
- Coordinate and support nurses in a community outreach programme which aims to increase awareness of mental health services available at Kivunge Cottage Hospital

- Support Zanzibar's mental health coordinator in providing training for Primary Health Care Unit staff members on screening for and treatment of mental distress and psychosocial disability
- Work with partners in the Zanzibar Ministry of Health and Zimbabwe to continue the implementation of the Friendship Bench Programme at Primary Healthcare Units, a programme which trains lay health workers to accessible talking therapies for the local community
- Continue to develop Kivunge and Makunduchi Cottage Hospitals' relationship with traditional healers in the Kivunge catchment area with the aim of increasing collaboration between the biomedical and the traditional sectors in improving mental health

Person specification:

Essential

- Psychiatrist or medical doctor with an interest in mental health, or allied mental health professional
- Passion for improving mental healthcare in low-income countries using community and rights-based approaches
- Demonstrated ability to collaborate with professionals at all levels in diverse settings
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Experience and knowledge of research and data collection
- Willingness to learn Swahili / demonstrable skills in languages
- Proficiency in English language
- Valid driving licence

Desirable

- Three years' experience of working in mental health settings
- Previous experience of leadership in a healthcare setting
- Experience of psycho-social approaches to helping patients with mental distress and psychosocial disability
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- Familiarity with The Friendship Bench model of care or other community based mental health interventions
- Experience of living and working in healthcare in low resource settings
- Experience of living and working within East Africa
- Experience of working with the mhGAP
- Proficiency in Swahili

Benefits

HIPZ will provide reimbursement for flights, insurance and medical indemnity, as well as providing accommodation and reimbursing petrol and communication costs throughout the post.

How to apply

Please send us your curriculum vitae and a supporting letter (maximum two sides of A4) outlining how you meet the person specifications. Please include details for two references with your application – please note that we will only contact referees with your permission.

Please send your application to petemcgovern1@gmail.com no later than 5pm on 10th Dec, 2018