We're Hiring!

Open Position

Research Associate (Gender)

Employer

Boston College School of Social Work Research Program on Children and Adversity (RPCA)

The Research Program on Children and Adversity (RPCA) at the School of Social Work is an applied research program dedicated to improving the evidence base on the epidemiology of mental health problems and family functioning as well as intervention research to develop and test mental health services for children and families affected by multiple forms of adversity, including armed conflict, poverty, and infectious disease.

Principal Investigator

Theresa S. Betancourt, Sc.D., M.A., Salem Professor in Global Practice, RPCA Director, School of Social Work, Boston College

Project Description

The *Early Child Development & Violence Prevention Home-Visiting Implementation Science* project links with an evidence-based, home-visiting model (Sugira Muryango; SM) that supports playful parenting, father engagement, improved nutrition, care seeking and family functioning -- to promote Early Child Development, positive parent-child relationships, and healthy child development. This scaling out implementation science hybrid design will enable RPCA to 1) expand SM to younger children (0-6 months); 2) increase by almost tenfold the number of children impacted by the intervention; 3) increase the use of technology to accelerate feedback; and, 4) test an evidence-based implementation strategy, the Promoting Lasting Anthropometric Change and Young Children's Development (PLAY) Collaborative, to engage local stakeholders and frontline providers and supervisors to ensure quality improvement and sustainability.

Position Description

The Research Associate (Gender) will be responsible for:

Curriculum and Training (25%)
- Updating curriculum and training materials to thread stronger gender-sensitive messaging throughout all elements of the SM process
- Collaborating with fellow Research Associate to engage in-country networks and work across the PLAY Collaborative
- Training stakeholders in the PLAY Collaborative process

Government and Stakeholder Relations (25%)
- Collaborating with FXB staff to launch a Community Advisory board in each district to focus on issues of gender (e.g., gender-specific programming, gender inclusiveness and gender-specific barriers and facilitators to program implementation) as they arise during implementation
- Supporting community leaders to ensure important data points are captured and relevant indicators incorporated

Quantitative and Qualitative Data Analysis Management (50%)
- Developing a data dictionary that standardizes data across sites
- Creating and implementing procedures for data quality checks
- Ensuring that all processes for data entry and query resolution meet Good Clinical Practice requirements for the entry and reporting of clinical data
- Developing a data quality plan and data management plan in coordination with study investigators
- Developing and maintaining multiple databases for study clinical and implementation data
- Preparing study data for analysis in STATA statistical software package
- Designing and executing gender-informed statistical analysis leveraging research study databases in conjunction with study staff and other statisticians
- Applying statistical analysis using multilevel modeling, coding, and multiple imputations to address missing data using STATA
- Producing tables and figures depicting results of analyses, along with written interpretation by gender
- Utilizing mixed methodologies to triangulate, analyze and interpret qualitative and quantitative data using STATA and MAXQDA

Employment Details

The ideal candidate will have the following credentials and experience:

- A doctoral degree, preferably in Public Health, Implementation Science, Social Work, Developmental Psychology, Mental Health, Epidemiology, or other related fields with specialization in gender.
- Strong ability in the use of advanced statistical and computational programming.
- Proficiency in utilizing computer applications including Microsoft Office, STATA, R, MAXQDA, and other applicable quantitative and qualitative data analysis platforms.
- Knowledge of programming using a common language like R.
- Strong background in implementation science to include hybrid design, cluster-randomized control trials, longitudinal studies, and quality improvement approaches to fidelity and supervision that relate to long-term sustainability and scalability.
- Some background related to conducting research in culturally diverse contexts, preferably in Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs).
- A publication record that demonstrates the candidate's capacities is also desirable.
- Expert knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies including mixed-methods.
- Understanding of the application of technology both for data collection as well as routine symptom monitoring, fidelity monitoring and quality improvement efforts in global mental health and child development.

This position will be based in Rwanda with expected travel between Boston and Rwanda. Within Rwanda, travel between sites is required. Applicant should be aware of the following conditions in Rwanda: Hot, humid, tropical climate; Extremely limited medical facilities; Potentially contaminated water; High incidence of HIV/AIDS; Prevalence of common diseases that include Rabies, Lassa fever, water-borne diseases, malaria, and other tropical diseases.

Contact

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
CHILDREN AND ADVERSITY

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

For questions about this opportunity, please email the Administrative Manager, Tesla Abrego, at tesla.abrego@bc.edu. To apply, please submit a cover letter and CV directly to the Boston College Human Resources website at bc.edu/hr/jobopps.html.