



Volunteer Opportunity: Health Information Systems Fellow

Based in Mae Sot, Thailand

Description of Organization: Planet Care/Global Health Access Program is a small, non-profit organization working to improve the well-being of communities in crisis, through the provision of health and public health services, capacity building, and resource enhancement. Our work currently focuses on Burma. Projects include malaria control, reproductive health, tuberculosis, trauma and landmine injury management, and population-based surveys on health and human rights. For more information, please visit www.ghap.org.

Description of Fellowship: Fellows commit to work with GHAP for one year on a specific set of projects under the supervision of GHAP staff members. Fellowships are both a learning and a working experience. All fellows receive an initial orientation and ongoing support from GHAP staff but are expected to work independently, problem solve, and seek additional assistance and resources on their own. Fellows are expected to arrange their own accommodation where they are based, but GHAP can provide advice and recommendations on finding accommodation in each area.

Description of Health Information Systems (HIS): The HIS program aims to improve the quality of data collection, data entry, database design and management, data analysis, and data reporting for all of the health interventions conducted by our partners. Intensive trainings and follow-up workshops are conducted to reinforce these concepts in addition to basic public health, biostatistics, and epidemiologic theory. Program partners also receive one-on-one technical assistance to build individual skills in HIS. In addition, GHAP provides our partners with technical support to design, implement, and analyze cross-sectional surveys that measure prevalence of major diseases; frequency of human rights violations; and associations between health, human rights, and mortality.

Fellowship Responsibilities: We are seeking a fellow to assist GHAP and our local partners in creating and maintaining health information systems and implementing cross-sectional surveys. Key responsibilities include:

- Assist with training programs, workshops, and other participatory activities that will broaden knowledge and practice of effective monitoring and evaluation of cross-border health programs.

- Provide technical assistance in the design, strengthening, and maintenance of information systems to support program activities.
- Assist data teams from local organizations in creating and using Access databases to enter, manage, and analyze data.
- Work one-on-one with partner organizations to troubleshoot and assist with data management issues.
- Work with local partners to coordinate and standardize health information across agencies.
- Assist with design of survey instruments, field-testing, and development of curricula for surveyor training.
- Assist in management of cross-sectional survey data entry and cleaning.

Dates and work week: The fellowship will begin on or around ~~June~~April 1, 2010 and will continue for one year. The fellowship entails a 40 hour/week commitment spread over six days, Monday-Saturday.

Qualifications/Requirements:

- Undergraduate degree in public health (preferably with substantial biostatistics or epidemiology coursework), statistics, computer science, or related field
- Experience or familiarity with qualitative and quantitative research methods;
- Experience designing, field-testing, and implementing surveys
- Familiarity with,~~and~~ sampling techniques
- Experience cleaning and analyzing data
- Strong skills in ~~Experience with~~ Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Access
- Working knowledge of Stata preferred
- International experience required
- Capacity building, teaching, or training experience preferred
- Flexible approach, ability to work independently, and can-do attitude
- Patient, detail-oriented work style
- Proficient multi-tasker
- Burmese, Karen or Thai language helpful but not required

Application Process:

Candidates should send a CV and covering email explaining why they are interested in this position and why they are a good candidate to info@ghap.org by February 15, 2010. Please indicate which fellowship position you are applying for (we are recruiting for several concurrently). Please only apply if you are able to commit to one year. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

Compensation:

We encourage our volunteers to seek outside stipends/scholarships to support their work. For fellows who do not have external funding and who commit to one year, we will provide a modest stipend of roughly \$100/month, plus roundtrip airfare to Bangkok and evacuation insurance.