JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: watotoCare Program Manager
Location: Mwanza, Tanzania
Job Status: Full time employment

Touch Foundation, an iNGO working to build the health systems of the future in sub-Saharan Africa, is seeking an outstanding individual to join its team as its Program Manager for the watotoCare Program. The Program Manager will join a team of highly mission-driven professionals with diverse backgrounds and experiences, ranging from management consulting to global public health. The Program Manager will lead the broader watotoCare program team, working closely with collaboration partners and local and national Tanzanian Government, becoming an integral part of Touch’s commitment to improving health in sub-Saharan Africa.

BACKGROUND

Touch Foundation is a nonprofit organization founded in 2004 to help strengthen the healthcare system in Sub-Saharan Africa. Touch’s founder, Lowell Bryan, a former Director with McKinsey & Company, initially founded Touch to address the healthcare crisis in Tanzania where he understood that the country faced a daunting healthcare environment, with declining life expectancy and increasing maternal and infant mortality. One of the biggest impediments to access to healthcare was the dearth of medical professionals. Touch supported the development of a new medical school in Tanzania, created a program to improve training and delivery of services by graduates of the medical school, and started addressing the most critical challenges in the local resource-constrained health system. The success of Touch’s initiatives in Tanzania led to the expansion of programs across multiple Sub-Saharan African countries. In the recent years and in collaboration with its funding partners, Touch has developed and implemented in multiple countries (Tanzania and Lesotho) the m-mama program which tackles maternal and infant mortality by providing emergency transportation to pregnant women and newborns in distress during and after childbirth. Touch has also built systems used by several African governments to effectively assign scarce healthcare workers to where they are needed most. Touch’s work is data driven and evidence based, with a deep commitment to solutions that are sustainable and locally led.

Most of Touch’s staff are based in Africa, with administrative and development functions centered in the US and Europe. Touch’s diverse team is made up of energetic, collaborative and highly driven individuals who aim to excel – this has been key to the impact that Touch has made in its two decades of existence.

OVERVIEW OF THE WATOTOCARE PROGRAM

Every year, 2.4 million babies die in their first month of life, making neonatal mortality a major global health challenge. Specific issues such as lack of health worker skills in identifying emergencies across the peri-natal cycle are compounded by ill-equipped health facilities and barriers mothers and their children face in accessing care, including distances to facilities, unavailability of means of emergency and non-emergency transport, and ability to pay. These barriers create a chasm between critical healthcare demand (by newborns and their mothers) and service delivery (by facilities), limiting opportunities for early identification, referral, and life-saving treatments.

In partnership with the Government of Tanzania, NEST360 and Safer Birth Bundle of Care, Touch will deliver a 2.5 year proof of concept program in Sengerema District Hospital to test the ‘Care of Mothers & Babies, Innovations for National Equity (COMBINE) approach and address newborn mortality. The COMBINE approach
will connect emergency transport for pregnant women and newborns to health facilities (m-mama), high quality birth care (SBBC), post-birth neonatal care (NEST360) and routine follow-up and retention of newborns in the health system (watotoCare).

The watotoCare program will be an innovative systems solution devised to address the current gap in newborn retention and routine care in rural areas of Tanzania, providing a step-change for neonatal health on the continent, significantly reducing neonatal mortality in the critical first six weeks after birth. For ~5,000 babies delivered at Sengerema District Hospital per year, watotoCare will improve the triaging and follow-up processes and increase the access to post-natal care through teleconsultation and transport to health facilities.

Touch collaborates closely with the Ministry of Health (MoH), the President’s Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG), the regional and district authorities and Sengerema District Hospital where we have almost 15 years of experience implementing

**POSITION SUMMARY**

We are seeking a Program Manager to lead the design, development and implementation of the 2.5-year watotoCare program in Sengerema, Tanzania.

The Program Manager will lead a lean, high-impact local team of Program Associate, Program Analyst, Data Clerk and dispatcher, and collaborating closely with Touch’s Program Team and Medical Specialist in Tanzania. The Program Manager will report to the Director of Programs.

The full-time role will be based in Mwanza, Tanzania, with regular travel to Sengerema (implementation) and Dodoma (national stakeholders).

Responsibilities of the role may be adapted based upon the experience of the successful candidate.

**RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES**

- Responsible for overall leadership, management, and implementation of the watotoCare program in Tanzania’s Lake Zone
- Line-manage the program team (3 – 4 full time staff)
- Manage and coordinate all elements of effective program implementation, including budgeting, on the ground implementation, and oversight to ensure delivery of quality outputs on time and within budget
- Build strong and collaborative working relationships with key Government of Tanzania stakeholders – Ministry of Health (MOH) and Presidents Office – Regional and Local Government (PO-RALG), Regional and Council Health Management Teams (R/DHMTs) and Sengerema Hospital management team while demonstrating high level engagement skills
- Manage relationships with funders – ELMA Foundation and Vodafone Foundation, COMBINE partners – NEST360, SBBC, academic researchers, and ICT development partners
- Participate in decision-making and problem-solving with program leadership to design, develop and plan the watotoCare interventions
- Lead the program team and collaborate with partners and M&E experts to undertake effective monitoring and evaluation of the program
- Conduct data analyses and prepare reports on program implementation progress and impact for management, donors or other stakeholders
- Conduct stakeholder meetings with funders, partners and/or government stakeholders, to communicate program progress, advise of issues and drive key decision
- Assist with compliance with donor requirements, Government of Tanzania relevant regulations, and organizational policies and procedures
- Contribute to strengthening Touch’s profile with major donors and implementing partners, including Government of Tanzania central authorities, international organizations and prospective funders
• Contribute to expanding Touch’s knowledge of the Tanzania health system and international public health issues, including relationships with main stakeholders
• Assist with preparation of funding proposals to expand or continue program activities
• Contribute to suite of communication vehicles, including conference presentations, articles, and marketing materials
• Communicate regularly and effectively with various program partners

As job vacancy announcements cannot be exhaustive, the Program Manager may be required to undertake other duties that are broadly in line with the above key duties.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge, Education, Skills and Experience:
• Minimum 8 years’ relevant professional experience in program design and implementation management
• Advanced degree in relevant field (e.g., MBA, MPH, MPA, international development) or equivalent demonstrated professional experience
• Strong leadership, stakeholder engagement, negotiation, organizational and problem-solving skills
• Experience working with and interaction with government and donor stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa, in particular in Tanzania
• Ability to self-manage and work independently without day-to-day oversight to complete deliverables on time and at a high level of quality
• Prior experience managing and tracking complex budgets
• Experience in program monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and international development
• Excellent attention to detail
• Strong analytical abilities, both quantitative and qualitative
• Excellent oral and written communication skills, especially in the functional use of Excel, PowerPoint and Microsoft Word
• Solid relationship-building skills and cross-cultural sensitivity: ability to interface with external stakeholders from a variety of backgrounds
• Good judgment and discretion to represent the Touch Foundation in a highly professional manner, as well as respect for local culture

APPLICATION PROCESS

• Please submit a Cover Letter and Resume outlining your interest in the position to: jobs@touchfoundation.org and copy ldeng@touchfoundation.org. Please put “Touch Program Manager - watotoCare” in the subject line of your e-mailed application.

• The deadline for the job application is August 11, 2023

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

Touch Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, color, sex, age, gender identification, sexual orientation, veteran status, or disability. All qualified applications will be given equal opportunity and selection decisions will be based solely on job-related factors. Compensation will be commensurate with experience.

For more information about the Touch Foundation, please visit www.touchfoundation.org