FIELD AND MELD SPECIALIST – M-MAMA KENYA

Location: Nairobi, Kenya, with 50 – 75 % domestic travel
Job status: Full-time (12 months Assignment, renewable) – subject to funding

Touch Foundation, an international NGO working to save lives and relieve human suffering by strengthening healthcare services in sub-Saharan Africa, providing better access to care and improving the quality of local health systems, is seeking an outstanding individual to join its team as its Field and Monitoring Evaluation Learning and Data (MELD) Specialist.

The Field and MELD Specialist will join a team of highly mission-driven professionals with diverse backgrounds and experiences, ranging from management consulting to global public health. The Field and MELD Specialist will work closely with team members across all levels and functions, becoming an integral part of Touch’s commitment to improving health in sub-Saharan Africa.

BACKGROUND

Touch Foundation is an international nongovernmental organization working to strengthen health systems in Sub-Saharan Africa. Touch works across three programmatic pillars: supporting a strong healthcare workforce, bridging gaps in access to care for rural communities, and supporting hospital excellence. In collaboration with the Vodafone Foundation and other funding partners, Touch has developed and implemented the m-mama emergency transportation system in multiple African countries. m-mama addresses maternal and infant mortality by providing emergency transportation to pregnant women and newborns in distress during and after childbirth. Touch’s work is data driven and evidence based, and we strive to share the knowledge and the information obtained through years of implementation with policy makers and other stakeholders globally. Touch’s staff and Board members represent diverse backgrounds, expertise, and geographies; our core implementation teams are based in sub-Saharan Africa, with administrative and development functions centered in the US and Europe.

OVERVIEW OF THE M-MAMA PROGRAM

The m-mama program is an innovative and cost-effective at-scale Emergency Transportation System for pregnant women and newborns funded by Vodafone Foundation and implemented by Touch Foundation and Pathfinder International.

Vodafone Foundation and Touch Foundation launched m-mama in 2013 in Tanzania in collaboration with the Government of Tanzania and in Lesotho in 2021 in collaboration with the Government of Lesotho. This program addresses the high rates of maternal and neonatal mortality in rural areas by reducing delays in access to care using safe and timely emergency transportation for pregnant women and newborns experiencing an emergency. The central component of m-mama is an emergency transport system enabled by innovative digital solution to address complications as quickly and effectively as possible.

The Kenya Office of the President announced a partnership for m-mama Kenya on Wednesday 21st June 2023. Kenya is the third country where the m-mama system is being replicated. The m-mama Kenya program will be co-designed and co-implemented with the Government of Kenya (GOK) in phased approach starting January 2024.
**POSITION SUMMARY**

Touch Foundation is seeking a hardworking, and experienced professional to become its Field and Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Data Specialist for the m-mama Kenya program. The Field and MELD Specialist will be an integral part of the Program Team, reporting directly to the Senior Project Manager.

The Field and Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Data Specialist will support the m-mama Kenya program team in planning, implementing and coordinating roll out of the m-mama system country wide and in implementing the monitoring and evaluation plan for national scale-up in Kenya.

The Field and MELD Specialist will work closely with Touch’s m-mama Kenya program team, program partners (Vodafone Foundation, Implementing Partner – Pathfinder International) and national and county/sub-county government stakeholders.

The role will be responsible to 1) Coordinate logistics and implementation of Go-Live activities in new counties according to the roll out plan and 2) plan and execute monitoring, evaluation and learning activities, manage and analyze data and apply the data for evidence-based decision-making.

The Field and MELD Specialist will be required to use data to drive quality improvement in the Emergency Transportation System and to improve quality of care for maternal and newborns. The role will work with National government representatives, and CHMT and SCHMT representatives in data collection, analysis and reporting of the Emergency Transportation System.

**RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES**

**County implementation**

In collaboration and coordination with Touch Program Associate:

- Assist and support the Program Team in planning and coordinating County roll out of the m-mama system country wide
- Support m-mama team in data quality check during system configuration in each new county
- Coordinate logistics and implement Go-Live activities in new county according to County roll out plan:
  - Set up and deliver technical training (admin users) sessions for m-mama county and sub county stakeholders for system launch
  - Conduc capacity building of government appointed stakeholders (e.g., ICT officers) in delivering admin training
- Provide support to implementing partner, County and Sub County government, to ensure smooth m-mama operations and coordination with National level and monitoring in each county during immediate post Go-Live period
- Build collaborative relationships with implementing partner and local government stakeholders to establish regular communication and ensure provision of support and progress updates on County m-mama activities

**Data Collection and Analysis**

- Collect, analyze and use data from primary government sources and secondary sources to produce inputs, outputs, outcomes and impact reports of the program and improve quality of implementation (process) and quality of care (outcome). This includes baseline data collection in the field, quality assessments for the Emergency Transportation System and routine data quality assessments in targeted counties
- Facilitate effective use of data and coordinate regular feedback to and information exchange with all government, funder and partner stakeholders to share data insights in order to improve quality in the m-mama program
- Improve m-mama outcomes by strengthening data quality, data management, reporting and analysis at the national and county / sub-county levels
- Provide guidance and support on data collection, management, analysis, visualization and use
Monitoring and Evaluation
In collaboration and coordination with Touch Program Associate

- Conduct the monitoring, evaluation and learning activities of the project, including designing and implementing tools such as the M&E framework and Key Performance Indicators for monitoring of specific technical components
- Conduct regular meetings to share M&E data and patient outcomes with national and county governments understand how effective the system is and what are the areas that need more support and focus
- Conduct program evaluation activities, including the development of tools, materials and reports
- Build and transfer M&E capacity to national and county government teams responsible for managing the Emergency Transportation System
- Support m-mama program team on monthly Operational M&E, including collection, analysis and reporting of data and support quality assurance throughout the program

Quality improvement

- Based on data and evidence, identify areas for improvement in the implementation process, and work collaboratively with the m-mama Program Associate and Senior Project Manager to ensure adaptation measurements and course correction are put into place
- Participate in the development and implementation of the Quality Improvement work plan and monitor the activities under this work plan to ensure they are executed as planned in the different counties
- Support the improvement of dashboards and other data visualization tools for use by the government
- Strengthen the government’s capacity to effectively manage the m-mama systems to provide accountability, oversight and management

Impact, Learning, Reporting and Dissemination

In collaboration and coordination with Touch Program Associate

- Document program results, experiences and lessons learnt, and support dissemination to program partners, donors, Government of Tanzania and other key stakeholders
- Ensure timely and complete reporting of M&E indicators to funder and government reporting formats
- Assist in preparation of documentation (excel, power point) for stakeholders’ meetings or funders’ meetings
- Contribute to conduct and provide mid-line and end-line analysis to measure the impact/change observed for pregnant women and newborn occurred because of the m-mama program

As job vacancy announcement cannot be exhaustive, the Field Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Data Specialist will be required to undertake other duties that are broadly in line with the above key duties.

QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

Qualifications

- Master’s degree level in relevant field (Public Health, Data Science, Statistics, or related field) or equivalent demonstrated professional experience
- Minimum 6 years’ relevant professional experience in data analysis and implementing data for decision-making activities
- Experience with training and capacity development of government and partners on data for decision-making at national or county levels
- A thorough understanding of the health care system and data landscape (including DHIS2) in Kenya
- Prior experience in Kenya and/or developing countries, preferably in sub-Saharan Africa is desirable

Skills

- Ability to self-manage and work independently without day-to-day oversight to complete deliverables on time and at a high level of quality
• Exceptional ability to analyze multiple sources of data to identify data trends and to provide recommendations on project implementation
• Experience with M&E, mentorship, coaching and Continuous Quality Improvement initiatives and activities
• Strong analytical, organizational and problem-solving skills
• Qualitative and quantitative data analysis and report writing skills
• Solid relationship-building skills and cross-cultural sensitivity: ability to interface with external constituents 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
• Full proficiency in English required, proficiency in Kiswahili is desirable

Other information

• Travel required: 50-75% of the time to travel to the counties for m-mama activities implementation, orientation and training of key stakeholders, data collection / verification and quality improvement and occasional travel for national-level M&E related activities

APPLICATION PROCESS

▪ Please submit a Resume and Cover Letter outlining your interest in the position to: jobs@touchfoundation.org and cc sellouze@touchfoundation.org. Please put “Touch m-mama Kenya – Field and MELD Specialist” in the subject line of your e-mailed application.
▪ Deadline for the application: Friday, January 19, 2024

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