MEDICAL SPECIALIST – M-MAMA KENYA

Location: Nairobi, Kenya, with 25-50% 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 Medical Specialist.

The Medical Specialist will join a team of highly mission-driven professionals with diverse backgrounds and experiences, ranging from management consulting to global public health. The Medical 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 Medical Specialist for the m-mama Kenya program. The Medical Specialist will be an integral part of the
Program Team, reporting directly to the Senior Project Manager and functionally to the Director of Clinical Services, and being under the overall direction of our Director of Programs and Chief Program Officer.

The Medical Specialist is responsible for the clinical effectiveness of the m-mama Kenya program. The Medical Specialist will be in charge of mama Kenya’s clinical monitoring and evaluation system and will support the m-mama program team in conducting Clinical Assessment/mapping in 47 counties for national scale-up in Kenya for the m-mama program.

The Medical Specialist will work closely with Touch’s Director of Clinical Services along with other m-mama program team (Vodafone Foundation, Touch Foundation, Implementing Partner – Pathfinder International, and Government of Kenya stakeholders), plan and execute clinical assessments in respective counties and sub counties as per m-mama roll-out plan, and perform other program support activities as required.

Responsibilities of the role may be adapted based upon the identified needs on the ground.

**RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES**

**Program Implementation Support and Clinical Guidance**

- Support the program team by advising on clinical guidance on the m-mama program design and implementation by analyzing and reporting on
  - EmONC service provision at sub-county, county and tertiary hospitals (including equipment, level of training, etc.)
  - Referral, emergency, and transport processes in each county
  - Management and governance structures and coordination of emergency services

- Work closely with Director of Clinical Services and support the m-mama Kenya program team in implementation activities as needed
- Develop, implement and manage monitoring and clinical evaluation for the m-mama program, and produce program reports
- Provide support to m-mama program team on monthly Operational M&E, including collection, analysis and reporting of data
- Assist in preparation of documentation (excel, power point) for stakeholders’ meetings or funders’ meetings
- Assist in conducting data analysis according to program needs
- Collaborate with the HR department on internal health and safety policies in Kenya

**County Clinical Assessment and Data Collection**

The Medical Specialist will be responsible to conduct clinical assessments of up to 47 counties in 3 years starting in March 2024. Clinical assessment activity involves working with Ministry of Health (MoH) national team, County teams (CHMT) and Sub-County teams (SCHMT) to gather information through questionnaires and interviews, conduct physical assessment of selected CEmONC facilities in each county and sub county and collect M&E baseline data as per the M&E framework. Accompanied by Kenya Central government representatives, and CHMT and SCHMT respective representatives, the Medical Specialist will travel across each county to selected facilities and conduct short interviews with facility staff, assess the facility infrastructure, equipment and capacity.

For each county, the Medical Specialist will submit a final comprehensive report summarizing the assessment and key findings, to be shared with national and county government. The on the ground activity takes between 1 and 3 days for each county covering significant number of health facilities.
• Work with Director of Clinical Services, m-mama program team, implementing partners and relevant levels of the Government of Kenya to plan for clinical assessment in respective counties
• Share relevant assessment tools with county and sub-county authorities ahead of the assessment.
• Conduct initial analysis and produce final plan of facilities to be assessed
• Conduct a targeted assessment of emergency obstetric and neonatal care services in the facilities and emergency services in each county
• Identify gaps and provide recommendations for service delivery improvement, infrastructure, equipment, and HR training upgrades
• Conduct debrief session at national level and with facilities, councils and county stakeholders
• Timely submit a comprehensive report of the county assessed
• Develop, implement and manage monitoring and clinical evaluation across m-mama Kenya especially in areas that were assessed.
• Participate in other activities as may deem necessary for the betterment of m-mama Kenya Program

Data Collection and Analysis
In collaboration and coordination with Touch Field and Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Data (MELD) specialist:

• 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/subcounty levels
• Provide guidance and support on data collection, management, analysis, visualization and use

As job vacancy announcement cannot be exhaustive, the Medical Specialist will be required to undertake other duties that are broadly in line with the above key duties.

Skills & Qualifications

Qualifications

▪ Master’s degree level in relevant field of Medicine (Health Systems Management or Public Health)
▪ Minimum 6 years’ relevant professional experience in maternal and child health, hospital and health system operations, or a combination of those. A minimum of 2 years’ experience practicing medicine is strongly recommended.
▪ Experience with Kenyan local health care system is highly preferred
▪ Experience with M&E, mentorship, coaching and Continuous Quality Improvement initiatives and activities is an added advantage

Skills

▪ Strong analytical, organizational and problem-solving skills
▪ Qualitative and quantitative data analysis and report writing skills are preferred
▪ Solid relationship-building skills and cross-cultural sensitivity: ability to relate and work with both local and international individuals
▪ 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: 25-50% of the time will be travelling to counties across Kenya for collecting baseline data and conducting clinical assessment.

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 – Medical 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