



Summer Internship TERMS OF REFERENCE

“Improving child health for the urban poor in Freetown, Sierra Leone”

Application Deadline: March 15, 2013

Summary

The Welbodi Partnership is a UK-registered charitable organization that works with governmental and nongovernmental partners to support child health in Sierra Leone. Welbodi is currently seeking summer interns to design, execute, and deliver a mid-term review for its three-year project, *Improving child health for the urban poor in Freetown, Sierra Leone*. Interns may also work with the Welbodi team on other projects as needed.

Background

In 2010, Welbodi was awarded a grant from the Comic Relief Common Ground Initiative to work with the Sierra Leone Institute of Child Health (SLICH) to improve child health for the urban poor in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The three-year grant began on 1st November 2011 and Welbodi Partnership wishes to conduct an internal mid-term review of the program’s activities in mid-2013. This review could be the focal responsibility for an intern joining our team for the summer of 2013.

The Sierra Leone Institute of Child Health is a majority Sierra Leonean entity through which the Welbodi Partnership funds and supports targeted interventions to improve child health. Based at Ola During Children’s Hospital (ODCH), Sierra Leone’s only government-run paediatric hospital, SLICH works to prioritise the most urgent needs of the hospital and surrounding community for training, equipment and infrastructure, approve project proposals, disburse funds, and oversee monitoring, evaluation and learning. SLICH originated from extensive consultation with ODCH and MoHS, using lessons from our initial work at ODCH. It was designed to align with the existing health system while establishing an impetus for change. SLICH reflects the Welbodi Partnership’s core aim: to deliver sustainable changes that are driven by Sierra Leonean partners and thus relevant to their needs and vision.

Mid-Term Review Rationale, Objectives, and Key Activities

Welbodi Partnership seeks to conduct an internal mid-term review in mid-2013 to assess the grant’s progress towards the goals of to effectively engaging with caregivers and communities, transferring skills and delivering sustainable changes that are driven by Sierra Leonean partners and relevant to their needs and vision.

The evaluation should be guided by the following research questions:

1. Community engagement and primary care
 - a. How has SLICH worked to engage and empower communities to be involved with programming to improve child health?
 - b. How have SLICH activities within ODCH resulted in spill-over effects to the community?
 - c. What scope is there for deeper engagement with local communities and primary care sites?
2. The process of innovation and collaboration

- a. How has the SLICH process operated and how has it been managed?
 - b. What is the composition of the SLICH Board, and how do these individuals interact within and beyond the Board?
 - c. How does SLICH engage with partners at ODCH and JW?
 - d. How does SLICH engage with key stakeholders outside of the hospital and clinic (ie Ministry of Health, other NGOs, private sector agents)?
 - e. How does SLICH prioritise key issues for investment and support?
 - f. How does the SLICH process encourage and support innovative approaches?
 - g. Do local stakeholders feel invested in the outcomes of SLICH activities? Does the process foster a sense of individual ownership?
3. Sustainability
- a. How are we addressing issues of sustainability and skills transfer within our Comic Relief activities thus far? How can we improve this?
 - b. What have been the medium-term impacts of SLICH projects funded early in the grant period?
 - c. What sustainability issues have arisen over the past year, and how can these be addressed in the future?
4. Impact
- a. What evidence is there of the impact of Comic Relief funding through SLICH on core child health and organizational outcomes?
 - b. How effective is SLICH compared with other models of health and development assistance in Freetown?

Tasks to be undertaken in order to achieve the research objectives above should include:

- Meet with one (or more) Welbodi Partnership Directors, the Welbodi Project Manager and the Senior Technical Advisor to discuss the review exercise, methodology, and analysis plan.
- Review key documentation related to the project (project document, work plans and budgets, progress reports, minutes, concept papers etc.)
- Formal discussions (questionnaires and focus groups) with the beneficiaries and stakeholders of the Project (caregivers at ODCH and JW, community members, parents of patients) about the relevance of SLICH, its design, its operations, management and governance structure, usefulness, impact, challenges and long-term sustainability.
- Discussions with the Welbodi Partnership team around its ability to transfer relevant skills within the team and to the wider ODCH/JW workshop and community.
- Presentation of draft findings.
- Submission of a final detailed report.
- Submission of a concise briefing paper.

Outputs

- A meeting to disseminate key (draft) findings to all interested stakeholders.
- A final report detailing the findings, conclusions, recommendations, experiences and lessons learned (this should also consider the feedback provided during the dissemination of findings meeting).
- A concise briefing paper (of no more than 2-4 pages) summarizing key elements, lessons learned, experiences and recommendations.

Terms and timeframe

The intern would join the Welbodi Partnership team in Freetown for summer 2013. Specific dates and timeframe are negotiable. The mid-term review will be the intern's core activity and responsibility, but they may also be asked to help with other ongoing projects. The Welbodi Partnership cannot offer remuneration, but will provide housing, transportation, office space, and other logistical support in Freetown, and may be able to offset some of the intern's other expenses.

Requirements

The profile of interns sought is as follows:

- Higher university degree in Medicine, Public Health or relevant Social Sciences degrees. Students currently enrolled in a relevant graduate program will also be considered.
- Knowledge of programmes in developing countries
- Proven experience in carrying out project review assessment or/and similar analytical exercises
- Experience in preparation of reports for similar assignments

To Apply

Interested candidates should email a copy of their CV, cover letter and relevant references in addition to their dates of availability, brief workplan (2 pages or less) and budget to Tom Pearson, Welbodi Partnership Project Manager, at tom.pearson@welbodipartnership.org by March 15, 2013. Candidates should advise if they have any specific deadlines for applying for summer internship funding from their university, and Welbodi will make every effort to respond by those deadlines.