



## **GLOBAL CALL FOR APPLICANTS: SEEKING FIELDWORK CO-ORDINATORS AND FIELD PROJECT MANAGERS**

We are looking for vibrant, energetic Fieldwork Co-ordinators and Project Managers to support our fieldwork teams in running exciting research projects in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. These roles would be intensive ones, with significant amounts of responsibility, but always working within a team in the Eastern Cape, with lots of support from the Universities of Cape Town and Oxford. The positions will run between 5 months and 1 year starting from May 2015 depending on your availability.

This is an opportunity to gain valuable fieldwork experience in the international development and public health sectors, practical research skills and to contribute to the livelihoods of vulnerable young people and their families.

### **Who are we?**

We currently have three active projects. They are run in collaboration with the South African Government, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the University of Cape Town, Clowns without Borders South Africa and Paediatric AIDS Treatment for Africa.

#### **Sinovuyo Teen Study ([www.youngcarers.org.za/sinovuyo-teen-project](http://www.youngcarers.org.za/sinovuyo-teen-project))**

This research study involves the development and evaluation of an evidence-based parenting programme. The programme is aimed at vulnerable families (poverty, HIV/AIDS, other chronic illnesses) with teenagers aged 10–17 and is based in King Williams Town, Eastern Cape. Our weekly programme workshops last 14 weeks and are attended by caregivers and teenagers. The programme aims to reduce the following: Violence and abuse inside and outside the home, parenting stress, mental health problems and child behaviour problems. Other aims include increasing positive parenting, parent-child communication and planning to avoid risk of abuse in the community. The Sinovuyo Teen programme evaluation is currently undergoing RCT testing. If proven successful, there are plans to have it adapted and rolled-out to multiple low and middle-income countries. This study is funded by the European Research Council.

#### **Clowns Without Borders South Africa ([www.cwbsa.org](http://www.cwbsa.org))**

CWBSA are an artist-led South African NGO dedicated to improving the psycho-social condition for children and communities in crisis through laughter and play. CWBSA will be supporting the implementation of the parenting intervention within the Sinovuyo Teen Study. CWBSA will be training the facilitators, organizing the logistics for the weekly workshops in 20 villages and run the parenting groups for caregivers and teenagers in those villages. In addition, they will be liaising with the local communities and chieftains, planning groups, supervising the facilitators and ensuring the programme gets delivered to as many families as possible.

#### **Youth Pulse ([www.youngcarers.org.za](http://www.youngcarers.org.za))**

This research study will interview over 700 HIV+ adolescents and visit up to 100 clinics from 2013–2017, and is funded by the Nuffield Foundation and the International AIDS Society. Key aims of the study are to identify programming-relevant predictors of non-adherence to ART and non-access to sexual and reproductive health services for HIV+ adolescents in South Africa; and also to engage



with HIV+ adolescents using participative workshops to assess acceptability and improvement of potential service delivery models for ART and sexual and reproductive health services. The Youth Pulse Study is based in King William's Town and East London, Eastern Cape.

### Who are you?

You are hard-working and enthusiastic, and additionally meet the following requirements:

- Have a commitment to the project for at least 3–5 months in the field.
- Have some project management experience (ideally in developing world but not necessary).
- Be willing to live and work with limited resources in rural South Africa with sometimes variable electricity supply.
- **Hold a valid, clean driver's license and be very confident in driving manual cars on the left side of the road.** The roles require extensive driving, often through unpaved roads in deep rural areas.
- Be computer literate.
- Be able to take initiative.
- Be able to work as well as part of a team and take leadership roles within a team.
- Be happy working in an office and in rural areas.
- Be competent in speaking and writing English.
- Be sensitive and respectful of working in cultures and languages that are not familiar.

### **Preference:**

Preference will be given to candidates who can commit to 1 year. Minimum of 3 months required. Applications will be accepted on an on-going basis but interested candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Experience working with young people, vulnerable and living in the developing world is preferable but not mandatory. Assignment to a certain project will depend on your experience and interests and the project needs.

### What will you do on our studies?

You will fulfil one of the following two roles on one of our three projects. Details for these roles include:

#### **Project Manager**

Working under the Principal Investigator and Post-Doctoral Research Officers, the Project Manager has significant responsibility for the design and execution of the research project and overall responsibility for fieldwork logistics and implementation. Overseeing a team of Fieldwork Co-ordinators and local Research Assistants on one of our three projects, the Project Manager is also responsible for communication with key stakeholders and local community partners. This position is ideal for academics wanting to pursue their own research in this field or those with project management experience.

Responsibilities include:

- Managing a team of local Research Assistants and overseas Fieldwork Co-ordinators
- Communicating concerns to teams at Oxford and UCT
- Overseeing finances



- Managing data collection, verification and storage
- Ensuring safety of staff and project assets
- Managing community relations and stakeholder relationships
- Recruiting and training of new staff
- Organising referrals of vulnerable children and their families
- Responding to other fieldwork-related emergencies

### Fieldwork Co-ordinator

Working under the Project Manager within a team of Fieldwork Co-ordinators on one of our three projects, this position involves responsibility for the co-ordination of local South African research assistants with significant opportunities to learn about research design and execution in field. This position is best suited to individuals seeking field experience, early stage academics or those wishing to pursue a career in international development.

Responsibilities include:

- Training and managing a team of Research Assistants
- Logistical management of fieldwork or intervention sites
- Liaising with communities which will include local chieftains, pastors, principals, local politicians and government staff
- Assisting in administrative tasks
- Supporting referrals for vulnerable families to local Social Services
- Coordinating transport between villages and various fieldwork sites
- Troubleshooting. This is a low-resource setting where roads are poor, electricity and water supplies are variable, and there are natural (floods/fires) and human (crime) risks to consider.
- Working on research tasks – organising interviews, monitoring the programme.
- Supporting with other duties that, within reason, might be requested.

### Funding:

We offer salaries and stipends for some posts but these are highly competitive. Candidates will therefore benefit from investigating possible scholarships or stipends themselves. We are happy to support in the provision of any paperwork required for this e.g. letters of support, etc.

### Want to apply?

For more information and expressions of interest, please contact [elizabeth.button@spi.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elizabeth.button@spi.ox.ac.uk) and [sarah.hoeksma@spi.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.hoeksma@spi.ox.ac.uk) with your CV/Resume and a cover letter that includes the following information:

1. Why do you want to join us? Why do you think you might be suitable to work on one of our projects?
2. Can you drive a manual car? How many years of driving experience do you have?
3. When is the earliest you could get to South Africa?
4. What is the minimum time you are willing to commit?
5. What is the maximum time you are willing to commit?
6. What are your research/career interests?
7. Funding - Please let us know if you have sources to cover your expenses.



**What happens after you apply?:**

We will screen your CVs, assess your suitability for one of our three teams and decide whether to invite you for an interview. We aim to respond to all of our applications within 2 weeks.

Candidates interested in the project should **apply as soon as possible**, and no later than end of May 2015.