

Job Description: Epidemiologist / Public Health Expert for Project “Sustaining COVID-19 Care in Chuuk State”

Brief description of the project:

Chuuk State of Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is now a COVID-19 affected State. In order to respond to this situation, a project “Sustaining COVID-19 Care in Chuuk State” was developed which is now awarded with additional funding to the Department of Health Services of the Chuuk State Government. This project, strongly focuses on the Chuuk State's preparedness and its capacities to sustain the COVID-19 care in the State. Its ear marked five (5) outputs along with its related activities are specifically intended to strengthen the Chuuk State Hospital and its Public Health division, to manage the COVID-19 pandemic efficiently. The project’s final outcome will be, to develop and deliver a state-of-art COVID-19 care to its captive population.

Importance of this position:

The **Epidemiologist / Public Health Expert for the “Sustaining COVID-19 Care in Chuuk State”** is a key position of this project. The hired person will perform very responsive roles in setting-up necessary epidemiological tools, introduction of GIS mapping and implementation of surveillance protocols for this project from its beginning to its end. He / she supposed to bring knowledge, experience and capacities to Chuuk. He / she being one of the team members; is expected to percolate such knowledge, share the experiences and improve the capacities with the rest of the team during their tenure in Chuuk State.

Job Description:

- To be part of the project’s **COVID-19 Operation, Response and Expert (CORE)** team for developing, implementing and managing the COVID-19 care in Chuuk State
- To be in-charge for epidemiology, GIS mapping and surveillance; the key part of the **“Sustaining COVID-19 Care in Chuuk State”** project.
- To perform necessary epidemiological and statistical analysis as well as the interpretations for the project. This is to set corrective actions or public health responses or interventions, to prevent or alleviate the risk of COVID-19 transmission in the community, based on responsive epidemiological findings. In addition, the same epidemiological finding supposed to be used for future policy development.
- To work collaboratively with medical records, clinical laboratory, pharmacy and other sources of the hospital information to perform routine maintenance, compilation and dissemination of timely and accurate COVID-19 reports.
- To design and develop necessary epidemiological tools such as data collection, analysis and reporting for COVID-19 pandemic.
- To design and develop the Geographical Information System (GIS) of mapping in Chuuk State for COVID-19 care.

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- To develop situation reports (SitRep), dashboards, statistical reports for Chuuk State with reference to COVID-19 testing, vaccination and positive cases management and its outcomes.
- To initiate and monitor COVID-19 related surveillance reporting and case investigation processes and its activities in the State for timely detection of COVID-19 positive cases and the possible transmission of the disease in communities.
- To participate and to support contact tracing activities. This includes training and epidemiological / case investigations in communities etc.
- To provide technical support for correcting protocols and data recording / reporting templates of field-based contact tracing activities for public health surveillance and reporting.
- To be part of Risk Communication team in terms of developing necessary mass communication materials.
- To train and capacitate the CORE team as well as the hospital staff in Epidemiology.
- To be part of CORE team to design and develop digital health initiatives in the existing health care system that includes, telemetry and electronic health records connected with COVID-19.
- To associate with local / regional partners to conduct post COVID-19 evaluation and after-action reviews to assess on-going epidemiology and surveillance efforts.
- To be a part of CORE team in developing the Emergency preparedness for COVID-19 pandemic for the State.
- To be a part of CORE team in developing necessary guidelines, protocols, algorithms and flow charts that are relevant to COVID-19 pandemic.
- To participate in collaborative meetings with other members, partners and stakeholders who are engaged in COVID-19 care.
- To participate in meetings with international partners, donors and leading agencies in their deliberations.
- To design and develop Operational and Clinical research protocols and conduct them scientifically.

Required Qualifications:

- Masters of Public Health (MPH) degree with minimum five (5) years’ work experience or
- A Medical Doctor with basic bachelor degree of qualification with public health experience or experience in Epidemiology with minimum ten (10) years of filed experience.

Essential Experience:

- Work experience in Epidemiology, biostatistics and health data analysis
- Demonstrable knowledge and working experience in conducting survey, investigations, analysis of chronic and communicable diseases

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- Work experience in Infectious diseases management, especially the COVID-19
- Prior work experience in Endemic / Epidemic / Pandemic and its preparedness and management
- Must be fluent with STATA, SPSS and other relevant software
- Must be a computer literate as well as experienced in handling statistical packages
- Experience in developing GIS mapping
- Willingness to travel to remotest areas in the State
- Demonstrable abilities to work alone with minimal or no supervision
- Demonstrable abilities in developing a team whereby engaging them with shared responsibilities and or by delegation of duties
- Demonstrable experience in conducting clinical / operational researches and publishing scientific research papers

Desirable Capacities:

- Smart enough to work in a small population and able to well manage its health needs
- Self-motivated, disciplined with positive approach

Duration and type of this Position:

- Initially for one full year but may be extendable if funding is available
- International position with good package
- Salary between USD 50,000 to 60,000 / annum

Report to:

- Under direct supervision of the Consultant of this project
- Report to the Director of Hospital Services of Chuuk State Government

How to apply:

- Forward your Curriculum Vitae (CV) / Bio-data, copies of credentials and certificates, your contact details and contact details of your two professional referees by e-mail to: Dr. Bosco Buliche, Director, DHS, Chuuk State, FSM in bbuliche@fsmhealth.fm or bbuliche66@gmail.com
- Closing date: By July 20th 2022. Only shortlisted candidates will be intimated for their online interview. Please mention the position that you apply for in the “Subject” of your e-mail.