Volunteer Nurse Educator (Funded), King’s Sierra Leone Partnership

Terms of Reference

Start Date: From November 2017  
Placement Duration: 12 months  
Location: Freetown, Sierra Leone  
Reporting to: Education Manager

The Function

The King’s Sierra Leone Partnership (KSLP) is a long-term capacity building partnership between King’s Health Partners in London and key partner institutions in Sierra Leone. KSLP aims to help strengthen Sierra Leone’s health system by improving training, clinical services, policy and research. Key partners include University of Sierra Leone Teaching Hospital Complex Connaught Hospital, the College of Medicine & Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS) and the Ministry of Health & Sanitation (MOHS).

Support for undergraduate nursing, pharmacy and medical education at COMAHS started in 2012. Since then our team have worked alongside colleagues to develop curricula, assist in their implementation and provide educational skills training. Within the Faculty of Nursing this has involved updating the current curricula, supporting clinical nurse mentors, reviewing clinical skills assessment methods and introducing the Sierra Leone Early Warning Score (SLEWS) into basic nurse training. KSLP is also helping to support postgraduate training at the University of Sierra Leone Teaching Hospital Complex, of which Connaught Hospital is the principal site.

The Role

The primary focus of this position is to support the Faculty of Nursing at COMAHS in developing undergraduate nurse education. Support for the teaching and assessing of practical nursing skills by existing staff, in accordance with the newly revised curriculum, will continue to be required. A key task will be to identify how an exciting new national initiative to promote quality assurance across higher education can be adopted by the faculty. By working with the KSLP clinical team at Connaught Hospital, the post holder is expected to plan educational activities for qualified nurses who provide supervision of students during their clinical placement at Connaught Hospital. As a member of the education team, consisting of a medical educator and pharmacy educator/education lead, the nurse educator will be expected to provide educational expertise for all KSLP programmes. This will include supervision of visiting international elective students.

Person Specification

• Qualifications: A nursing degree. Professional registration in home country.
• Experience: At least 3 years post-qualification experience in nursing. Experience in delivering nursing education for an academic institution is essential. Previous experience of travelling or working in a low resource setting.
• Personal Characteristics: Excellent interpersonal and intercultural skills, as well as confidence working within a multicultural team and with senior nurses from partner institutions; skilled at multitasking and prioritising, working independently with minimal supervision, and leading and designing projects autonomously; an appreciation of the philosophy behind a long-term co-development health partnership.
• It would be advantageous if the candidate had:
  o An educational qualification or diploma in tropical nursing (or equivalent)
  o More than 6 months’ experience of work experience within Africa
  o A keen interest in health and education systems strengthening, audit and quality improvement and research

Support Provided to Volunteers

This is a 12-month unpaid voluntary position but the post holder will be provided with:

• Return flights to and from initial post, plus two paid leave flights to and from Freetown
• £500 monthly stipend for living expenses, paid in local currency
• Multi-entry visa, residency permit & professional registration
• Vaccinations & antimalarials
• Insurance
• Accommodation in a shared KSLP house

To Apply: Submit a cover letter (maximum 2 pages) and CV (maximum 4 pages) to volunteer@kslp.org.uk. Please include the role title in the subject line of the email. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.