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Post of Research Assistants (04 Vacancies)

Project – Assessment of loneliness among the community dwelling elders, Colombo district, Sri Lanka

Background

Aging is a biological process common to every human being. Population aging has become one of the prominent demographic problems in the world. Many countries, including Sri Lanka, have a fast-growing population of the elderly, whose needs a society indeed must address. Health systems are mainly focused on interventions in medical services, neglecting the social determinants as a main root cause for all proximal determinants. Some aspects of social determinants, like loneliness, social isolation, are discussed only in a few instances or not given much priority. The elderly mostly needs medical care as illnesses arise but also emotional support and other necessities. Mental and social health problems are very common among the elderly, which may be due to physical, psychological and social changes in the environment.

The health promotion bureau has planned to assess the loneliness among Sri Lankan elderly aged more than 65 years. This is carried out to assess the prevalence of loneliness, its associated factors and association with quality of life aged 60 years and above in the district of Colombo through a quantitative and qualitative approach. Findings would facilitate the development of evidence-based policies and programs to improve elderly care services.

Duties and Responsibilities

To coordinate the data collection process in the selected Grama Niladhari (GN) divisions, to visit the houses of elders and gather the data through an interviewer administered questionnaire, to collate and compile all the data collected and to assist in focus group discussions.

Desired qualification and experience for the post

- Degree holder of sociology stream under a university attested by university grants commission
- Previous experience in scientific research and data collection
- Good command in English and Sinhala or English and Tamil languages
- Excellent communication skills

Nature of Work - It is a full-time job and the usual working hours on weekdays are 8.30am-4.15pm. But he/she will be requested to work during weekends if the need arises without additional payment.

Age – Not more than 35 years at the date of closure of applications

Commencement of the project: Immediately after the closure of applications.

Monthly Remuneration: Rs 40000/=

Selected candidates will be given comprehensive training on implementation of research data collection at the HPB. Candidates are requested to send your updated CV to the following email – hpb.trainingu@gmail.com. Last date to apply -02nd October 2023. Only short-listed applicants will be called for the interview. The final decision about selection will be made by the HPB.

Dr. R. Batuwanthudawe
(Director (Health Promotion Bureau))

Dr. T. U. Amarasinghe
Coordinating Consultant

Dr. B. K. R. Batuwanthudawe
Director (H. E & P) Acting
Health Promotion Bureau
No.02, K... Road,
C

Terms of reference (TOR) for recruitment of the post of four Research assistants for the Assessment of Loneliness among the community dwelling Elders, Colombo district, Sri Lanka

Background

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The Health Promotion Bureau (HPB) has planned to assess the loneliness among Sri Lankan elderly aged more than 65 years. This is carried out to assess the prevalence of loneliness, its associated factors and association with quality of life aged 60 years and above in the district of Colombo through a quantitative and qualitative approach. Findings would facilitate the development of evidence-based policies and programs to improve elderly care services.

Therefore, it is required to recruit four research assistants to accomplish the assessment successfully.

Scope of Work

Under the supervision of Consultant Community Physician Training and IEC development unit at HPB, the research assistants will perform the following:

1. To coordinate the data collection process in the selected Grama Niladhari areas
2. To collect the data through an interviewer administered questionnaire.
3. To collate and compile all the data collected
4. To assist in focus group discussions

Selected research assistants will be posted to Training and IEC development unit, Health Promotion Bureau

Duration- 2 months (05/06 days a week from 8.30am to 4.15pm)

Desired qualification and experience for the post

- Degree holder of sociology stream under a university attested by university grants commission
- Previous experience in scientific research and data collection
- Good command in English and Sinhala or English and Tamil languages
- Excellent communication skills

Monthly Remuneration: Rs 40000/= (Monthly allowance)

Selected candidates will be given comprehensive training on implementation of research data collection at the HPB. Candidates are requested to send your updated CV to the following email hpb.trainingu@gmail.com. Last date to apply -02nd October 2023. Only short-listed applicants will be called for the interview. The final decision about selection will be made by the HPB.

Deputy Director General (Planning)

Ministry of Health, Colombo 10