



Stronger health systems. Greater health impact.

NUMBER OF POSTS: 3
TITLE: Senior Technical Officer – Lab services
BAND: H
REPORTS TO: Laboratory Sr. Advisor
LOCATION: Grand Bassa, Margibi & Montserrado County
LEVEL OF EFFORT: Full time
DURATION: End of project

Management Sciences for Health (MSH) is a nonprofit international health organization founded in 1971. Our mission is to save lives and improve the health of the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people by closing the gap between knowledge and action in public health. Together with our partners, we are helping managers and leaders in developing countries to create stronger management systems that improve health services for the greatest health impact.

MSH would like to invite suitably qualified and experienced candidates to join its team based in Liberia, The overall purpose of *the Collaborative Support for Health System Strengthening (CSHSS)* contract is to “Improve the Health Status of Liberians”, as laid out in USAID/Liberia’s Health Strategy, and Country Development Cooperation Strategy. This will be achieved through strengthened leadership and governance capacity of the Ministry of Health, institutionalization of Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives to improve health care service delivery, strengthening Human Resources for Health (HRH) Management, improving Supply Chain Management, supporting financial sustainability and strengthening Health Management Information System (HMIS).

OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY:

The County Senior Technical Officer, Laboratory Services position, with guidance from the Senior Laboratory Advisor at the Monrovia CSH office will provide overall technical direction, planning, monitoring and support to the County Laboratory Diagnostic Services. S/he will mentor the County Laboratory Diagnostic Officers and respective Health Facility Laboratory personnel on assurance and availability of quality laboratory services offered in the county with particular emphasis to Good Laboratory Practices, malaria diagnostics and laboratory preparedness to detect and manage infectious epidemics.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

Coordination & Planning

- Assisting the Sr. Laboratory Advisor in preparation of annual implementation plans and quarterly reviews reports
- Assist the Sr. Laboratory Advisor in all the daily activities.

- Preparing and discussing his/her work plan and time schedule with the Sr. Laboratory Advisor in line with annual work plan.
- Coordinates with the MOH/CHT and implementing Partners activities to ensure they are in line with SOPs, policies and guidelines
- Prepare and submit monthly activity report to supervisor.

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Support and follow up on implementation of SOPs for laboratory diagnosis and EQA guidelines at health facilities.
- Provide support in the monitoring and evaluation of laboratory in the county.
- Analyze procedures used by EFF supported sites to perform hematology, RDTs, urinalysis and other HIV/AIDS & malaria related routine tests in order to ensure the quality of services
- In collaboration with the EFF M&E Advisor, provide support in gathering of laboratory data, with an emphasis on data analysis and validation.
- Making sure that his/her field visits will have ample contact time with lab health care workers in terms of supportive supervision, mentorship and on-job training.
- Assess the training needs of lab health care workers and provide the required recommendations to the MOH.
- Continuous following up of findings and conclusions from previous visits during follow-up
- Preparing monthly reports by writing field visit reports.

Training & Capacity Building

- Coordinate with the national laboratory and national training partners to ensure that all EFF supported sites are able to use laboratory commodities in accordance with the national standards/SOPs and methodologies.
- Help organize and participate in training activities in lab commodities management, including the use of basic MIS tools, at workshops or on location.
- Assist and work to provide to national Laboratory assistance in the development, dissemination and training on standardized guidelines and SOP's.
- Prepare and facilitate in-service training courses of laboratory health care workers from other organizations including MOH according the national training plans/ activities
- Carries out 'problem solving supervision' in locations with specific problems
- Assist the teams at health facilities to organize training sessions and provide active contribution (lectures, providing resource materials)
- Keep monthly overview of all trainings and workshops conducted, number of participants and other observations.
- Provide technical and other support to the community initiatives and ensure high quality services through linking the national malaria control (NMCP) program, county health teams/district health teams and community care providers (CHSS).

Technical expertise

- The Senior Technical Officer, Lab Services will be responsible for assuring that all EFF supported sites are implementing and maintaining good laboratory commodities inventory management practices.
- Provide technical expertise in laboratory product quantification and usage rate.

- Follow up on field visit reports by Supply Chain Monitors in collaboration with the Sr. Lab Advisor, and the staff from the National Laboratory, on all raised issues such as training, equipment maintenance and usage
- Assist laboratories to develop and maintain good record system. Provide technical assistance, if needed, to EFF sites in stock inventory management.
- Assure respect of MSH moral values, administrative and financial norms and procedures.

Needs Assessment

- Conduct assessment to establish resource and training-needs for providing quality lab diagnostic services at the PHC level and improve on laboratory networking.
- Perform site assessments and conduct analysis of the laboratory needs in terms of equipment, commodities, storage space and trainings. Provide recommendations and develop required action plans

QUALIFICATION

1. Bachelor Degree in medical laboratory technology and or equivalent with at least 4 years' experience working in health programs, preference given for those with USAID-supported health project experience.
2. Experience in health management, quality management system, group facilitation/team building and/or organizational development desirable.
3. Knowledge of health care delivery systems and structures in Liberia, including those at the county level.
4. Understanding of the Essential Package of Health Services and the laboratory services needed at each level of the health system to facilitate implementation of this package.
5. Understanding and working knowledge of the role of the laboratory in the prevention, care and treatment of Malaria, TB, HIV/AIDS, and Ebola in Liberia. Program experience in at least one of these areas an added advantage.
6. Knowledge and experience of implementing appropriate and emerging technologies, including rapid and point-of-care tests, for diagnosing and managing malaria, TB, HIV/AIDS, Ebola and anemia.
7. Knowledge and experience in laboratory capacity building, monitoring and supervision.
8. Strong interpersonal, analytic, facilitation, verbal communication and writing skills.
9. Computer literacy: competency with Microsoft Office, internet and email systems.
10. Fluency in written and spoken English is essential, and ability to work in other local languages is a plus.
11. Team player, with ability to work independently as well as in collaboration with colleagues and partners.
12. Willingness and availability to travel extensively within Liberia as required.

Management Sciences for Health is an equal opportunity employer offering employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, citizenship, physical or mental handicap, or status as a disabled or Vietnam Era veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces

Candidates must meet all the criteria of minimum qualifications.

Send your application to hrliberia@msh.org or hand deliver to the HR Specialist, CSH, Monrovia, stating the position in the subject line of your email/letter, as well. Interested persons must send a comprehensive resume with a brief cover letter not later than the closing date of the application, **October 6th, 2017**