

University of Zimbabwe - Clinical Trials Research Centre (UZ-CTRC)

Vacant post - Laboratory Systems Strengthening Program Chief of Party

This is a resolicitation and new candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

The University of Zimbabwe - Clinical Trials Research Centre (UZ-CTRC), under a CDC-PEPFAR funded Laboratory Systems Strengthening Program, is recruiting a suitable qualified, competent, multi-talented and dynamic candidate to fill in the post of Chief of Party based in Harare.

UZ-CTRC was established in 1994 and has conducted high impact observational studies, implementation studies and Phase I-IV clinical trials in HIV, TB, COVID -19 and associated co-morbidities funded by National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, AIDS Malignancy Consortium, Bill, and Melinda Gates Foundation among others. UZ-CTRC has served as a center of excellence in the prevention and control of HIV and AIDS and have contributed to global understanding of HIV epidemiology and pathogenesis, global and Zimbabwean health policy, by providing scientific evidence through our highly equipped and resourced network of laboratories that operate in strict compliance with International best practices guided by GCLP and ISO 15189 standard.

UZ-CTRC has over the years diversified its portfolio and through funding from the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention-US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (CDC-PEPFAR), in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Child Care started implementing Laboratory Systems Strengthening (LSS) in Zimbabwe from 30 September 2023. The LSS program will enhance access to high quality testing towards the achievement of the UNAIDS 95-95-95 goals. The vacant post falls under this portfolio and provides oversight to technical and administrative staff stationed at MOHCC laboratories across Zimbabwe's 10 provinces.

The Chief of Party will be responsible for providing leadership, management, and strategic direction towards the achievement of project goals, objectives, and targets. Incumbent will work closely with the MOHCC and CDC to develop and implement project agreements, work plans, undertake monitoring and evaluation approaches to identify gaps and implement improvement and realignment projects. Additionally, the incumbent will provide technical leadership working closely with Program Principal Investigator, participate in MOHCC technical working groups and other strategic meetings, advocate for adoption of sustainable systems development to enhance public health laboratory services in Zimbabwe. The Chief of Party will also provide financial oversight by reviewing budgets and expenditure and ensure efficient program management, timely submission of all program reports to CDC at designated frequency. He/She will also oversee program data dissemination to stakeholders for purposes of informing programmatic decisions, work closely with Program PI to identify opportunities for operational research, lead other staff in generating program related scientific publications and presentations at International Conferences.

Qualifications and Experience

- Medical laboratory Sciences degree (a must) and Master`s in public health, epidemiology, laboratory medicine, or related field.
- 15+ years of related professional experience.
- Minimum 5 years` experience in senior level management position, managing US government or other donor funded projects in developing countries.
- Experience leading national or regional laboratory systems strengthening projects in low- and middle-income countries.
- Knowledge and experience with implementation of laboratory quality management systems
- Management qualifications will be an added advantage.
- Demonstrated success developing and implementing project work plans and managing performance against objectives and timelines.
- Demonstrated capacity to effectively present project results and accomplishments to national and international stakeholders, donors, and host governments.
- Working knowledge of and/or experience with USG-funded program management, policies, regulations, and procedures is required.
- Excellent problem-solving, interpersonal, decision-making, organizational and communication skills, with ability to prioritize multiple tasks and work effectively in a demanding environment.
- Good proposal writing skills are essential for securing funding and support.
- Excellent monitoring and evaluation skills are required to assess program effectiveness and make improvements.
- Demonstrated capacity to build and maintain productive working relationships with government officials, civil society partners, donors, and donor-funded implementers.
- Commitment to Diversity

Responsibilities

- Provide leadership, management, and strategic direction towards the achievement of project goals, objectives, and targets.
- Leads the development and implementation of project agreements, work plans, monitoring and evaluation, and planning activities in close consultation with host government and stakeholders.
- Provides financial oversight by reviewing budgets and expenditure and ensure efficient program management.
- Ensure timely dissemination of program data submitted to stakeholders for purposes of informing programmatic decisions.
- Lead the identification of operational research opportunities and documentation of best practices
- Mobilizes resources by leading Grant application process.
- Oversees programs by conducting regular meetings with Heads of Programs and monitoring and reviewing reports on program progress.
- Provides programmatic oversight by approving and reviewing work plans.
- Ensures all divisions are properly staffed with competent people by ensuring that the organization adheres to best practice when hiring.

- Justifies staff requirements including remuneration to the funders by drafting proposals with optimum staffing needs.
- Creates a harmonious employee relations climate by implementing HR Policies aligned to the mission of the organization.

Interested candidates should forward applications and detailed curriculum vitae clearly marked “COP” to the below email address not later than Thursday 31 October 2024: - applications@uz-ctrc.org.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.