Team Lead – AIC Intervention (GF-C19RM)

Organization:
Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) is established in India as an independent non-profit organization created under Section 8 (Indian) Companies Act, 2013 with its office in New Delhi. FIND India is the key implementing partner of Central Tuberculosis (TB) Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, for strengthening and expanding TB laboratory diagnostic capacity within the Revised National TB Control Program (RNTCP) supported by the Global Fund. FIND India is a subsidiary of FIND, an international non-profit organization based in Geneva, Switzerland. The organization is dedicated to activities that result in; 1) new diagnostic tools; 2) expanded access to these tools; and 3) strengthened diagnostic testing capacity for poverty-related diseases in low- and middle-income countries.

For more information, please visit www.finddx.org

Project Background
Airborne diseases including TB, in health care settings represent a major public health challenge. In 2010, National Airborne Infection Control (AIC) guidelines were adopted in India. These guidelines included specific policies for TB prevention and control in health care settings. However, the present uptake and implementation of these guidelines remains sub-optimal under the NTEP and NACP. The AIC guidelines assume greater importance with the recent Covid-19 pandemic. With the objective to improve outbreak preparedness, and control TB and other airborne infections at healthcare settings, the proposed activities are designed to ensure adoption of AIC practices at all nodal DR-TB facilities.

Further, with the adoption of “Test and Treat” policy by NACP the life expectancy of PLHIV has improved, which makes management and prevention of co-infections critical for the success of HIV program. With ART centers being overburdened and overcrowded in India, AIC becomes a core area of public health intervention to prevent transmission of TB and other airborne infections at these facilities.

Objective and Primary Outcome
The main objective of the program is improving outbreak preparedness of the healthcare facilities and controlling air-borne infections such as TB and COVID at healthcare settings, the proposed activities under the project will ensure adoption of AIC practices at identified nodal DR-TB facilities and associated ART centers. The project intends to lead to following outcomes:

- Reduced events of airborne disease outbreaks at healthcare facilities
- Safe healthcare facilities that protect healthcare workers and patients against airborne infections.
- Reduced rates of HAI (Healthcare associated infections) especially TB and COVID.
- Improving access to TB services supporting mitigation of COVID-19 under NTEP.
- Improved reporting of IC indicators leading to early identification of outbreaks at healthcare facilities.

Location: New Delhi

Job description
The Team Lead will ensure set-up, operationalization and implementation of the project as per the plan. The specific activities & responsibilities will include but not be limited to:

Program Management and Administrative Responsibilities:
Develop field level strategies and processes in alignment with overall project objectives with an initiative geared towards operational excellence.

Lead coordination with Nodal DRTB centers and ART centers and other stakeholders for all activities as mentioned under the grant.

Prepare the project work plan, budget forecast, management of budget allocation and monitoring expenditure as per the project activities and guidelines.

Supervise and support the Project team and follow-on progress of the project and provide regular updates to key stakeholders including the donor agency.

Manage project deliverables within stipulated deadlines and monitor engagement activities with private and public sector.

Submit reports and participate in national/state level reviews periodically as per project requirement.

Ensure submission of periodical reports (programmatic and financial) as per organization requirements and donor specifications.

Ensure confidentiality and security of the program data and information, as relevant.

Support the procurement of PPE and other equipment under the project as per FIND policies.

Ensure completion of civil work and installation of equipment (UVGI) at sites as per site workplans.

Any other tasks assigned time to time.

**Technical Responsibilities:**

- Liaison with CTD and NACO planning and implementation of project/AIC related activities.
- Plan, implement and support various site assessments under the project and development of reports and action plans. The project will support AIC assessment at ART centers and Nodal DR TB centers requiring effort towards planning and execution of this task.
- Provide technical guidance and expertise to develop the AIC training curriculum, capacity building program and implementation of AIC guidelines at Nodal DR TB centers and ART centers.
- Support implementation of training of trainers & cascade trainings for AIC in the identified areas/regions
- Conceptualize the documentation, report writing and monitoring & evaluation framework for the project
- Support achievement of project milestones

**Skills and experience required:**

- MBBS with MD in Microbiology/Public & Social Medicine/ Pathology/ Chest Medicine/ or equivalent qualification.
  OR
  MBBS with PhD in Public Health/ Epidemiology/ Health Services Management from reputed Institutes
Experience: 10 years or more in public health in public health programs in India including field implementation and managing teams (preferably TB, HIV/AIDS, Integrated Disease Surveillance Programs, COVID-19, other public health programs)

Comprehensive knowledge and experience in AIC and infectious disease prevention, NTEP and/or NACP, government health care system and structures including familiarity with Ministry of Health policies, program priorities and regulations.

Preference will be given to:

- Candidates with experience of working with projects engaging public sector institutes/state health authorities.
- Candidate with experience of working under/managing projects funded by national/international donor agencies.
- National level experience of working with NACO/CTD
- Experience in managing project budget
- Proven ability to work in a public health setup with decision-makers
- Ability to coordinate with internal & external stake holders and on-site teams
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate between multiple countries/sites and ensure strict adherence to project targets and mandates
- Should have good communications skills and be proficient in basic computer applications like Word, Excel, and Power Point
- Have sound knowledge of data analysis, analytical software, and ability to make meaningful interpretation for effective supervision
- Ability and willingness to travel extensively (up to 50%), based on the needs of the job
- Good interpersonal skills, able to work as part of a team

Nature of Appointment:
The selected candidate shall be initially offered fixed term staff contract up to 31st December 2023. The position will be prolonged subject to satisfactory performance, project extension and fund availability.

Compensation offered:
The gross remuneration budgeted for the position shall be commensurate with the qualifications, experience, and salary history, of the selected candidate.

Deadline to send your application:
Please mail a motivation letter, a detailed resume and three references to HR-IN@finddx.org and by 26 March 2022

But don’t wait until the deadline! We will start screening right away and if we find the right person, we will stop searching.