

PART-TIME RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Position Description

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Georgetown University Institute for Reproductive Health (IRH) is dedicated to improving the sexual and reproductive health of women, men and youth through a research-to-practice agenda. Our emphasis is on increasing access to and use of family planning, increasing fertility awareness through life-stage appropriate interventions, expanding access to fertility awareness-based family planning methods in an informed choice context, and developing scalable interventions to transform gender norms and catalyze the diffusion of social norms that support FP. Cross-cutting themes in the Institute's work include the diffusion of social norms that support sexual and reproductive health, scale up of innovations, and incorporating gender perspectives in reproductive health. In partnership with a wide range of international and local organizations, IRH conducts research, builds capacity, and provides technical assistance to public and private-sector organizations in lower and middle-income countries and the U.S. The Institute is supported by grants from federal agencies and foundations.

IRH seeks a research assistant with experience in qualitative data management and analysis. Candidates should have strong skills in research, writing, and experience and interest in reproductive health in international contexts. Primary responsibilities will include supporting research initiatives for the FACT Project's USAID family planning program assessment in Jordan.

PROJECT OVERVIEW: FACT / JORDAN

The Fertility Awareness for Community Transformation (FACT) Project aims to foster an environment where women and men can take actions to protect their reproductive health throughout the life-course. The FACT Project is a five-year project funded by USAID and implemented by IRH in partnership with Save the Children in several countries in East Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.

As part of the FACT project, IRH is conducting an assessment of USAID's family planning program in Jordan. From 2011 – 2014, USAID made a sizable investment (~\$70 million) toward the promotion and utilization of family planning in Jordan.¹ Yet, family planning uptake in Jordan has stagnated since 2002, despite nearly universal knowledge of contraceptive methods, high rates of female literacy, support for spacing births and several years of rapid increase in CPR. Considering the recent stagnation of family planning use, there is a need to investigate what this investment has achieved and the factors limiting family planning uptake. The objective of this assessment is to produce a rigorous, evidence-based assessment on which USAID and its collaborating organizations can base the design and implementation of successful, scalable, sustainable strategies.

POSITION SUMMARY

The research assistant will join the FACT/Jordan Assessment Team at an exciting time as we conduct this review of family planning projects in Jordan. The research assistant will report to the Assessment Team's Senior/Research Officers and will support the project by synthesizing qualitative data and writing up the assessment findings. The position will be part-time, working up to 20 hours per week from December through March.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Coordination of Program Review Documentation: The assessment team has begun reviewing and summarizing critical information from a series of program reports, research studies, government policies. The research assistant will coordinate the spreadsheets (Microsoft Excel), synthesize information and identify key trends across the summaries in collaboration with the team senior/research officers.

- **Summarizing Interview Notes:** The assessment team is in the process of interviewing experts in family planning who have worked on projects pertaining to Jordan. Interview notes will be generated and typed out by the team leaders conducting interviews. The research assistant will summarize these notes and identify key topics/themes to assist in the organization and generation of the project report.
- **Data Management:** New research focused on service delivery of family planning methods will be conducted in Jordan. The research assistant will manage a modest amount of qualitative data, provide quality review of transcripts, administration of thematic codes, and provide concise summaries for the assessment team.

¹ <https://results.usaid.gov/jordan/health/family-planning-and-reproductive-health#fy2014>

- **Presentation of Results:** The research assistant will work closely with the assessment team to summarize the findings of this effort, develop presentations (Microsoft Power Point) and assist in the drafting of the assessment report.

QUALIFICATIONS

The research assistant will possess the following skills and experience:

- Knowledge of sexual and reproductive health issues
- Previous experience working with qualitative research data
- Interest in global health and/or international development
- Excellent writing skills
- Strong organizational skills
- Good computer and Microsoft Office skills
- Willingness to work on-site at IRH's headquarters in DuPont Circle, up to 20 hours per week from December 2015 through April 2016.

Your education, expertise and professional network includes...

- Candidate should be a current student or recent graduate of a master's degree program in one of the following or related fields: public health, anthropology, health communications, behavioral science, health promotion or other related field.
- Previous internship or non-profit experience preferred.
- Experience living, studying, or working in a developing country preferred.

Research assistant will receive an hourly rate of salary.

To apply, please email resume and cover letter to irhresumes@gmail.com with the subject line "Jordan Research Assistant" no later than November 30th, 2015. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with priority given to early applicants. Please specify where you found the job advertisement. No phone calls please.

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