

Common Elements Treatment Approach (CETA) HEALTH PROGRAM OFFICER

Grade 7

The Organisation

Our client is a donor-funded organisation and development partner in Namibia, working closely with the Ministry of Health and Social Services' (MoHSS) Directorate of Special Programmes (DSP). They deploy staff at hospitals and health facilities across the country as part of a coordinated effort with the MoHSS to increase the human capacity needed to provide clinical care and administrative support in countries and regions that are most significantly impacted by HIV.

The Region

The successful candidate will be based in the Khomas Region in Windhoek. MoHSS/Primary Health Care.

The Position

With around 200 000 People Living with HIV (PLHIV) in Namibia and the objective of reaching the 95:95:95 goals, the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS), with the support of developing partners, is working on improving the service packages to ensure comprehensive support for patients with this chronic condition. Mental health issues are common among the general population and PLHIV in Namibia, but unfortunately remain largely unrecognized and are therefore frequently not adequately addressed. The MoHSS, with the support of development partners, will be rolling out a program called the Common Elements Treatment Approach (CETA), to improve mental health screening and mental health treatment for PLHIV.

CETA is an evidence-based intervention comprised of cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT) elements. It is unique from other CBT models in that it can flexibly address a wide range of commonly co-occurring mental and behavioural health problems prevalent among PLHIV, including Interpersonal Violence (IPV), depression, traumatic stress, anxiety and substance use. CETA deals with the key practicality issues in global mental health as it is a more cost-effective, scalable and sustainable model that addresses disease comorbidities and it can be delivered by lay counsellors.

We are currently in search of an enterprising candidate to fill the position of National Health Program Officer for the soon to be launched new CETA Program. This is an opportunity to be part of a positive, creative work environment; offering excellent benefits. The core focus of the incumbent will be to improve mental health screening and treatment primarily for PLHIV through the Common Elements Treatment Approach (CETA). You will provide a technical advisory role to the mental health programs, working under the direction of the Deputy Director Disability, Prevention and Rehabilitation within the subdivision Rehabilitation in the Directorate of Primary Health Care and in very close collaboration with the Directorate of Special Programs as well as the Directorate of Social Welfare.

Key areas of focus

- Plan, implement, monitor, and coordinate the implementation of the CETA program activities at national level.
- Coordinate the development or adaptation of training materials, protocols, user guides, monitoring and reporting tools for the CETA program implementation. Identify needs and provide inputs into the formulation of policies, guidelines, sops to support the implementation of mental health interventions.
- Identify and provide input in the development of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) strategies, and materials for mental health.
- Identify interventions to rehabilitate clients with mental health conditions in collaboration with the Directorate of Social Welfare.
- Develop work plans and budgets to support the implementation of the CETA program.
- Provide in-service training workshops, onsite supervision and ongoing technical assistance.
- Support all health care providers, particularly lay providers and peer educators, on the implementation of CETA intervention.
- Provide mentorship and conduct site support visits to health facilities throughout the country to ensure quality CETA service provision.
- Build the capacity of Community Health Workers to provide mental health services at community level.
- Collaborate and ensure implementation of Quality Improvement (QI) interventions to ensure rapid scale-up of the CETA program in both clinic and community settings.
- Ensure smooth ongoing collaboration between the MoHSS, donor agencies, technical support organizations and other stakeholders supporting the implementation of the CETA program.
- Lead the periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of the CETA program on outcomes such as reduction of IPV, mental health, substance abuse; risky behaviour; disclosure and treatment adherence among PI-HIV.
- Conduct regular monitoring activities related to the program, including data collection, analysis and reporting to inform program planning and implementation. Identify and participate in operation research to improve program implementation and outcomes.
- Develop regular CETA program progress reports (monthly, quarterly or annual) and whenever requested.
- Other duties which might be assigned by the supervisor.

The Person

Minimum requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Clinical Psychology; Social Work, Behavioural Counselling or Nursing,.
- A Master's degree or Post-graduate university level qualification in Mental Health, Clinical Psychology, Social Work or Behavioural Counselling will be an added advantage.
- At least 3 years' professional clinical experience, including behavioural techniques and counselling.
- Registration with the Health Professions Council of Namibia.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Computer skills including proficiency with packages such as MS Word, PowerPoint and MS Excel (this will be tested).
- Ability to work independently and multi-task effectively.
- Flexibility and willingness to accept a change in priorities as necessary.

Interested?

- Closing date for applications is **21 August 2020**
- Please submit your application to admin4@potentia.com.na

All suitably qualified Namibians are encouraged to apply.

If you are not contacted 2 weeks after the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

Only electronic versions of CVs will be accepted.

Our client reserves the right not to make any employment offer or appointment.



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