

MVP Field Internship TOR

Organization: Millennium Villages Project / Earth Institute at Columbia University

Sector / Area of Interest: International Public Health

Practicum length: 3-6 months (anticipated start date in summer 2014)

PRACTICUM SUMMARY

The Millennium Villages Project (MVP) is seeking a field-based intern to provide on-site support for data analysis and operational quality improvement within the primary health care system at one of the MVP sites (www.millenniumvillages.org). This will require taking a health systems approach towards developing and sustaining quality improvement strategies, looking especially at verbal autopsy (VA) data and quality of care within the household, clinic, and referral/transport system. The intern will be placed in one of the following sites: Sauri, Kenya; Potou, Senegal (French required); or Mwandama, Malawi.

GOAL	ACTIVITIES	DELIVERABLES
1 Assess patterns of mortality using verbal autopsy data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess status of VA system and assist eHealth specialist in tasks related to CommCare verbal autopsy system roll-out as necessary Collect and analyze existing VA data to look for patterns of mortality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of retrospective mortality and verbal autopsy data
2 Assess operational gaps within the CHW program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on analysis of mortality data, analyze possible operational gaps in the CHW program including productivity, skill, and competency using data from CommCare, competency assessment, supervision data, and KAP survey Map out patterns in operational gaps within geographic areas of the site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations to address CHW operational gaps in response to patterns in mortality Operational map of coverage and quality gaps
3 Assess operational gaps in quality of care at clinics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify gaps in clinic quality using various supervision tools, including a clinical audit checklist and staff competency assessment checklist Conduct an assessment of Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on gaps in staffing, equipment, supply chain, protocols, infrastructure, availability and quality of services, financing, etc. Recommendations and action plan for clinic quality improvement
4 Assess operational gaps in the referral/transport and follow-up system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map existing referral and follow-up pathways to identify gaps in the cycle through observation and interviews with CHWs and clinic staff Conduct an audit of existing emergency transport systems, including vehicles, human resources/staff, and infrastructure (road) conditions Assess community understanding of emergency transport system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on gaps in staffing, protocols, infrastructure, maintenance of transport vehicles, etc Summary report of community awareness and acceptance of emergency transport Recommendations and action plan for quality improvement and community engagement
5 Assist site health team on health program related activities as necessary		

REPORTING

The student will report directly to the health coordinator at the site, with additional technical supervision from a NY health team liaison. The student will be required to participate in occasional check-in calls with the NY health team and/or MDG Centre advisors, starting with weekly calls in the first month of placement to be adjusted as necessary.