



Vacancy Announcement	
Job Title:	Mental Health Officer (Internal and External)
Band / Level / Grade:	8B
Department:	Health
Location:	Bentiu
Overtime Eligible: (per local law)	Exempt
Opening Date	August 30 th 2024
Closing Date	September 14 th 2024

BACKGROUND:

- The International Rescue Committee (IRC) responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to refugees forced to flee from war or disaster. At work today in over 40 countries and 22 U.S. cities, we restore safety, dignity and hope to millions who are uprooted and struggling to endure. The IRC leads the way from harm to home. IRC has operated in South Sudan for over 30 years now delivering humanitarian relief, post-conflict assistance, and development programs in both refugees, internally displaced and host community settings. IRC operates in 10 field offices including in Juba with program portfolio covering health, nutrition, Environmental Health (EH), child protection, economic recovery and development (ERD)/livelihoods, women's protection, and empowerment, Education, and general protection. IRC continues to provide life-saving assistance and humanitarian aid to vulnerable South Sudanese, trying to rebuild their lives and restore peace. The IRC's new strategy in South Sudan will prioritize improving health, safety, and economic well-being, targeting women, children, and other vulnerable.

JOB OVERVIEW/SUMMARY/ SCOPE:

JOB SUMMARY:

The primary objective of the position is to promote psychosocial wellbeing of clients and care givers. To closely work with the MHPSS Manager and health facility staff daily to ensure the health facilities are functional and provide quality Mental healthcare services and psychosocial support services , while consistently building and strengthening the capacity building of the health staff on mental health services.

Major Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the Health Manager and MHPSS Manager, the Mental health officer will be responsible for the following.

- To provide quality care for person presenting with priority MNS conditions and their care givers.
- Support the clinical team in designing appropriate psychosocial interventions that is tailored to individual's condition/needs including emotional support to care givers and families/loved ones.
- Ensure MHPSS program activities are implemented in line with the IRC adapted and IASC guidelines.
- Provide program reports on a timely basis and track targets with field-based MEAL focal points to ensure orderliness.
- Oversee MHPSS activities at field level and effectively represent IRC at relevant meetings including sub national working groups for MHPSS.
- Regularly document and share success stories to show case and best practices.
- Collaborate with other sectors, partners, and existing community structures to organize awareness raising activities about MHPSS and participate in organizing awareness campaigns and other calendar events related to MHPSS.
- Lead capacity building activities for Boma Health Workers/CIWs and supervise as needed.
- Organize and participate in continues medical education on MHPSS topics for health facility staffs.
- Contribute to assessing unmet needs in the MIIPSS sector, making recommendations to enhance IRC's approach, and contribute insights to the contextual issues.
- Support in the planning and mobilization during training to the frontline healthcare workers on mental health and psychosocial support.
- Support the MHPSS integration into primary health care and other sectors such as S.I.R, nutrition, protection, education etc as required.

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Other responsibilities:

Program implementation

- Provide technical oversight and support on mental health services and psychosocial activities at health facilities, communities and Mobile outreach sites.
- Provide regular and routine on-the-job mentorship to health workers at the health facilities and mobile outreaches on mental health services.
- Support and coach clinicians on the assessment and management of priority MNS disorders
- Support in the planning and delivery of training to the frontline healthcare workers on mental health and psychosocial support.
- Track/monitor day-to-day progress of mental health indicators against project milestones and activities, against scheduled work plans, and overall project objectives.
- Collaborate and engage community leaders and other community structures to increase awareness on stigma around mental health conditions and support the ownership of the project.

Monitoring and Reporting

- Follow up on the timely and accurate submission of monthly HMIS data from all supported health facilities and mobile clinics.
- Provide technical support and advice to health facility staff in HMIS and monthly reporting.
- Undertake regular visits to the health facilities and join the mobile service reporting back with findings/recommendations.
- Undertake additional mental health assessments, beneficiary interviews, etc. as necessary, to keep up to date with community perceptions of the project, changing needs, and opinions.
- Ensure timely and accurate submission of mental health data from the supported health facilities and mobile clinics.
- Support the program manager in the follow-up of supported health facilities on pharmaceutical supply management, quality of care, rational use of drugs, and adherence to the IPC SOPs.
- Ensure that the quality of the programs/projects is maintained through an effective monitoring system and that accurate data and information on best practices are documented.
- Ensure project narrative reports are prepared and submitted on time using donor reporting requirements to the health program manager.
- Be proactive in providing information, case studies, interesting news stories, and success stories related to the project implementation to the health program manager.
- Participate/support and advocate for the integration of MIIPSS in routine intersectoral need assessments

Health information system

- Support in compiling weekly IDSR reports, Monthly HIMIS, and monthly drugs inventory reports and share with CIID M&E Officer of entry in DIIS2.
- Assist in providing data and other information required for donor, cluster partners, and organization reporting.

Clinical Protocols

- Ensure clients are regularly reviewed and care plans are updated as needed.
- Provide technical support to the health team in each department to ensure daily supervision and monitor the implementation of infection control activities.
- Ensure that client privacy and confidentiality is always maintained, and other protocols are implemented and followed by all staff.

Pharmaceutical Management

- Support the pharmaceutical management system including drugs requisition from the main store, drugs utilization, and consumption reporting from each department.
- Regularly inspect and stock level of psychotropic medicine to avoid stock out that will impact on relapses.
- Support in compiling monthly drug consumption reports and share with relevant manager.
- Observe and monitor rational use of psychotropic medication.
- Ensure psychotropic medication are safely stored and dispensed after proper psychoeducation to the client and the carer is provided.

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Staff management and capacity building

- Conduct regular meetings with clinical officers, nurses, and community health workers.
- Participate in weekly, monthly, and quarterly management meetings.
- Participate in program development and setting priorities for the health response strategy.
- Participate in organizing continuous medical education on mental health activities.

Compliance:

- Ensure that all activities respect the principle of confidentiality and that all incidents reported to IRC are handled with due regard to protection principles.
- Ensure adherence to IRC-South Sudan specific finance, logistics, IT, security, communications and human resource/administration policies and procedures.
- Incorporate and comply with any new procedures and guidelines designated in circulars from Country Director
- Ensure any violations of the IRC Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Code of Conduct are reported to the supervisor, the Country Director, or through the anonymous reporting mechanism. The reporting of violations is an obligation on the part of all staff members.
- Assist where necessary in undertaking activities that aim to prevent the occurrence of sexual abuse and exploitation of beneficiaries by IRC and other humanitarian workers
- Ensure compliance of IRC's Child Safeguarding policy in all IRC activities and report any violations observed or reported through the necessary channels immediately.

Confidentiality:

- Ensuring the non-disclosure of any information whatsoever relating to the practices and business of IRC acquired in the course of duty, to any other person or organization without authority, except in the normal execution of duty

Key Working Relationships:

Position Reports to; Health Manager/MHIPSS Manager.

Other Internal and/or external contacts: Health Manager, RHIO, Senior Health Officer, M & E Officer, Field Coordinator.

Internal: Regular relationships with Health Manager, Senior Health officer, M & E Officer, RHIO, and Field Coordinator.

External: May Serve as IRC in Meetings with CHD, SMOH, and other non-governmental organizations, inter-agency groups, and foundations.

Qualifications, Skills, and Experience:

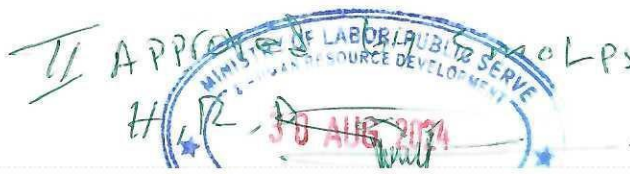
Professional qualification: A diploma in Psychiatric Clinical Medicine, Psychiatric Nursing, or General Clinical Medicine.

Working experience: At least 3 years' work experience in the field of MHIPSS using WHIO MHGAP-HIG. Ability to provide WHIO recommended psychological interventions.

Language skills: Fluency in English, Arabic and local language is added advantage.

Other requirements:

- Demonstrable primary health program supervisory skills.
- Capability to ensure high-quality care for clients with MNS conditions.
- Computer literacy with good working knowledge of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and the Internet.
- Strong communication and negotiation skills.
- Experience working for NGO.
- Familiar with government/ MoH standards and guidelines.
- Motivated and able to work independently.
- A team player and willing to work in remote areas.



Desirable qualities:

- Experience working in hard-to-reach areas.
- Competence in DHHS-2 is mandatory for this position.
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Language Skills:

- Good standard of spoken and written English
- Excellent communication in the native language will be an added advantage.

STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:

- The IRC and IRC workers must adhere to the values and principles outlined in IRC Way Standards for Professional Conduct. These are Integrity, Service, Accountability and Equality. In accordance with these values, the IRC operates and enforces policies on Beneficiary Protection from Exploitation and Abuse, Child Safeguarding, Anti Workplace Harassment, Fiscal Integrity, and Anti-Retaliation the IRC operates and enforces policies on Beneficiary Protection from Exploitation and Abuse, Child Safeguarding, Anti Workplace Harassment, Fiscal Integrity, and Anti-Retaliation.

Safeguarding policy:

- The IRC has a zero-tolerance policy for safeguarding violations by staff, incentive workers, visitors, sub-grantees, suppliers/sub-contractors, and implementing partners. Safeguarding at the IRC is an integral to the organizational values and ethics, and staff and associates are expected to take all reasonable steps to prevent the sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment of any person linked to the program by both its employees and any downstream partner. The successful candidate will be subject to a thorough background check and satisfactory references.

Narrowing the Gender Gap:

- The International Rescue Committee is committed to narrowing the gender gap in leadership positions. We offer benefits that provide an enabling environment for women to participate in our workforce including a flexible hour (when possible), maternity leave, transportation support, and gender-sensitive security protocols

Equal Opportunity Employer:

- IRC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. IRC considers all applicants because of merit without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status, disability, or any other characteristic protected by applicable laws

‘WOMEN, MINORITIES AND PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY’.

HOW TO APPLY:

Interested applicants should submit a **CV with 3 references** and a copy of their **South Sudan national ID**, to **IRC Bentiu field office** or, by email to **SS-HR@rescue.org** Not later than **5:00 PM of Monday September 16th, 2024**.

NOTE: Only short-listed candidates will be contacted and attach photocopies of your academic documents only while original academic documents will be asked at the interview panel and all the photocopies will remain the property of IRC.

PLEASE, LABEL YOUR APPLICATION CLEARLY: MENTAL HEALTH OFFICER.

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