

## **Vacancy: VAPAR Coordinator (2 years Fixed Term Contract)**

The MRC/Wits Agincourt Research Unit is an exceptional health and population research centre providing an extensive data resource resulting from years of longitudinal health and socio-demographic surveillance. It currently nests a number of observational and intervention studies- all undertaken with an interdisciplinary network of leading international scientists in the Agincourt sub-district in rural north-east South Africa. As part of ongoing core and nested work, the Unit seeks a coordinator for the VAPAR (Verbal Autopsy Participatory Action Research), who will assist in realizing the vision of the Unit, by coordinating the VAPAR project. This project aims to use participatory methods to develop the voices of communities on health systems priorities, and by acting on this information through partnerships with health workers, managers, planners and policy makers, facilitate changes in health service delivery. The appointed individual will be based at the Agincourt offices and report directly to the Principle Investigators.

### **Main purpose of the job**

To assist in the planning, organising and coordinating the activities of the VAPAR project

### **Location**

Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga Province

### **Key performance areas**

Engage service users in 6 villages in participatory action research (PAR)

Stakeholder engagement especially Mpumalanga Provincial partners, relevant provincial, district and local health service and other service providers.

Organise and facilitate together with the project team meetings for the analysis phases of the project

Contribute to plans to develop and act on co-produced evidence for health systems and other sector systems changes.

Observe and monitor if action is taking place and whether it is effective

### **Required minimum education and training:**

Preferably a qualification in nursing and registration as a professional or enrolled nurse or any other health professional with appropriate regulatory body.

### **OR**

Minimum 2 years research supervision or coordination experience in the Agincourt HDSS study area

### **Additional education, work experience and personal abilities**

Good computer skills  
Ability to work independently and under pressure.  
Computer skills with knowledge of MS Word and Excel  
Knowledge of study Protocols  
Effective time management skills  
Excellent report-writing skills  
Interest in public health work, applied epidemiology or communicable diseases  
Excellent oral and written communication  
Good knowledge of local community challenges  
Good problem solving skills.  
Good Interpersonal Skills  
Ability to maintain confidentiality  
Ability to work under pressure and adhere to deadlines  
Self-motivated, able to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team  
Assertive, confident and adaptable  
Ability to work irregular hours  
Ability to speak Xitsonga

Should you be interested in applying for this vacancy, please send your CV, names and contact details of 3 referees, certified copies of Certificates, ID copies, Driver's license and motivation letter stating why you are interested in the position and deliver it to Agincourt site office in a box placed at the entrance of the main office, **alternatively, you may email your application to Weekend Khoza at [Weekend.Khoza@wits.ac.za](mailto:Weekend.Khoza@wits.ac.za)**

**The closing date for all applications is 19 June 2017.**

*The Wits Health Consortium will only respond to shortlisted candidates. Candidates who have not been contacted within two weeks of the closing date can consider their applications unsuccessful. In accordance with our Employment Equity goals and plan, preference will be given to suitable applicants from designated groups as defined in the Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998 and subsequent amendments thereto.*