

Position Title:	Postdoctoral Fellow
Department:	Research Program on Children & Adversity (RPCA)
School or Division:	School of Social Work
Requisition number	1663

Role Summary

The Rwanda Postdoctoral research fellow (req 1663) in the Research Program on Children and Adversity (RPCA) in the Boston College School of Social Work will work with the in-country Program Manager and another Postdoctoral fellow to oversee all aspects of implementation science and intimate partner violence (IPV) related to the Sugira Muryango (Strong Families) home-visiting Family Strengthening Intervention (FSI) that promotes positive parent-child relationships and fosters healthy child development. The Rwanda Postdoctoral fellow reports to the Principal Investigator of the study.

This position will be based 100% of the time in Kigali, Rwanda, over a 12 month appointment.

The RPCA is an applied research program dedicated to improving the evidence base on the epidemiology of mental health problems and family functioning as well as intervention research to develop and test mental health services for children and families affected by multiple forms of adversity, including armed conflict, poverty, and infectious disease.

The Sugira Muryango (Strong Families) home-visiting Family Strengthening Intervention (FSI) promotes positive parent-child relationships and fosters healthy child development. This intervention is currently piloted with 37 households living in extreme poverty, which will inform a cluster randomized control trial scale-up to begin Spring 2018. The research fellow will be directed by Dr. Theresa S. Betancourt.

Reporting Relationship

The Postdoctoral fellow reports to the Principal Investigator of the studies.

Supervisory Responsibility

No supervisory responsibility.

Position Scope/Size Parameters

The RPCA is an applied research program dedicated to improving the evidence base on the epidemiology of mental health problems and family functioning as well as intervention research to develop and test mental health services for children and families affected by multiple forms of adversity, including armed conflict, poverty, and infectious disease.

A particular focus for this position is to build on the rigorous analytical framework of the consortium funded Sugira Muryango trial in Rwanda to examine intimate partner violence (IPV), family functioning, and processes related to implementation science.

Essential Functions

Data Management and Data Analysis (65%):

The Rwanda Postdoctoral fellow will provide oversight of Rwanda Study. S/he will:

- Use statistical analysis to address missing data, conduct multilevel modeling, oversee technology-based data collection and data monitoring, and utilize mixed methodologies to triangulate qualitative and quantitative data.
- Provide implementation science expertise to local team with strong understanding of hybrid design, cluster randomized control trials, and quality improvement approaches to fidelity and supervision.
- Work alongside in-country Program Manager and one other Postdoctoral fellow to provide study oversight, conduct assessments and evaluate program as needed.

Research and Dissemination (35%):

The Rwanda Postdoctoral fellow will be responsible for research and dissemination. S/he will:

- Engage in high-level research and analysis, publishing on projects regarding ongoing work related to the Family Strengthening Intervention in Rwanda
- Present findings to the Government of Rwanda and donors with a focus on intimate partner violence (IPV)
- Qualitative analysis of key informant interviews and process evaluation data
- Collaborate on grant writing and publications, and present at international conferences.

Decision Making and Problem Solving

The Postdoctoral Fellow will need to be a self-driven, creative thinker with strong statistical and qualitative skills to help develop methods which investigate intervention effectiveness in terms of child development and parenting outcomes.

Coursework/training in psychometrics, hybrid designs, cluster randomized control trials, and implementation science is preferred.

Minimum Qualifications

University Core Competencies

Teamwork, Continuous Learning, Decision Making/Problem Solving, Communication, Applying Technology, Valuing Diversity, Big Picture Perspective, Openness to Change, Productivity

Experience

- Doctoral degree, preferably in Public Health, Implementation Science, Social Work, Developmental Psychology, Mental Health, or other related field required
- The Postdoctoral Fellow will need to be a self-driven, creative thinker with strong qualitative and statistical skills to help develop methods which investigate intervention effectiveness in terms of child development and parenting outcomes. Coursework/training in psychometrics and implementation science is a plus
- Strong ability in use of advanced statistical and computational programming.
- Strong background in implementation science to include hybrid design, cluster randomized control trials, longitudinal studies, and quality improvement approaches to fidelity and supervision that relate to long-term sustainability and scalability
- Particular research interest in intimate partner violence (IPV) desirable
- Some background related to conducting research in culturally diverse contexts, preferably in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs).
- Publication record that demonstrates candidate's capacities is also desirable
- Proficiency in utilizing computer applications including Microsoft Office, STATA, R, MAXQDA, and other applicable quantitative and qualitative data analysis platforms
- Expert knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies including Community Based
- Expertise in implementation science in LMICs, fidelity monitoring and mixed methods research
- Understanding of the application of technology both for data collection as well as routine symptom monitoring, fidelity monitoring and quality improvement efforts in global mental health and child development
- Ability to travel internationally in order to supervise and support Rwanda research projects. This position will be based 100% of the time in Rwanda after an orientation period in Boston

Exceptional Work Schedule Demands

The Postdoctoral Fellow may work nights and weekends in order to meet project deadlines.

Working Conditions and/or Physical Demands

This position will be based 100% of the time in Kigali, Rwanda. The fellowship is funded for one year, with the option to renew up to two years.

We welcome questions from interested candidates. Please contact: rpcalab_ssw@bc.edu

To apply, please refer to requisition 1663 on Boston College's Careers website:

<https://bc.csod.com/ats/careersite/search.aspx?site=1&c=bc>