Program Officer, Global Mental Health - Toronto, Ontario

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Job Posting #883403

Position: Program Officer, Global Mental Health
Site: MaRS Discovery Tower (currently remote)
Department: Grand Challenges Canada
Reports to: Senior Portfolio Manager, Global Mental Health
Status: Temporary Full-time (parental leave)

University Health Network (UHN) is looking for an experienced professional to fill the key role of Program Officer, Global Mental Health in Grand Challenges Canada.

Transforming lives and communities through excellence in care, discovery and learning.

The University Health Network, where “above all else the needs of patients come first”, encompasses Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, Toronto General Hospital, Toronto Western Hospital, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and the Michener Institute of Education at UHN. The breadth of research, the complexity of the cases treated, and the magnitude of its educational enterprise has made UHN a national and international resource for patient care, research and education. With a long tradition of groundbreaking firsts and a purpose of “Transforming lives and communities through excellence in care, discovery and learning”, the University Health Network (UHN), Canada’s largest research teaching hospital, brings together over 16,000 employees, more than 1,600 physicians, 8,000+ students, and many volunteers. UHN is a caring, creative place where amazing people are amazing the world. Find out about our purpose, values and principles here.

Grand Challenges Canada (GCC) is seeking a Program Officer to play a critical role in supporting the Global Mental Health Program. GCC supports innovations in reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, with an aim to save and improve lives of unserved and underserved populations in low- and middle-income countries. Through the Global Mental Health Program, Grand Challenges Canada seeks innovative and transformative person-centred, community-based mental health approaches that meet people where they are. We provide grant and concessionary risk capital, along with technical advisory, to support innovators through seed and transition to scale funding.

As one of the largest impact investors in Canada, GCC has supported a pipeline of over 1,300 innovations in 106 countries. Grand Challenges Canada estimates that these innovations have the potential to save up to 1.78 million lives and improve up to 64 million lives by 2030. GCC is hosted in Toronto at the Sandra Rotman Centre at the University Health Network and this is a Toronto-based role.

Program Officer

Formally reporting to the Senior Portfolio Manager, Global Mental Health, managing a small team, and working closely with other Program Officers, Investment Managers, and the broader Global Health Innovation team, the Program Officer will play a key role in shaping and managing a growing portfolio of seed and transition to scale investments. Employing deep thematic expertise in mental health program implementation and/or mental health research, global health innovation, business acumen, and investment knowledge and experience, responsibilities of the Program Officer include but are not limited to:

- Supporting the Global Mental Health Program and further developing GCC’s profile in the global mental health ecosystem;
- Managing a high-performing, resilient team in order to grow the Global Mental Health Program;


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• Monitoring and supporting seed investments in order to ensure sufficient quality transition to scale investments from (primarily) internal sources;
• Evaluating investment opportunities, including conducting financial and operational due diligence and risk analysis, as well as gender considerations and impact assessments;
• Preparing investment memorandums and presenting potential investments to GCC’s Investment Committee;
• Engaging in negotiations of term sheets and their translation into investment agreements (grant and/or loan), including the development of appropriate funding structures;
• Conducting ongoing management of investments including review and approval of progress reports, supporting innovators via a dedicated technical assistance platform, assisting innovators in developing partnerships and fundraising, and managing other issues as they emerge;
• Engaging with innovators throughout the investment process (i.e. relationship management);
• Contributing to the analysis of portfolio progress, results and lessons on a continual basis;
• Serving as a thought leader in global mental health innovation, and supporting the development of best practices for impact-first investing in innovations targeting youth mental health;
• Supporting the establishment of a network of donors, foundations, impact investors, social entrepreneurs, development organizations critical to accomplishing the ultimate goal of building out the space for innovation in global mental health in low and medium income countries;
• Overseeing and contributing to the development of key communication collateral to promote the Global Mental Health Program, increase public and donor knowledge and engagement in this critical area of health;
•Acting as a brand ambassador for GCC, represent GCC and Canada's strategic interests and promote their activities and opportunities through external collaborations, presentations and communications with potential partners, innovators, external thought leaders, and Canadian government representatives.

Qualifications
• Advanced degree in a relevant discipline (e.g., global health, mental health, impact investing)
• A minimum of 4-6 years’ working experience in relevant field, preferably with experience working and/or living in low resource contexts in mental health
• Demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of relevant domains (e.g., mental health, global health, early stage investing)
• Previous experience working with early stage investments, grant management and/or social enterprise a plus
• Excellent analytic, strategic thinking and project management skills to oversee a growing portfolio
• Highly developed verbal and written communications skills, with an aptitude for relationship building
• Demonstrated ability to maximize process efficiency
• Passion, humility, problem solver, team player, and proven self-direction
• The ability to work effectively in a fast-paced, dynamic environment is essential
• Some international travel may be required
• Personal networks in the global mental health sector is an asset
• Working knowledge of French is a significant asset

People with disabilities are encouraged to apply. People with lived experiences in relevant thematic areas are encouraged to apply.

Vaccines (COVID and others) are a requirement of the job unless you have an exemption on a medical ground pursuant to the Ontario Human Rights Code.

If you are interested in making your contribution at UHN, please apply on-line. You will be asked to copy and paste as well as attach your resume and covering letter. You will also be required to complete some initial screening questions.

Posted Date: September 2, 2021  Closing Date: September 20, 2021

For current UHN employees, only those who have successfully completed their probationary period, have a good employee record along with satisfactory attendance in accordance with UHN’s attendance management program, and possess all the required experience and qualifications should apply.

UHN thanks all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
UHN is a respectful, caring, and inclusive workplace. We are committed to championing accessibility, diversity and equal opportunity and welcomes all applicants including but not limited to: all religions and ethnicities, LGBTQ2s+, BIPOC, persons with disabilities and all others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas. Requests for accommodation can be made at any stage of the recruitment process providing the applicant has met the Bona-fide requirements for the open position. Applicants need to make their requirements known when contacted.

Apply

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