

# MUHIMBILI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SCIENCES



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### MUHAS Prevention and Hope (PRE-HOPE) Study: 12 New Job Openings February, 2025

#### Job description

#### Exciting Career Opportunities in Prevention and Hope (PRE-HOPE) Study:

The Prevention and Hope Study is a three-year longitudinal observational cohort study aimed at optimizing PrEP engagement among women who use drugs in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. This groundbreaking initiative will adapt MI for PrEP engagement (MI-PrEP) and a combined CETA and MI-PrEP interventions (CETA+MI-PrEP) for delivery by paraprofessionals in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to optimize PrEP engagement among WWUD; followed by a pilot trial with 200 WWUD which will assess the feasibility, fidelity, and preliminary efficacy of these interventions. We are currently looking for passionate and dedicated professionals to fill the following positions and contribute to this critical project.

#### Career Opportunities for the Research Project: 'Prevention and Hope (PRE-HOPE) Study'

#### Job Listings:

##### 1. Intervention Counselors (10 Positions)

**Work Station: Dar es Salaam**

**Expected Start Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

#### Key Responsibilities

- Provide mental health counseling using the Common Elements Treatment Approach (CETA) to women who use drugs.
- Participate in pre-service and ongoing training on delivering CETA services, including a mandatory 10-day training followed by weekly 1-3 hour supervision meetings.

- Deliver psychosocial support and drug use-reduction counseling following project protocols.
- Conduct community tracing and follow-ups to support participant retention in CETA and study engagement.
- Maintain accurate records of counseling sessions, including completing participant monitoring forms and documenting all follow-ups.
- Collaborate with supervisors and research teams for feedback, ongoing mentorship, and protocol adherence.
- Refer participants to appropriate services, including victim support, domestic violence response, or medical care as needed.
- Report any safety concerns, including cases of suicidal ideation, domestic violence, or child abuse, immediately to supervisors and appropriate authorities.

### **Qualifications**

- At least a Secondary School Certificate (Form IV) or higher; additional training in counseling, community health, or related fields is an advantage.
- Experience as an HIV lay counselor, psychosocial counselor, or in community-based mental health work is preferred.
- Basic knowledge of counseling principles, social support, and confidentiality practices.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work independently in field settings.
- Commitment to ongoing training and supervision as required by the study.
- Experience in working with marginalized communities, particularly people who use drugs or those with mental health challenges.
- Knowledge of HIV care procedures in government or public health settings is an added advantage.
- Proficiency in both oral and written Swahili.

### **2. Research Assistants (2 Positions)**

**Work Station: Dar es Salaam**

**Expected Start Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

#### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Conduct baseline and follow-up data collection (structured questionnaires, in-depth interviews, focus group discussions) and ensure adherence to research ethics and Standard Operating Procedures.
- Work directly with women who use drugs (WWUD), capturing information on PrEP uptake, mental health, and substance use behaviors.
- Obtain informed consent, assist with participant screening and recruitment, and introduce the study to WWUD for eligibility assessment.
- Facilitate HIV testing at partnering sites and verify HIV-negative test results for enrollment.
- Enter, transcribe, and verify qualitative and quantitative data using REDCap, or NVivo, maintaining strict confidentiality.
- Maintain clear and confidential records of screening, enrollment, and participant assessments (mental health, behavioral surveys).
- Monitor participant progress, document fieldwork challenges or deviations, and report concerns to the research team.

- Adapt to participant schedules (late afternoons/evenings) to ensure high-quality data collection and consistent follow-up.
- Participate in research team meetings and trainings, incorporating feedback into data collection procedures.
- Collaborate with the research team to ensure culturally appropriate study implementation and to uphold data quality standards.

### **Qualifications & Skills:**

- Bachelor's degree in Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, or a related field.
- At least one year of experience in conducting research, particularly in health-related or community-based studies with Key and Vulnerable Populations. (KVP)
- Experience with quantitative and qualitative data collection methods, including transcription and coding.
- Strong computer skills, particularly in data entry and management software (e.g., NVivo, REDCap, ODK).
- Fluency in both English and Swahili (Written and Spoken).
- Ability to work in field settings, including marginalized or high-risk communities.
- Experience conducting in-depth interviews, focus groups, or key informant interviews is an added advantage.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to build rapport with vulnerable populations.
- Ability to work independently while adhering to study protocols and deadlines.

### **Application Requirements for all posts:**

- CV with contact details (postal address, email, and phone number).
- Copies of relevant certificates (Postgraduate/First Degree, Diplomas, etc.)
- Passport-size photo and copy of birth certificate.
- Certified professional documents where applicable.
- Three referees with contact details.
- Presentation of forged academic certificates and other information in the CV will lead to legal action.

### **Important Dates:**

- Application Deadline: **24<sup>th</sup> February, 2025.**
- Inquiries: Enquiries can be sent to **Dr. Sifaely Mtaita by 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2025.**
- **Mobile: +255754398720.**

### **Salary and Benefits:**

- Competitive salary and benefits (specific salary details to be discussed during the interview process).
- Opportunities for continuous training and mentorship.

**How to Apply:**

If you are interested and you have the qualifications, please submit your Academic Certificates, application letter describing why you are the right candidate for this position, curriculum vitae detailing your experience and current place of employment to:

**Mr Abbas Mkila [amkila@muhas.ac.tz](mailto:amkila@muhas.ac.tz) , CC Dr. Sifaely Mtaita: [sifaelabbie@gmail.com](mailto:sifaelabbie@gmail.com)**

Only shortlisted candidates will be informed about the date of the interview. We encourage applications from individuals with lived experience or those who have previously worked with WWUD and other Key and Vulnerable Populations. (KVP).