



health professionals for a
safer, fairer & better world

JOB DESCRIPTION:

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| Job Title: | Project Manager |
| Accountable to: | Director, Medact |
| Duration | Two year fixed contract, full time |
| Responsible for: | Management and development of a new programme integrating food, sustainable diets, climate change and public health |

BACKGROUND

Medact is a small London based charity for health professionals and others working to improve health worldwide. It focuses on four broad and inter-connected domains: peace and demilitarization, economic justice, climate and ecology and health and human rights. This is achieved by working collaboratively with a range of major health and health related organisations, building on the knowledge and capacity they all bring to specific programmes.

JOB PURPOSE

To plan and coordinate advocacy efforts by mobilising the medical and wider health community and by using a 'public health' platform to draw together the medical, climate-related, economic and agricultural arguments to change the pattern of food production and consumption globally and in the UK.

To develop and implement a set of four inter-connected and mutually reinforcing projects aimed at promoting healthy, sustainable and ethical food systems, as well as reducing levels of unhealthy and unsustainable meat and dairy consumption.

To integrate these projects into the various strands of work of a range of organisations that are being coordinated by the Eating Better Alliance (EBA)

To integrate the projects into Medact's broader climate change and ecological health programme.

To encourage similar work in two other countries (India and China) once the projects are up and running

TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

General

To inform and educate leaders of the health community and key health organisations about the link between our food production and consumption and the threats to global health.

To translate the existing and growing scientific literature about the social, ecological and public health impacts of our food production and consumption systems into literature tailored for the health community.

To lobby and mobilise leaders of the health community to make our food production and consumption patterns ecologically sustainable and ethical.

To work synergistically and collaboratively with existing organisations and initiatives with shared aims and objectives

Project specific

Project A: Healthy Diets, Healthy Food Systems, Healthy Planet

To build on the existing collaboration with the Eating Better Alliance (EBA), Food Climate Research Network (FCRN), Food Research Collaboration (FRC) and other relevant organisations as appropriate

To support existing efforts to lobby politicians and government departments to develop sustainable and ethical dietary guidelines.

To advocate for the improvement and updating of official guidance on diet

To build on nutritional guidance of European countries and the US calling for the incorporation of food security and environmental needs

Project B: Healthy Farming to Prevent AMR

To support and amplify the work of the Alliance to Save Our Antibiotics (ASOA) to achieve a reduction in farm antibiotic use; to ban preventative mass medication in feed or water, except for where disease has been diagnosed in some of the animals; and in the production of national surveillance data on the human health impacts of AMR.

To draw attention to the link between the current pattern of antibiotic use in animals with forms of farming that are unsustainable, uncompassionate and contributing to unhealthy diets.

To lobbying key individuals and health bodies to support the required changes in policy and practice.

Project C: Healthier, Better and More Sustainable Hospital Food

To work with Sustain and the Campaign for Better Hospital Food to catalyse faster and greater improvements in the way hospital food is procured and provided.

To use 'hospital food' as a platform for promoting more sustainable and ethical food production and consumption more generally, in and around hospitals.

To conduct research on how hospital food procurement and provision practices are shaped by hospital commissioning practices and contracts, as well as by financial and economic drivers.

To implement local campaigns for better and more sustainable hospital food around five selected hospitals across the country.

To support national campaigns to improve the quality and implementation of hospital food standards through research, analysis and advocacy.

Project D: Under-graduate education in Food Systems and Ecological Public Health

To work closely with Sustainable Healthcare Education In Medical Schools (SHE) and the Centre for Sustainable Health Care to develop and promote new undergraduate curricula for purposively selected medical, nursing and dietetics training courses by

- 1) conducting research to assess current guidance on curricula with regards to sustainable food
- 2) documenting views about the need and opportunities to link teaching on sustainable food with teaching on nutrition, diet and public health.
- 3) conducting general advocacy in support of ecological public health and food systems education and training in light of climate change, widening social inequities, the commercialisation of health care and the growing influence of reductionist and bio-technological perspective on public health.

WHAT THE POST HOLDER CAN EXPECT OF MEDACT

To work as part of a friendly and supportive team

Flexible working arrangements re when hours are worked as far as office needs allow

All other conditions as outlined in Medact's contract.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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| Salary: | £32,000 - £36,000 |
| Location: | Based in the Medact office, The Grayston Centre, 28 Charles Square, London N1 6HT |
| Hours of work: | 35 hours per week A flexible working hours system is in operation. |
| Holidays: | 25 working days in each calendar year plus all statutory holidays. In addition the office is closed from 24 December to 2 January |

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- Undergraduate and/or postgraduate degree in a relevant subject (e.g. medicine, nursing, public health, food policy, nutrition, sustainable development)
- Experience of working in collaboration with other organisations
- Ability to relate confidently with people from a range of backgrounds and professional status
- Experience of project management, policy report writing and advocacy
- Commitment to social justice
- Ability to work semi-independently without much supervision
- Ability to work flexibly, solve problems and adapt to rapidly changing demands and circumstances
- Ability to meet and monitor deadlines
- Diligence and passion

Desirable

- Ability to work occasional unsocial hours

TO APPLY

If you have the right qualifications and attributes and are interested in applying, send a CV and the names of 3 referees to jobs@medact.org
Attach a covering letter of no more than 400 words to explain why you are the right person for this job.