MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES
DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Job Posting Title

US Advocacy Adviser, Access Campaign

Company

We are Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). We help people worldwide where the need is greatest, delivering emergency medical aid to people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters, or exclusion from health care.

MSF-USA is an extremely diverse group of people working together towards MSF's common mission. We welcome candidates who bring a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences to their work at MSF-USA.

Department

Too often, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) cannot treat patients because medicines are too expensive, non-existent, or unavailable . Sometimes, the only drugs we have are highly toxic or ineffective, and nobody is looking for a better cure. In response to the need for better treatments, vaccines and diagnostic tests, MSF set up its Access Campaign in 1999 to improve care for patients.

The aims of MSF's Access Campaign are to:

- push for price cuts to medicines, vaccines, and diagnostic tests by stimulating the production of more affordable generic products.
- act as a watchdog to ensure that the corporate interests don't win out over public health needs.
- steer the direction of medical research toward urgently needed new drugs, vaccines, and tests that don't exist yet or are not tailored to the needs of people in developing countries.
- scope out, support, and monitor new models to fund medical research that respond to medical rather than corporate needs, and do not rely on charging sky high prices for the final product to pay for the research.

Project

The US Advocacy Adviser of the Access Campaign supports the MSF's International Access Campaign and MSF field operations by advocating for increased access to effective, affordable, and appropriate medicines, diagnostics and vaccines for MSF operations and beyond.

Under the general direction of the MSF USA Executive Director and Deputy Director of the Access Campaign, the US Advocacy Adviser of the Access Campaign, develops and implements the Access Campaign advocacy strategies in the US. The US Advocacy Officer serves as a representative of MSF on Access Campaign-related issues to US government and UN officials, the media, academic institutions, the pharmaceutical industry, other NGOs, and other counterparts.

Furthermore, he/she will support achieving the Access Campaign Strategic Plan and the goals of MSF USA's 2017-2021 Strategic Orientations, "Influence and Shape Global Health Practices and Policies" and "Strengthen the Quality of Medical Care". The Advocacy Adviser will also work closely with the MSF USA Director of Medical & Operational Research to design engagement strategies for US public and private institutions as it pertains to efforts to foster needs-based medical Research & Development (R&D). The US Advocacy Adviser will also work in close collaboration with other Access Campaign advocacy and technical staff.

Tasks

Access Campaign and Program Support & Advocacy (80%)

- Designs, coordinates and implements advocacy and policy strategies across a variety of medical and transversal dossiers in the Access Campaign's portfolio (currently TB, vaccines, HIV/AIDS, HCV, neglected tropical diseases, intellectual property rules, medical innovation, regulatory frameworks, and new models of innovation for neglected populations) for the purposes of influencing US-based public and private institutions.
- Coordinates MSF representation with governments and UN officials, the media, academic institutions, the pharmaceutical industry, other NGOs, etc. on Campaign-related issues. Organizes and participates in Campaign-related meetings, conferences or workshops as needed.
- Provides Campaigning and Advocacy guidance and support to the Operational Center Paris NY Medical Unit as it relates to current dossiers on Infectious Diseases/AMR, Tropical Diseases, Oncology, and Cholera.
- Provides international Access Campaign personnel, MSF USA and Operational Centers with information about relevant US government or other relevant developments and strategies and their implications for access to medicines.
- Provides support to all other departments of MSF USA on Campaign-related issues, particularly Communications for all public communications and publications with Access content (website, press-releases, email newsletter, Alert, Annual Plan, etc.) and Development for all related marketing and donor materials.
- Manages, cultivates, and updates network of contacts to facilitate MSF communication with key US actors, including arranging for relevant meetings; facilitate information-sharing and adequate record-keeping to maintain continuity of institutional knowledge.
- Facilitate and manage MSF movement strategic engagement with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). Works closely with the MSF USA Humanitarian Representative and the MSF USA Director of Medical & Operational Research to develop strategies for engaging these institutions.
- Facilitate and coordinates Access Campaign engagement with US-based pharmaceutical companies, and when, appropriate, also works with MSF USA Director of Medical & Operational Research to develop engagement strategies.

Access Campaign & MSF USA Program Planning & Management (20%)

- Participates in various advocacy planning exercises, attending international meetings, as needed.
- Coordinates the annual planning and semi-annual reviewing process for the Access Campaign, adapting the Campaign plan to the United States context as agreed upon with the Access Campaign. Analyzes activities, costs, and operations to determine progress toward stated goals and objectives.
- Collaborates with the Access Campaign, MSF USA Director of Medical & Operational Research, and Program teams (frequently including the ED and/or the Communications Director) to develop advocacy strategies, including the identification and selection of appropriate advocacy targets (government, UN, think-tanks, other NGOs, academic institutions, etc.).
- Attends regularly scheduled Access Campaign team and other meetings as relevant, including the annual AC meeting, as well as and MSF USA Advocacy meetings to share information, brainstorm strategies and approaches and alert team members to emerging issues.
- Attends MSF USA monthly staff meetings and several annual office-wide debates to participate in information sharing across all departments and stay informed about important MSF topics so as to be able to contribute to the organization's ongoing development.
- Conducts briefings and de-briefings of field staff, according to agreed upon guidelines for staff assigned to field projects with a program component of special interest for the Campaign, as assigned by Field HR.

- Supports the work of the MSF USA by keeping the MSF USA office leadership and staff, MSF USA Board and Association informed of key Access issues and providing relevant input for assigned contexts and/or areas of technical expertise.
- Manages the work of the MSF USA Advocacy and Research Officer and MSF US Access Campaign interns.

Requirements

- Minimum 6-8 years relevant work experience, including MSF operational experience or other developing country experience, preferably in projects with an access-related component (e.g. HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria), plus Bachelor's degree (B. A.) and Advance Master's degree in international relations, public health, biomedical sciences, pharmacy or related policy field.
- A proven track record of delivering change through advocacy in any of the above fields, including experience in developing and implementing effective advocacy strategies
- Experience in developing and maintaining relations with a wide range of people and organizations, including medical professionals, civil society and community organizations, academia, government representatives, and donor organizations
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate projects with a wide variety of participants, and to facilitate dialogue and share information among all concerned parties.
- Ability to write reports for internal and external audiences and high-level business correspondence to government, NGO, industry, and UN officials.
- Keen attention to detail with ability to track multiple projects at one time.
- Excellent judgment and diplomacy.
- Ability to travel within the United States, to Europe and to relevant priority countries as needed, and to serve on the field for several weeks at a time.

Type

HQ

Contract Type

Open ended Contract

Additional Information

Starting salary mid 90's to low 100's (commensurate with experience).

Desired Hiring Date

30.10.2017

Working Time %

100,00

How to Apply

Please visit our CAREER PORTAL to apply for the US Advocacy Advisor position.

Application Deadline: October 27, 2017