VSO in partnership with the Royal College of GPs are looking to recruit...

A General Practitioner Curriculum Developer/Trainer
Uganda
Start Date: June 2012

Background
Life expectancy in Uganda is 51, with over a third of the population living in poverty. It’s hard to stay healthy when you’re poor in Uganda, especially if you live in a rural village. Paying for transport to the nearest clinic or hospital is the first hurdle, and even if you manage to overcome this you may have to pay for the drugs you need when you arrive. There’s a shortage of both health care services and trained healthcare staff across the country. Communicable diseases thrive; it’s no wonder then that malaria remains the main cause of death amongst children in Uganda.
VSO is supporting the Uganda Health Sector to improve health systems, quality services and health training provision. VSO volunteers work closely with rural communities in implementing primary health care services helping to provide preventative health care where access to health services is at its lowest.

What does the role involve
The role will be divided into 3 main areas;
• To provide training and teaching for post graduate doctors studying for their Family Practice Masters degree. This will also involve supporting the development of the curriculum for this course.
• To develop provincial Practice sites in their delivery of family health improvements. You will be supported by the central university in Kampala to visit and appraise each training site for the training programme. You’ll work alongside local doctors and trainee doctors who understand the local health context.
• To build the capacity of the provincial primary health care clinics, by coaching and training a local support staff team in clinical skills, management and administration.

Skills, qualifications and experience required
You’ll be a qualified General Practitioner, with a minimum of three years’ post qualification experience. Experience of formal or informal training and mentoring would be helpful. An interest in medical education and curriculum development would be beneficial. You’ll be based in the central Kampala hospital and will need the flexibility to adapt your approaches when working in outlying regions. You’ll need to embrace the situation of working with less diagnostics and fewer drugs than you’re used to, and the passion and good humor to take on lots of challenges.

And the rest....
You’ll be based in an urban environment but this role gives you the opportunity to get to know different sides of life in Uganda through frequent trips to rural villages. We’ll ask you to commit to 12 – 24 months to make a sustainable contribution to our development goals. In return, we’ll give you comprehensive financial, personal and professional support. We’ll provide you with extensive training before your placement, and our financial package includes a local salary, return flights, accommodation, insurance and more.

VSO/RCGP
To register an interest in this role go to www.vso.org.uk/volunteer/how-to-apply/index.asp and reference U596/3/1 in your application form. You can also submit a general application form for other roles to start within the next 12-18 months. Following your application you’ll be provided with a more detailed placement description. Support from RCGP UK via email can be accessed before and during the placement, and we will look to provide in-country professional support for your duration overseas.

VSO is a registered charity in England and Wales (313757) and in Scotland (SCO39117)