



IsraAID

JOB DESCRIPTION

Position: IsraAID Puerto Rico Psychosocial Specialist

Contract type: Paid

Location: Puerto Rico

Duration: 3 months

SUMMARY

IsraAID Puerto Rico is looking for a Psychosocial Support Specialist to join our mission in Puerto Rico. We are seeking a mental health and psychosocial support specialist with experience developing and implementing MHPSS (Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support) modules and programmes in a post-disaster setting or in a developing country context, and with experience facilitating trainings and workshops in related topics.

CONTEXT

IsraAID is a humanitarian aid organization with 18 years of experience in the field of emergency and trauma- a non-profit, non-governmental and apolitical humanitarian aid agency dedicated to supporting populations in crisis around the world.

On September 20th, Hurricane Maria - the most powerful storm to have hit the US territory in nearly a century - struck Puerto Rico, devastating the island, with winds of over 150 mph, torrential rain felled trees, smashed buildings and pulled roofs from homes. Hurricane Maria is believed to have caused approximately \$90 billion in damage, damaging about 230,000 homes and destroying 1.2 billion trees.

One year after Hurricane Maria, there is still critical need on the ground.



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IsraAID has been supporting communities with psychosocial trainings and building capacity with vulnerable communities and within the education system.

ASPIRA

ASPIRA, IsraAID's leading local partner organization in Puerto Rico, is an educational NGO providing services for 3,400 at-risk youth each year. ASPIRA schools are located all over the island, providing students from low socio-economic backgrounds with educational opportunities and support to attain educational goals and reach university after high school.

IsraAID has been partnering with ASPIRA to provide psychosocial capacity building trainings for ASPIRA teachers and staff on child protection, trauma and stress related issues for over one year. IsraAID is supporting ASPIRA in developing the ASPIRA school curriculum with activities for their 'resiliency' module and is providing support for teachers in terms of supervisions and continued professional development.

Patillas

IsraAID is working within the municipality of Patillas to build resilient communities. This includes supporting schools, communities, teachers, and students with psychosocial support: Psychological First Aid trainings, resilience-building sessions, emotional support, and more.

Disaster Risk Reduction

IsraAID is building programs in partnership with schools in Puerto Rico



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on disaster-risk reduction, which builds resilience in the face of future emergencies. This program is built to be psychosocially sensitive, relevant, and empowering.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Planning:** Working together with the Head of Mission in the field, IsraAID's PSS professional adviser, and National partners to develop new strategic partnerships and structure comprehensive trainings and accompanying supportive activities and materials as it pertains to local cultural sensitivities and identified needs.
- 2. Training and Program Development:** Developing training and workshops, planning and facilitating activities in accordance to programmatic objectives.
 - a) Development of training module and manual (in Spanish) for MHPSS programmes
 - b) Designing a training of trainer's programme on the topic of psychosocial support, mental health, etc.
 - c) Building Psychosocial Support into the Disaster Risk Reduction Program
 - d) Implementing PFA sessions with community leaders through TOTs (Training of Trainers)
 - e) Facilitating additional workshops and support for stakeholders as identified
- 3. Reporting, monitoring and evaluation:** Collecting information and data from the field and activities and report to the Head of Mission on a regular basis – using the appropriate reporting, monitoring and evaluation tools



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ESSENTIAL SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, AND COMPETENCIES

- **Education and professional background:** Clinical foundation and expertise in expressive arts therapy; art/drama/other therapists, clinical psychologists
- Experience working in a developing country/post disaster setting
- Experience with curriculum development
- Experience with group facilitation
- Proven ability to work independently, and adapt quickly to a changing and challenging environment
- High level of interpersonal skills; open-minded individual, culturally-sensitive, friendly, flexible, adaptable, team player, and possesses patience in a changing environment and needs
- IT literate (Microsoft, Power Point, and finance packages).

LANGUAGES

Required: Professionally fluent or native speaker in English and Spanish, spoken and written is a must.

CONDITIONS

- Paid position
- Based in Puerto Rico
- IsraAID fully covers the expenses of team members, including flights, insurance, accommodation, transportation, food etc

To apply for this position, please send a resume and cover letter to hr@israaid.org

We regret to inform that only shortlisted candidates will be notified.