

Job Descriptions for Konbit Sante Volunteers

Lactation Nurse or Specialist

Background: Justinien University Hospital (JUH) is the second-largest public hospital in Haiti and the site of one of three residency programs in the country. Konbit Sante has a long-standing partnership with JUH, working closely with hospital administration and providers in select services to improve the quality of care and resident education. We have worked particularly closely with the pediatric service at JUH, where we have helped institute quality improvement measures; organized trainings; procured essential supplies, drugs, and equipment; and provided guidance on management issues.

One issue that has been identified through monthly mortality reviews is the provision of adequate nutrition for neonates who have been abandoned or whose mothers have died or are too sick to nurse. The nurses in the service would like training on using and managing a breast milk pump to get breast milk from other lactating women; how to manage the milk safely; and how best to feed newborns, some of whom are too small for a bottle.

Scope of Work: JUH's Pediatric Service and Konbit Sante are seeking a pediatric nurse with expertise in lactation to help the service improve the nutritional support for premature and medically compromised infants who cannot nurse.

Requirements:

- Pediatric nurse with lactation expertise
- Willingness to travel
- French proficiency preferred
- Experience working in or volunteering in resource-limited settings

French Translator

Background: Konbit Sante is a capacity-building organization that supports the efforts of Haitian health institutions and professionals to provide quality health care and meet the health needs of the communities that they serve. Our work involves communication with a variety of individuals ranging from officials in the Ministry of Health to providers and managers in health centers and community health workers in local communities. Although French and Creole are the official languages of the country, official written communication is in French.

Scope of Work: Konbit Sante is seeking French language interpreters to translate technical, medical, and general documents from English to French.

Requirements:

- Excellent command of French

- Able to work within prescribed deadlines
- Familiarity with medical terminology highly desirable

Biomedical Technician

Background: Konbit Sante is a capacity-building organization that supports the efforts of Haitian health institutions and professionals to provide quality health care and meet the health needs of the communities that they serve. We view healthcare delivery from a systems perspective and aim to support our partners' ability to develop a well-trained work force; procure essential supplies, drugs, and equipment; maintain infrastructure; and establish good management and data collection systems. The maintenance of biomedical equipment at our partner institutions is especially important in ensuring the delivery of quality care to patients.

Scope of Work: Konbit Sante seeks a biomedical technician to provide training, mentoring and technical assistance to biomedical technicians at Justinien University Hospital, the second-largest public hospital in Haiti. The volunteer would also help source replacement and repair parts.

Requirements:

- Experience installing, adjusting, calibrating, and testing biomedical equipment
- French language proficiency highly desirable
- Travel to Haiti (at least once)
- Available for regular long-distance communication

Inventory Assistance

Background: ULS consists of a small Haitian group of doctors and nurses with whom Konbit Sante has had a partnership since 2012. Most recently, we constructed a new health center for ULS that serves a mountainous area on the outskirts of Cap-Haitien that previously did not have ongoing primary care. In addition to improving infrastructure and facilities, we are working to help strengthen its management capacity, from materials management to budgeting. The first step is to help ULS staff develop an effective but simple inventory system so they are aware of what they have available and can inform their requisitions and procurements.

Scope of Work: Konbit Sante is seeking an individual or small group of volunteers that can work directly with the staff at ULS to organize and document their inventory in a database that can be used for ongoing materials management.

Requirements:

- Individual with materials management experience
- Proficiency with databases
- Willingness to travel
- Experience working in or volunteering in resource-limited settings
- French or Haitian Creole proficiency preferred

IT Expertise

Background: Konbit Sante is a capacity-building organization that supports the efforts of Haitian health institutions and professionals to provide quality health care and meet the health needs of the communities that they serve. We maintain two offices—one in Cap Haitien, Haiti, which is the center of the program activities, and one in Falmouth, Maine, where a lot of organizational management such as finances, communications, fundraising, etc., takes place. We have a very small staff on the U.S. side, and could often use assistance with IT issues with our website (WordPress), donor database (CIVI), and information management, as well as hardware troubleshooting. We also receive donated laptops that need new software installs to be repurposed for use in Haiti.

Scope of Work: Konbit Sante seeks a skilled IT person or professional to provide occasional technical assistance and support to our U.S. office.

Requirements:

- Experience and expertise with databases, management software, website management, and troubleshooting computer issues.
- Travel to Haiti is not required

Supplies and Equipment Assistance

Background: Konbit Sante is a capacity-building organization that supports the efforts of Haitian health institutions and professionals to provide quality health care and meet the health needs of the communities that they serve. As part of that work, we procure and send medical equipment, supplies, and pharmaceuticals to Haiti. Konbit Sante has space in a warehouse located in Westbrook, Maine, from which we sort and organize materials to ship a 40-foot-long container annually. Much of the material is donated by area hospitals, and some is specifically purchased or procured. There are procedures in place (we have sent 20 such containers) and there is a group of volunteers that are helping with the sorting on a weekly basis, but we would benefit from someone who would be interested in helping to better improve and organize the effort.

Scope of Work: Konbit Sante seeks a volunteer skilled in materials management to help procure and sort materials in our warehouse space.

Requirements:

- Experience and expertise with materials management
- Travel to Haiti is not required