

Project collaborator Outreach – Community Health Worker

- **unaccompanied minors (men) from Afghanistan**
- **young adult men from Eritrea-Ethiopia (Horn of Africa)**

Interested in a temporary job with impact in a small team? VRGT might be the right place for you!
Are you:

- ☒ closely connected to people from the Afghan or Eritrean-Ethiopian communities (Horn of Africa) in Antwerp and Brussels
- ☒ convinced that vulnerable people (refugees, homeless, living in poverty) are entitled to free healthcare
- ☒ motivated to eliminate tuberculosis in the world
- ☒ independent and extravert

Did you answer “yes” 4 times? Hold on to your enthusiasm and continue reading. Because we have a job for you ...

Our organisation:

We provide free care to people with tuberculosis in Flanders and Brussels. Some of our target populations are vulnerable groups such as people living in poverty, prisoners, refugees and homeless people.

Outreach to these groups is essential as the reach of our standard health care system is not sufficient. Integrated quality healthcare for all, independently of status or papers, is our general principle

To strengthen our outreach efforts we are looking for 2 project collaborators, to support our teams in Antwerp and Brussels, in connecting with two specific populations groups:

- unaccompanied minors from Afghanistan (and young adults)
- young men from the Horn of Africa (Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia)

Your workplace:

You will be based at the Centre for Respiratory Healthcare (CRG) in Brussels or Antwerp, but you will mainly work in and around those places in these cities highly frequented by your target group.

Your tasks and challenges:

- The aim of this project is to build strong connections with Afghan unaccompanied minors and young men from the Horn of Africa and to motivate them to participate in low-threshold screening, contact investigations, preventive therapy and follow-up of possible treatment
- Your role will be to strengthen contacts with specific centres such as the Afghan Cultural Centre or the Sint-Antonius of Padua Church in Antwerp and expand to new contact points.
- You will become a key person linking our social nurses with community members and leaders, to build trust between each other

- You will build close relationships within the communities and organise low-threshold information sessions on tuberculosis, its treatment and our services
- You will select peer contact persons within the communities, for training in information and education, they will assist you in distributing adapted health information
- You will organise low-threshold screening events together with our nurses, and guide young men through the screening process
- You will help people towards and during contact screening and treatment (free of charge)
- You will assist our staff in collecting data (limited) to properly evaluate this project

Your profile and skills:

- We are not so much looking for a degree, more important is your network and good connections within the Afghan or African communities as described above.
- You speak and understand Dutch or English well enough to communicate on a organisational level (perfect writing is not required)
- You can function independently but also enjoy working in a multidisciplinary team
- You are an easy networker and can communicate with great empathy and listening skills
- You are a good planner/organiser with the necessary flexibility
- You know the locations/neighbourhoods that your target groups stay in very well, or you feel comfortable exploring those
- Relevant work experience is not a must, nor is prior medical knowledge, but it can help you master the topic quickly
- You are willing to travel frequently between Antwerp and Brussels (travel expenses reimbursed)

We offer you:

- On-the-job training and guidance during the whole, in close collaboration with our teams in Antwerp and Brussels
- A fixed-term contract until 31/12/2024; number of hours per week can be discussed flexibly during a personal interview
- A highly varied cross-routine job with a strong social justice impact
- Independence, flexibility and freedom to organise your work
- You will work in a dynamic organisation and with motivated colleagues
- Remuneration according to Belgian salary scales, supplemented with extra-legal benefits such as meal vouchers and an insurance package
- An extensive and flexible number of holidays

Still interested?

You might be the new colleague we are looking for! Send us your resume and cover letter as soon as possible at personeelsadministratie@vrgt.be.

Would you like some additional info? Don't hesitate to contact our general number 02 510 60 90 and ask for Wouter or Sandrina.

