



## **Call for applications**

# **Community Medicine Fellowship under the Comprehensive Primary Health Care through Community Physician (CPHC-CP) programme**

### **About Karuna Trust**

Karuna Trust, head quartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, believes affordable, universal access to health care is the fundamental right of all Indians; such access is a true testimony to the usefulness of all the economic and technological progress India has made. Karuna Trust has pioneered and implemented a successful Public-Private-Partnership model that helps leverage the government's significant investment in public health care infrastructure by complementing it with a socially committed, not-for-profit but professionally competent management team. With the prime objective of 'Reaching the Unreached' to provide health care to the underserved and the poor in the remote areas, Karuna Trust continues to serve the community it has been serving with renewed vigour and dedication.

Under the Public-Private-Partnership model, Karuna Trust currently manages around 60 Government primary health centres (PHCs) in five states of India: Karnataka, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Manipur (covering 1.5 million population). Karuna Trust also manages mobile health units, eye hospital and first referral units. Many PHCs are ISO 9001:2008 certified. In addition to implementation of routine preventive, promotive and curative services, the Karuna Trust PHCs have also been involved in various health care innovations which have been scaled up in Karnataka as well as other states. In addition to the respective State Governments, the Trust has collaborated with corporates as part of their corporate social responsibility initiative. In Karnataka, it manages 29 health centres: 20 rural and nine in Bengaluru (urban).

The Karuna Trust PHCs are part of the organogram of the public health care delivery system. This provides a unique opportunity i) to strengthen existing clinical care, national programmes (RCH, NCD, NVBDCP, ICDS and so on) and community monitoring mechanisms ii) to plan and implement new innovations (facility based or community based) that can be replicated in other Karuna Trust PHCs and PHCs



under the state Government and iii) for operational and implementation research. Karuna Trust believes in operational research using routinely collected data with the overall aim to improve effectiveness, efficiency, quality and coverage of services. To promote research and evidence based decisions, Karuna Trust has a memorandum of understanding with the institutional ethics committee of Institute of Public Health, Bengaluru, to submit research protocols including operational and implementation research for ethics approval. Please visit [www.karunatrust.com](http://www.karunatrust.com) for details.

## **Comprehensive Primary Health Care through Community Physicians (CPHC-CP) programme**

Under the ‘Comprehensive Primary Health Care through Community Physicians’ programme (CPHC-CP programme), Karuna Trust plans to provide opportunity to medical doctors specialised in community medicine (MD Community Medicine) to work as community medicine fellows where they are able to implement skills related to family medicine, programme management, health promotion, epidemiology as well as operational and implementation research.

Community Medicine specialists either get job opportunities in the medical education field as teachers or in public health field (which is mostly restricted to programme planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation) or in research field (which is mostly restricted to protocols, epidemiology and biostatistics). There are few job opportunities where they are able to make use of their skills related to family medicine. Karuna Trust intends to fill this lacuna under its ‘CPHC-CP’ programme’.

### **Roles and responsibilities of Community Medicine Fellow**

He/She will be **posted in a PHC of Karuna Trust in Karnataka** and will be responsible for the public health management of seven to eight Karuna Trust PHCs (including the PHC he/she is stationed in). Programme management includes the national health programmes implemented through the PHCs. In addition he/she will provide primary clinical care at the PHC where he/she is stationed and guide the medical officers in the PHCs under him/her. He/she will be a link between the PHCs and Karuna Trust Head Office in Bengaluru. He/she will also be responsible for the implementation of health care innovations of Karuna Trust. In addition, they will be encouraged to plan and pilot test innovations in their PHC and then reproduce



the same in other PHCs under them. He/she will be the administrative and technical link between the PHCs and Karuna Trust Head Office in Bengaluru.

He/She will be provided mentorship and guidance and will be reporting to the Coordinator of CPHC-CP programme from the Karuna Trust Head Office. The coordinator is a community medicine specialist with vast experience in primary health care, public health management, community action for health and operational research.

Within the **first three months of the first year** of fellowship, he/she will have to **mandatorily complete certain modules related to public health implementation and research skills** (standard treatment guidelines, modules developed by national health mission, data management and literature search and reference management). This will include some reading material followed by assignments.

There will be certain **outputs to meet every year** which includes **i) submission of at least one original research article to peer-reviewed scientific journal and ii) preparation of at least one case study**. The original research and case study must be an output of the routine working of the community medicine fellow in the Karuna Trust PHCs. The case studies may include documentation of how the CPHC-CP programme led to improvement in comprehensive primary health care.

The community medicine fellow will report to the Coordinator, CPHC-CP programme and Hon. Secretary, Karuna Trust.

### **Call for applications**

Karuna Trust, Bengaluru, India, invites interested medical doctors from India to apply for the post of Community Medicine Fellows under the CPHC-CP programme (Couples are encouraged to apply together).

**Qualification:** MBBS plus MD in community medicine

**Number of positions:** Three

**Accommodation:** Residential quarter available at the PHC

**Annual remuneration:** INR 9 to 9.6 lakh per annum

**Leaves per year:** 12 festival holidays, 12 casual leaves

**Duration:** The fellowship will be renewed every year subject to completing the public health skills modules (in first year) and meeting the mandatory outputs every year. After two years of fellowship, ample scope will be provided for promotion and career development within the organization.



***How to apply:*** Interested candidates may contact Karuna Trust, Bengaluru, India over email with their CV. The subject line of the email should be ‘**Applications for the Community Medicine Fellowship, Karuna Trust**’ and the mail should be sent to [karunatruster@gmail.com](mailto:karunatruster@gmail.com). We will fill the positions on first come first serve basis.

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