

## **Call for Postdoctoral Research Fellows**

The Brazil Center for Early Childhood Development - BCECD, in partnership with the Harvard University DRCLAS Brazil Office (*Associação David Rockefeller Center da Universidade de Harvard*), is pleased to invite applications for two Postdoctoral Research Fellow positions. This is an exciting opportunity to work with a multi-disciplinary global team in the development and implementation of trials to promote early childhood development (ECD) in Brazil.

### **Postdoctoral Research Fellow: Intervention and Implementation Research**

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will be responsible for developing evidence-based interventions to promote young children's development in the first three years of life. The Fellow will contribute to following key activities:

- Formative research (e.g., literature reviews, mapping of interventions, focus group discussions with parents and other significant stakeholders) to create culturally appropriate and relevant interventions.
- Creation of interventions' theories of change.
- Development of a feasibility pilot to test the interventions.
- Preparation of an implementation evaluation proposal to evaluate implementation fidelity and quality, and to explore implementation demand, facilitators and barriers.

The qualified candidate will have a PhD in child and family health, developmental psychology, social and behavioral sciences (or similar), and reside in Brazil. A candidate with one to two years relevant work experience is preferred.

#### Knowledge and Competencies

- Excellent qualitative research skills
- Experience working in local communities
- Ability to manage time and prioritize tasks effectively
- Excellent team player
- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Resilience and ability to cope with work pressure
- Willing to work in the communities
- Good computer and report writing

#### Regular Responsibilities

- To develop an evidence-based intervention package (curriculum, training and supervision manual, theory of change)
  - Conduct literature reviews

- Conduct qualitative research (e.g., prepare topic guides, conduct interviews, analysis and reporting, prepare applications for IRB)
  - Manage, train and supervise Field Research Assistants for intervention development
- To develop and implement a feasibility pilot of the intervention package
  - Prepare proposal for pilot
  - Draft instruments
  - Train field team
  - Implement pilot
  - Analyze data
  - Report writing
- To draft instruments for an implementation evaluation
  - Draft instruments
- Contribute to manuscript preparations, conference presentations
- Participate in regular project meetings.

### **Postdoctoral Research Fellow: Trials**

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will be responsible for developing a randomized-controlled trial to evaluate policy interventions to promote young children's development in the first three years of life. The Fellow will contribute to following key activities:

- A literature review of robust evaluations of policy interventions implemented globally and in Brazil.
- Collecting population-level data to understand context
- Designing and implementing pre-trial baseline survey to inform trial design and sampling.
- Developing an RCT protocol
- Drafting/adapting and testing instruments
- Developing an evaluation of intervention cost.

The qualified candidate will have a PhD in public health, child and family health, economics, epidemiology (or similar), and reside in Brazil. A candidate with one to two years relevant work experience is preferred.

### Knowledge and Competencies

- Excellent quantitative research skills
- Experience in trials
- Ability to manage time and prioritize tasks effectively
- Excellent team player

- Good communication and interpersonal Skills
- Resilience and ability to cope with work pressure
- Willing to work in the communities
- Good computer and report writing

### Regular Responsibilities

- To develop an RCT to evaluate a policy intervention
  - Conduct literature reviews
  - Map available national and regional data to inform context
  - Conduct population surveys to inform design
  - Develop trial protocol (based on CONSORT guidelines)
  - Draft, adapt and pilot instruments
  - Prepare applications for IRB.
  - Manage, train and supervise Field Research Assistants for trial
- To develop a cost evaluation
- Contribute to manuscript preparations, conference presentations
- Participate in regular project meetings.

Both positions will be full-time and last for 12 months. Extension for an additional 12-month period is possible upon available funding and satisfactory performance. Benefits include a monthly scholarship of R\$7373,10. Fellows will be co-mentored by a BCECD faculty and a Harvard faculty. The scholarships will be paid directly by the *Associação David Rockefeller Center da Universidade de Harvard*, made possible by financial support from the Maria Cecília Souto Vidigal Foundation for early childhood research and exchange. Selected Postdocs will earn an official affiliate status at Insper, host of the Brazilian Center for Early Childhood Development - BCECD. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the positions will be virtual and may include travel for meetings and field work depending on the changing situation on the ground.

Applications are now open and will close on March 5, 2021. Positions can be filled on a rolling basis, so it is recommended to apply sooner rather than later. Submissions should be made through [this application form](#). Further queries should be sent to [brazil\\_office@harvard.edu](mailto:brazil_office@harvard.edu).

BCECD and the Harvard DRCLAS Brazil Office are equal opportunity employers and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for this opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions, or any other characteristic protected by law.