

informing the health links network

e-bulletin No 15 - January 2009

Dear Friend

Happy New Year! Welcome to THET's e-bulletin which includes news and information relevant to Health Links and THET activities.

If you have any materials or news which you would like to publicise, please send the information to the editor of this e-bulletin, Aisha Latif, aisha@thet.org. Conference and workshop reviews are also welcome. Note that we are unable to distribute attachments so please ensure that your item can be pasted into an e-mail message.

Feel free to forward this e-bulletin to anyone who might be interested.

FUNDING

RCOG Ethicon Travel Awards – These are available for members of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) who are trainees and International Members not in independent practice. The College encourages applications for visits to centres of research or for clinical training. Details of further conditions, and an application form can be obtained from Jane Hayman at jhayman@rcog.org.uk or from RCOG's website. Please note the closing date for applications is 30 January 2009.

<http://www.rcog.org.uk/index.asp?PageID=961#ethicon>

DelPHE Funding – A reminder that the British Council's DelPHE Programme, providing funding to support partnerships between Higher Education institutions to work on activities linked to the Millennium Development Goals, is open to applications. Please check the British Council's website for details of the application process. Please note applications need to be in by February 2009.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/delphe.htm>

Education Partnerships in Africa – Managed by the British Council, this fund will encourage further education and higher education institutions to engage in capacity building to deliver skills in collaboration with local overseas employers and enterprises. Travel grants for individuals are also offered. Please check the British Council's website for further details. Please note the closing date for applications is 27th February 2009.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-epa>

BUPA Foundation Research Funding – Funding opportunities are available for research on the Social Determinants of Health for researchers based in the UK, Australia, Denmark, Hong Kong, India, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Spain and Thailand. Group collaborators residing in the countries mentioned are particularly encouraged to apply. Please contact Sara Metcalf at sara.metcalf@aut.ac.nz or check BUPA's website.

http://www.bupafoundation.com/asp/specialist/this_years_theme.asp

Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland, Overseas Surgical Fellowships 2009 – These fellowships are in partnership with the British Journal of Surgery Society Limited, and aim to sponsor surgeons who wish to work in a developing countries (primarily in the least developed countries), on a short term basis. The fellowships are to provide training and support for overseas medical schools in the development of their postgraduate training programmes, and through this, establishing links with those centres. Please contact Bhavnita Borkhatria at Bhavnita@asgbi.org.uk for further information or visit their website.
http://asgbi.org.uk/en/awards_fellowships/overseas_surgical_fellowship.cfm

NEWS

THET Toolkit on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for Health Links - This is the first Toolkit on M&E written specifically for Health Links. The easy to use guide covers issues such as planning and designing M&E, practical tools for data collection, tips on analysis of data and report writing, and following up on evaluations. The Toolkit is designed to be of value both to Links that are new to M&E and to those with more experienced in this area.

For a limited time only, THET registered Health Links can purchase one copy of the Toolkit and get a second copy free for their Health Link partner. For more information please check out THET's website
<http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?page/index/guidance.html>

The Health and Fragile States Network is pleased to announce the publication of two papers called "Health systems reconstruction: can it contribute to statebuilding?" and "Post-conflict health sectors: the myth and reality of transitional funding gaps".

The Network commissioned these papers to address a knowledge gap about these issues. The Network examined the role of the health sector in statebuilding in fragile states. The Network reports that anecdotally health services are reduced in early post-conflict situations due to the disappearance of humanitarian funding for health – and also examined this so called "transitional funding gap".

The papers can also be found on the Health and Fragile States Network's website:
http://www.healthandfragilestates.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=13&&Itemid=38

Health is Global Strategy – Launched by the Department of Health, this is the first cross-Government report to highlight the challenges that face us in the area of global health. The report outlines a set of principles and actions that the UK Government will focus on over the next five years to improve health across the world and in the UK, and can be read here
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Healthcare/International/DH_072715

Message From the Secretary of State for International Development – You can read Douglas Alexander's Christmas message of support to THET supporters by clicking on the link below.
<http://www.thetftp.users44.donhost.co.uk/ChristmasmessagefromDouglasAlexander.pdf>

GOOD PRACTICE

Human Resources for Health – A myriad of useful articles about planning, producing and managing human resources for health, set in a global context. Please click on the link below to access this invaluable on-line journal that can support your Health Links and programme work.

<http://www.human-resources-health.com/home/>

Essential Skills for Mental Health Care – This manual launched by Basic Needs aims to provide the basic information for health workers to safely diagnose and treat mental illness and epilepsy with the resources currently available in West Africa. Best treatments have been cross referenced with actual treatments that are available in West Africa. The manual is designed to be used by a range of health workers, from volunteers through to community psychiatric nurses up to the level of medical assistant, and is written in clear language for those health workers whose first language is not English. “Essential Skills” is free from copyright and the authors invite senior health workers in other parts of Africa to adapt the manual’s content to their country’s resources and needs. Copies of “Essential Skills” can be downloaded free of charge from the following link.

<http://www.basicneeds.org/ghana/index.asp>

ProCor: On-line resource for Cardiovascular Health - This website is a valuable resource for people working to prevent cardiovascular disease and promote cardiovascular health in developing countries and other low-resource environments. You can find out more about cardiovascular disease and health, network with others working in the same area, as well as find links to reports, toolkits and manuals.

<http://www.procor.org/>

Child Health Care: A Learning Programme for Professionals - A book and course written for under-resourced areas of Africa. The material deals with most of the main causes of death and illness during childhood. You can download and print out separate sections. The course was developed at the School of Child and Adolescent Health, University of Capetown.

<http://ebwhealthcare.com/content/section/4/28/>