

Residence: Johannesburg (willing to relocate)
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Professional Summary

Experienced and data-driven professional with five years of expertise in public health monitoring and evaluation, digital marketing, and project coordination within the health non-profit sector. Proficient in data analysis, health information systems and community engagement with a strong commitment to LGBTQIA+ health initiatives and harm reduction. Proven success in driving and managing community relationships, stakeholder engagements and coordinating impactful public health projects.

Professional Experience

Project Coordinator – Harm Reduction & Sexualized Drug Use

OUT LGBT Wellbeing | Johannesburg, South Africa | [May 2024 – Present]

Key Responsibilities:

1. Guideline Development and Implementation

- **Coordinate Clinical Guidelines Development Committee:** Coordinated monthly meetings with stakeholders (OUT, Anova Health, NACOSA, SANAC, Department of Health, WHO, and SANPUD) to develop South Africa's chemsex guidelines. Focused on care packages including drug combinations, harm reduction measures, and treatment guidelines for recommendation to South African HIV Clinicians Society.
- **Ethical Clearance and Research:** Secured ethical clearance from the University of Pretoria for values and preference research, conducting interviews and collecting input from key populations to inform guideline themes.
- **Fieldwork Coordination:** Conducted key informant interviews and focus groups in Johannesburg and Cape Town to gather data for research and guideline development.
- **Framework Finalization:** Coordinated drafting and editing of the guidelines, ensured input from committee members, and facilitated in-person meetings for guideline finalization.
- **Publication and Promotion:** Coordinated the publication of finalized guidelines to the SA HIV Clinician Society and developed promotional materials to raise awareness. Attended national and international conferences to disseminate research and project outcomes.

2. Policy Advocacy and Indicator Development

- **Stimulant Use Indicators:** Partnered with NACOSA, SANPUD, and the Medical Research Council to establish indicators for stimulant use, addressing demographics, mental health, and human rights issues.
- **Advocacy for Harm Reduction:** Actively participated in advocacy meetings with SANAC and PEPFAR to push for drug decriminalization and harm reduction strategies.
- **Civil Society Workshops:** Organized workshops with civil society groups and stakeholders (UNODC, SANAC, PEPFAR, NACOSA) to review and propose changes to the South African Drug Master Plan, including integrating harm reduction priorities.

3. Training and Capacity Building

- **Trainings for Partner Organizations:** Led training sessions for Uthingo Network, Gender Dynamix and COSUP (Community Oriented Substance Use Program) on chemsex issues and harm reduction strategies. Consistently developed training materials and implemented trainings learning management system.
- **Building Relations with the Central Drug Authority:** Established a working relationship with the Central Drug Authority to support the inclusion of harm reduction in the national drug policy.

4. Service Development and Technology Integration

- **Pilot Harm Reduction Service:** Coordinated the development of a direct service pilot program focused on harm reduction for stimulant users.
- **AI-Driven Chatbot:** Developed and launched a WhatsApp Chatbot using artificial intelligence to provide harm reduction information, including drug combinations, safe administration practices, and overdose prevention.
- **User Engagement and Monitoring:** Implemented demand creation activities through social media platforms, monitored service usage, and compiled monthly reports on user interactions.

5. Research, Knowledge Sharing, and Networking

- **Research Dissemination:** Shared findings and insights from chemsex and harm reduction programs with international peers and policy implementers.
- **Conference Participation:** Presented research and project outcomes at the 12th International Health and Hepatitis Conference in Substance Users in Athens, Greece, fostering international collaboration.

Key Achievements:

- Successfully contributed to the WHO-endorsed harm reduction research study, impacting local and global harm reduction policies.
- Researched, quality assured and led development of first direct service chatbot and helpline for drug-user harm reduction.
- Led harm reduction workshops adopted by public health institutions, significantly enhancing service provision for at-risk PWUD populations.

Social Media Officer

OUT LGBT Wellbeing | Johannesburg, South Africa | [May 2021 – April 2024]

- Managed and engaged with audiences across (12) twelve social media platforms (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc), building and optimizing public health brand presence.
- Analyzed digital activity and KPIs, producing weekly, monthly, and quarterly reports on social media performance and campaign outcomes.
- Conducted competitor analysis and social media audits to enhance brand positioning, increase engagement, and identify growth opportunities.
- Collaborated with internal and external stakeholders to ensure cohesive messaging across digital platforms.

Key Achievements:

- Achieved a 75% increase in client messaging and a 36% growth in social media following over a 15-month period through targeted social media strategies.
 - Developed CRM systems to support the health-project database, improving data accessibility and client service efficiency across all national branches.
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MSM Data Capturer / Monitoring & Evaluation Assistant

OUT LGBT Wellbeing | Johannesburg, South Africa | [December 2019 – April 2021]

- Conducted data entry, cleaning, and analysis to support monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities, ensuring data integrity for project tracking.
- Assisted in the development of M&E protocols to optimize data collection, accuracy, and reporting across projects. Conducted health information systems (Tier.Net, RedCap, etc) quality assurance and reporting.
- Analysed program data to produce insights on project outcomes, aligning with the organization's strategic health goals and contributing to evidence-based improvements.
- Supported the implementation of data management systems that improved accessibility and reporting efficiency for cross-functional teams.

Key Achievements:

- Enhanced data quality by 20% through improved entry protocols and training, contributing to more effective impact assessments.
 - Provided M&E insights that helped optimize project implementation and resource allocation.
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Education

Bachelor of Arts (plus Honours) in Theology & Religious Studies
University of Chester / Chester, United Kingdom

Skills

Professional Skills:

- Project Coordination (budgets, staff, monitoring and evaluation, SOP & tool development)
 - Multi-stakeholder Collaboration
 - Policy Advocacy and Development
 - Harm Reduction and public health research, learning management and training.
 - Data Collection and Research Coordination
 - AI and Technology-Enhanced Service Development
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Certifications

- Digital Marketing
 - Social Media Strategy
 - Introduction to Data-Led Decision Making
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References

Available upon request.