Get involved with MicroResearch!

We are looking for Physicians and Allied Health Professionals to become coaches or reviewers of MicroResearch

What is MicroResearch?
The goal of MicroResearch is to improve local research capacity in front-line health workers in Africa. Microfinance has shown that a small infusion of capital can “prime the pump” to creative local economic productivity. In a similar way, MicroResearch has proven effective in promoting a similar bottom-up strategy to find sustainable solutions to local health challenges through local community focused research. Through mentoring, small-scale research funding and hands-on training promotes small research projects that improve research skills across the entire health-care provider spectrum to unleash a culture of inquiry.

Examples of Micro Research Projects:
- Establishing the knowledge levels, attitudes and beliefs surrounding cervical cancer, HPV and its vaccine amongst mothers of pre-sexual debut girls and healthcare workers to inform a public communication plan in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Efficacy of Glutamine Supplementation on the outcome of children admitted with persistent diarrhea to Mulago hospital, Uganda.
- Ponseti clubfoot management: experience with the Steenbeek Foot Abduction Brace.
- The role of community health nursing in identifying the health needs of women and children in Katete cell- Mbarara municipality, Uganda

How can you be involved?
Twice per year MicroResearch receives 5-6 grant applications and Microresearch is looking for healthcare workers from various disciplines to review these applications. You don’t need to have experience in the African country as there will be 1 reviewer from a low/middle income country who will review for context. MicroResearch is looking for healthcare workers from a variety of fields to support with content. The MicroResearch program funds grants up to $2,000 CAD.
You can get involved in one of two ways:

1. **Reviewer** - You will read and review a 4 page grant application for content. The time commitment is approximately **20-30 minutes** to complete this review.

2. **Coach** - You will assist the project team in East Africa as they develop their MicroResearch question and proposal. The time commitment is less than 1 hour per week for the duration of 2-4 months. Each MicroResearch group will be linked remotely (through email, Skype) to a Canadian coach who has knowledge of the area of their interest. Each project will result in a publication of a PubMed indexed article with the coach as a contributing author.

**To get involved:**
When a MicroResearch grant is received, potential coaches and reviewers will be contacted for availability. Projects will be matched to a reviewer or coach depending on your profession (ex. MD, Midwife, Nurse, PT, OT, Psychologist), and any area of expertise (ex. Obstetrics, General Paediatrics, NICU, Nutrition, Health Promotion, Immunology, Infectious Diseases etc.)

**Additional Activities:**
MicroResearch also provides two-week hands-on workshops in Africa where 20 to 30 participants are taught practical research skills in through an established curriculum. Established coaches and reviewers are invited to lead these workshops. A small travel stipend may be available.

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