

Disability in South Western Sydney: Experiences of the Iraqi and Syrian refugee communities

Research Assistant Eligibility Criteria

We are currently recruiting an Arabic-speaking Research Assistant for a study in South Western Sydney. The role will involve conducting interviews with people from Iraq and Syria about the experiences of people from a refugee background who have disability.

We are seeking someone who meets the following criteria:

- Can speak and read and write in both English and Arabic
- At least two years of university training in health, psychology, social science, or similar (overseas qualifications are acceptable)
- Demonstrated understanding of cultural and ethical issues relevant to the conduct of research with refugees
- Demonstrated ability to conduct research interviews and good communication skills with a diverse range of individuals and groups.
- Well-developed computer skills, including Microsoft Office suite
- Available during normal working hours, with some flexibility regarding days and times and a current unrestricted NSW driver's license

In addition, the following characteristics are desirable, but not essential:

- Knowledge or experience of working with people with a disability and their families
- Level 3 training or accreditation as an interpreter or translator
- Able to speak other language/s spoken by refugees from Syria or Iraq (e.g. Assyrian).

Selection Process

1. Applicants who meet the above criteria need to complete an Expression of Interest form (included in this information package) and email it along with your resume to Angela Dew at a.dew@unsw.edu.au by **15th March 2019**.
2. Selected applicants will be invited to attend an interview.
3. The successful applicant will sign a contract with the University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney) to work as a casual Research Assistant between February and May 2019. It is expected that between 125 and 150 hours of work will be completed over this time period.

Statement of Duties

The Research Assistant will be required to:

- Attend training and supervision sessions with investigators from UNSW Sydney and the NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS).
- Develop systems and procedures and documentation to conduct the study.
- Telephone potential participants to invite them to the study, and schedule interviews with those who agree to take part.
- Obtain written informed consent from participants.
- Conduct interviews in Arabic with community representatives, people with a disability, and family members of people with a disability.
- Check the accuracy of translated materials, including any transcriptions completed by others.
- Keep accurate, written records and timesheets of all work completed for the study.
- Depending on qualifications and experience, there may be also be opportunities to assist with data analysis.

Rates of Payment

The role will be classified as a Research Assistant Level 6 (Step 1) under UNSW Australia (Professional Staff) Enterprise Agreement 2015. Pay will be \$57.45 per hour (inclusive of base rate and 25% casual loading).

In addition, the Research Assistant will be reimbursed for car mileage when travelling to and from interviews at a rate of 66 cents per kilometer.

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Reporting Lines

The study is a collaboration between STARTTS, UNSW Sydney, NSW Refugee Health, South Western Sydney Local Health District, the Children's Hospital at Westmead, and Settlement Services International. Each service provider will nominate a small number of people to take part in the study.

The Research Assistant will report directly to Dr Angela Dew from UNSW and Shakeh Momartin from STARTTS, with final oversight provided by Mariano Coello from STARTTS.

The Research Assistant will liaise directly with the Principal Investigator of each site regarding the recruitment of participants from their site, and the appropriate locations for interviews. However, any other questions or issues should be directed to Angela and Shakeh. There will be an immediate follow up in case of any distress as a consequence of the study. Experienced counsellors and therapists will be available to debrief participants if needed, without delay.

Contractual Arrangements

Casual employment means a person is engaged and paid by the hour.

A casual employee does not receive sickness benefits or annual leave. Instead, a casual employee receives a casual loading of 25% on top of the base rate.

The University will make employer superannuation contributions for casual employees to UniSuper in accordance with the Enterprise Agreement.