

**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Branch Office Damascus, Syria**

**Vacancy Announcement No. UNHCR/VN/ 2017/69
Internal/External Circulation**

Position Title: Assistant Community-Based Protection Officer (PSS)	Position Level: NOA	Date Issued: 13/11/2017
Position No.: 10027503	Report To: Protection Officer (Child)	Closing Date: 27/11/2017
Section/ Unit: Protection	Duty Stations: Damascus	Contractual Status: Fixed-Term Appointment

Availability of the Post: Immediately

Accountability

- Effective and timely support is provided to the formulation of a clear and coherent protection and solutions oriented PSS strategy which is based on an age, gender and diversity analysis and reflects the Organization's global, regional and country level priorities.
- The participation of persons of concern is assured through continuous assessments and evaluations using participatory, rights and community-based approaches, which inform protection and assistance programming and ensure that UNHCR meets its commitments to accountability to persons of concern.
- National protection capacities are improved in PSS prevention and response through direct engagement, research and advocacy with all relevant external interlocutors.
- PSS needs are immediately identified and addressed through direct intervention, advocacy and public exposure.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Establish and maintain a network with national and international NGO partners and communities of concern, as well as government and other stakeholders, to develop community-owned strategies to address psychosocial needs.
- Oversee mapping and analysis of psychosocial risks to communities of concern as well as their capacities and resources for community-based and self-support initiatives in PSS.
- Coordinate the PSS response across relevant sectors and working groups, and ensure its mainstreaming into relevant activities in line with the IASC MHPSS guidelines and the overall protection strategy.
- Ensure close cooperation with the Health Unit which is responsible for the mental health response.
- Provide technical guidance and support to field offices, focal points on PSS and general protection staff as well as partners.
- Ensure that psychosocial activities are integrated in programme formulation at the agency and HRP level.
- Contribute to the development of PSS operational guidelines and tools, set relevant standards, and disseminate PSS material to support field offices in monitoring PSS activities.
- Organize regular field missions to monitor and evaluate the implementation of community-based PSS activities and ensure their conformity with participatory, community-based and age, gender and diversity approaches.
- Provide periodic qualitative and quantitative reports, analysis and recommendations related to PSS.
- Participate in building the capacity of PSS focal points in field offices and among partner staff by designing and facilitating capacity building activities on PSS subjects.
- Undertake other related tasks as requested by the direct supervisor.

Authority

- Contribute to the development of a community-based protection strategy in the area of PSS, project submissions and the budget for endorsement by the Assistant Representative (Protection) or the Representative.
- Chair meetings on PSS topics with partners.
- Intervene with authorities on PSS-related issues.
- Negotiate with local counterparts, partners and populations of concern.

Qualification Required

Education and Skills:

- Education: Undergraduate degree (equivalent of a BA/BS) in International Development, Human Rights, International Social Work, Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, or other clearly related disciplines.
- Very good knowledge of local language and local institutions.

Experience:

- Minimum 1 year professional experience in community services, PSS, social work or/and human rights or related responsibilities in the government, NGO or international organisations.

Languages:

- Fluency in English and Arabic.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS & COMPETENCIES:

- Diverse field operational experience.
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills.
- Proven communication skills, both oral and written.
- Demonstrated knowledge of community communication and engagement approaches.
- Training experience (in the field of PSS) is an asset.
- Understanding of and demonstrated competencies in forced displacement and protection, particularly PSS prevention and response, child protection, SGBV, gender equality, and the application of the age, gender and diversity policy.

For Syrian or Syrian Palestinian only

Please apply in writing (Personal History Form, CV and application/motivation letter), indicating vacancy announcement number, position title and preferred location to:

Attention Vacancy No: UNHCR/VN/2017/69, Assistant Community-Based Protection Officer (PSS), Damascus

Applications: must be submitted by e-mail to the address indicated below:

Human Resources <SYRDAHUMANRES@unhcr.org> No hard copies (paper applications) will be accepted. Applications must be submitted with reference to the Title, vacancy announcement number and Position number to be mentioned clearly in the subject of application's e-mails. Applications received will not be acknowledged, only the successful candidates will be notified of the outcome of the competition, and will be invited for a written test and an interview.

Personal History Form is attached or can be downloaded from:

http://www.unhcr.org/sy/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2017/10/UNHCR_Personal_History_Form_October-2017.docm

Personal History Form is mandatory and should be SIGNED by applicant.

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