Research Assistant

2018-2019 Academic Year

Medical Passports for Foster Care Children

The College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville is seeking a research assistant (RA) interested in qualitative research methods to support a technology-focused study. Approximately 500,000 children are in foster care each year in the US. A majority of foster care children experience serious health problems, including physical conditions, mental health problems, and disabilities, combined with exposure to prior maltreatment in the form of physical abuse, sexual abuse, and/or neglect. Yet, children commonly enter the foster care system with no medical information or history. Consequently, their health care is often very fragmented. Although several states have implemented medical passports (i.e., portable electronic medical record) as an approach to improve continuity of care, many states such as Tennessee have not. What we know about the care delivered in states (with and) without medical passports is limited to anecdotal evidence. This project aims to understand the experience of clinicians and social workers in delivering care/services for foster children during an initial encounter in the absence of a medical passport at the Vine School Health Center in Knoxville, TN.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The RA will work with a multidisciplinary team of nurses and social workers. The RA will be involved in all phases of the qualitative research design including the IRB application, literature review, participant recruitment, data collection, data analysis, and dissemination.

Qualifications:

- Current graduate student enrolled at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Attention to detail
- Strong organizational and time management skills
- Ability to work independently and as a member of the team
- Flexibility in adapting to the needs of a dynamic research study
- Experience with qualitative interviewing, preferred
- Experience with open-coding-oriented qualitative data analysis, preferred

Compensation and Time Commitment:

The pay rate for this position is $20/hr. The weekly time commitment is 5 hours/week with approximately 10 weeks during fall 2018 and 10 weeks during spring 2018.

Send resume and cover letter to Dr. Lisa Lindley at llindley@utk.edu by August 31, 2018