



Opportunity Profile

Executive Director

Medical Benevolence Foundation



ABOUT MEDICAL BENEVOLENCE FOUNDATION

Since 1963 Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) has worked with indigenous health care institutions throughout the world. MBF has focused on those institutions in the poorest countries and in the neediest areas to help bring the Gospel in service “to the least of these.” Every day this year nearly 10,000 people will receive loving and compassionate care from a Presbyterian Church partner’s medical ministry. Church members, churches, and other partner organizations are assisted in their efforts to support and be involved in meaningful medical mission in Christ’s name.

A mother in Malawi carrying a gravely ill child rushes to the nearest hospital for help where she is turned away because she is poor and cannot pay. When she arrives at Embangweni Hospital¹, her child is promptly diagnosed with malaria and treated with antimalarial drugs and a blood transfusion. That afternoon the child is sitting up eating porridge. Support sent through MBF provides the miracle of restored life and health through Christian love and compassion to children such as this every day.

A businessman in India who needs open heart surgery can be diagnosed and treated in his own hometown at the Miraj Medical Heart Center², funded by generous support through MBF. Ongoing high-tech cardiac care provides the hospital with funds for community outreach and services to the poor.

An infant in Congo is suffering from malnutrition. She is brought to the Good Shepherd Hospital³ in Tshikaji, Congo. Staff members there treat her immediate medical needs while her mother is trained in the John Knox nutritional center to prevent recurrence of this condition by using foods such as the leaves from the Maringa tree.

A young man who has lost a limb in the Haitian earthquake was brought to the Johanniter International Assistance program. There he was evaluated and treated by a team of health care workers that provides psychological and physical therapy for patients who have lost limbs. One of the members of this team is Dana Saint Fleur. Dana is one of the few bachelor’s degree level nurses trained in Haiti⁴. She earned her degree from the nursing school built and supported with funds raised by MBF in partnership with the Haiti Nursing Foundation.

There are many opportunities to meet critical medical needs in the world today. MBF’s goals are to continue to support the work that now exists while reaching out to initiate new partnerships in areas in need of this form of Christian witness. For instance, the Presbyterian Church of East Africa is seeking to bring the gospel, including medical service, into areas of eastern Kenya where the church does not yet have a strong presence.

¹ See video at <http://blip.tv/file/2329963/>

² Read more at <http://www.wanlesshospital.org/cardiothe.htm>

³ Learn more at http://www.mbfoundation.org/missionconnection/mc_fall04.pdf

⁴ Learn more about Dana at: http://haitinursing.org/images/August_appeal_FINAL_sm.pdf

The need for medical mission is great. There are places on the globe where there is one physician for every 50,000 people (in the US it is 133 physicians per 50,000 people)⁵. Programs in community health and community development offer significant opportunities to ease the burden of illness and disease while sharing Christ's love and compassion for the poor. Existing partner church medical programs have ongoing needs. Many are without running water and electricity. Others must pay staff inadequate wages and do without essential supplies and medication because of insufficient funds. Qualified professionals are being forced to leave their ministries with mission hospitals and health care centers to seek work that will support them and their families. Nearly 50 years after its founding, MBF still has a vital role to play in providing health and healing in the name of Christ.

HISTORY

The Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) was created in 1963 to partner with the Presbyterian Church (USA) to support the medical work of its international church partners located in developing countries. Since 1963 hundreds of long-term medical mission personnel, thousands of short-term hours of service, and millions of dollars-worth of donated supplies for hospitals and clinics have been sent to medical mission partners in these countries.

In addition, MBF continues to provide very substantial funding for projects/programs and obtains funding from both donors and United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) to help our partners construct medical facilities and nursing schools. Finally, MBF has consistently worked to develop the capacity of our partners to sustain their own medical systems. This had led to a significant investment in community health programs and an emphasis on funding schools and training programs for health workers.

MISSION STATEMENT

MBF with the Presbyterian Church (USA) proclaims and demonstrates the gospel of Jesus Christ by encouraging and supporting the healing ministries of our worldwide partners.

THE POSITION

Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Executive Director (ED) will serve as the senior executive who exercises overall leadership for MBF. The ED will profess a personal commitment to Christ as demonstrated by active involvement in a community of faith and demonstrated spiritual growth. The ED will lead the planning, management and administrative responsibilities of the organization to ensure that the mission and critical objectives are fulfilled.

Currently, the direct reports to the ED are:

- Chief Operating Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Development Representatives (2)
- Marketing/Development (1)

⁵ See World Health Organization data at http://www.who.int/whosis/whostat/EN_WHS2011_Part2.pdf

The ED is the primary spokesperson for MBF. The ED will be central in exploring, developing, and maintaining strategic alliances and cooperative ministry initiatives. The ED must lead a diplomatic but deliberate effort to increase the name recognition of MBF to current and potential constituent groups.

The ED will set the tone and direction for development/fund raising; playing an expanding role in major donor and foundation solicitations.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS/EXPECTATIONS

- Provide leadership in securing financial resources through the personal solicitation of funds and the management and implementation of a well-defined development plan.
- Provide leadership and supervision to the MBF development and management team, inspiring their best efforts in achieving MBF goals.
- Have a strong skill set and a proven track record in cultivating major donors and in managing or guiding organizations that depend on major donor revenue streams.
- Ensure oversight and management of the financial affairs of the organization including, but not limited to, the creation and execution of the annual budget, careful monitoring of revenues and expenses, and maintaining high financial management standards.
- Be able to work long hours, demonstrate a high energy level, and work under pressure.
- Be able to inspire and motivate groups of individuals to support MBF through skills in effective public speaking and compelling presentation development.
- Be outgoing and available to donors, board members; genuinely enjoying interacting with people, and capable of being MBF's lead ambassador.
- Be able to work collaboratively with a board of trustees.

DESIRED EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND SKILLS

The ideal candidate should have a minimum of:

- a bachelor's degree;
- ten years of experience; and
- a demonstrated record of achievement in board-governed, mission-driven organizations;

An ideal candidate will have a passion for and experience with cross-cultural relationships and an international mission organization.

LOCATION/TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

The corporate offices of MBF are located in Houston, Texas. It is desirable, though not required, that the ED resides in the Houston area.

Travel will likely comprise 30-35% of the ED's time, so proximity to a major airline hub is more critical than living in Houston. The successful candidate must be comfortable and savvy traveling domestically and abroad (primarily in developing countries).

WHERE IS THE CANDIDATE TODAY?

The successful candidate could come from a variety of vocations or careers. However, we believe that someone from one of the following areas will likely have the skills and experiences that are needed to lead MBF to the next level of growth and impact. The candidate may approximate one of these descriptions:

- A successful business executive who has been public-sector oriented and/or charity oriented, has participated in public sector, charity, and/or political fundraising, and is ready to pursue working with an organization like MBF
- A college president, skilled in major donor fundraising, who is ready to change his/her focus.
- A vice president of a large development-focused organization who has demonstrated skill in major donor development and is ready to become the CEO.
- A denominational executive who has demonstrated success in the development/ advancement function of his/her denomination.

PROCESS OF CANDIDACY

If after reading this Opportunity Profile you sense that the gifts and experience God has given you is a good match for MBF, we invite you to begin the inquiry process. All candidate information and conversations are handled confidentially. You may contact Laura Coverstone at any stage of the process to get more information and to ask questions. Her contact information is below.

Please submit a resume in Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format. When formatting your resume for this position, please include the following for each position that you have held during the past fifteen years.

- Name of company/organization
- Location of your position
- Job title
- Years in the position
- Position to which you reported and positions that reported to you
- Primary responsibilities and achievements
- Aspects of the position which most directly prepared you to be the Executive Director of MBF
- Reason for leaving

Please do not be overly concerned with brevity in assembling this package of materials. While we don't want to read volumes, we do want you to take the time to share enough meaningful information to allow us to get to know you and why you would make a strong Executive Director for MBF.

Over the years, we have found that one can learn only so much from the resume. In order to help us get a more complete picture of you and your interest in MBF, provide us with responses to the following:

- 1) Tell us about your faith journey and involvement in the local church and other church-related organizations.
- 2) Using the MBF website, this document, and other research, what about the ED position attracts you to this position? What elements create apprehension in your mind?
- 3) If you are coming from the private sector, tell us about how you have approached this move towards the non-profit sector.
- 4) Are you currently and/or have you served on non-profit boards? Have you ever chaired a non-profit board? If you responded yes to either of these questions, tell us about your experience, including highlights and any not-so-pleasant experiences, etc.

Provide the names and contact information (telephone numbers and email addresses) for four references who know you and your career well enough to comment on your suitability for this role. (References will only be contacted after we have requested and received your permission to do so.)

Submit this information in Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format to:

Laura Coverstone
SIMA® International
resumes@simainternational.com
Phone: (615) 261-4623

In the subject line, please write "Executive Director-Medical Benevolence Foundation"