

Research Associate

Young love's mission is to connect youth to proven life-saving information. Our vision is to enable over 1 million youth to thrive through delivery of multiple evidence-based programs. We are at an inflection point in our growth: we have over 100 staff, three programs in health and education, a cumulative reach of nearly 100,000 youth, and an annual budget of just over \$2 million. Our culture is unique: we are always learning, have a dynamic, youthful team, a fierce commitment to measurement and evidence, and work hand-in-hand with government. In a given day our leaders will sing and dance, negotiate MOUs, and spend dedicated time with the field team in schools.

The Role:

The Research Associate (RA) will play a role in ensuring that the organization evolves existing programs and develops new programs while maintaining the highest commitment to evidence. The position offers an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on experience and to have a significant responsibility in a vibrant organization undertaking cutting-edge research. In collaboration with the Research team, the Research Associate will support the ongoing project design, as well as the implementation of the project (s) for which they are hired. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring activities are implemented with fidelity to the research design, assisting in the planning and coordination of all project activities as well as analyzing project data using assigned statistical packages (e.g. Stata).

Primary Duties & Responsibilities:

- Support in coordinating and executing the implementation of all Young Love research projects with fidelity to the research design
- Assist with the design of program methodology, study instruments (e.g. surveys, discussion guides), field protocols and standard operating procedures
- Clean, manage, and analyze data in Stata or equivalent software, producing relevant insights and conclusions
- Organize and maintain clean, easy-to-use databases for all field work, including survey data, monitoring data, administrative data, etc.
- Support production of reports and communication of data for academic and non-academic audiences
- Conduct literature reviews/background research on potential programs for Young Love
- Support with integrating electronic data collection into the department's M&E systems, including programming digital surveys, training facilitators, and managing data collection
- Collaborate across multiple departments and contribute to the growth of a cutting-edge rigorous M&E unit that fuses research and practice
- Support and mentor junior level staff on technical workflows
- Any other research-relates task as needed

Qualifications:

Individual must possess a Bachelor's degree, ideally in economics, mathematics, public health, or a related discipline from an internationally recognized university. Preferably, one have 1 – 2 years relevant experience cleaning and analyzing large datasets; familiarity with randomized evaluations and econometric methods. Working knowledge of Stata or comparable statistical software programme e.g. R, Python, etc. They must have advanced working knowledge of all Microsoft Office applications and a demonstrated ability to manage various concurrent tasks effectively and coordinate between multiple colleagues and departments. Strong writing skills, working with survey data, visual aesthetic and data visualization is preferred. **We are looking to bring on two Research Associates. One position is global and open to all nationalities/locations of residents, and one is dedicated for a Kenyan national with local residence preferred.**

Characteristics:

- **Communication Skills** - Strong written and verbal communications skills are essential, in particular, the ability to communicate complex thoughts and ideas simply and effectively and tailor communications to the audience.
- **Ability to create “structure out of nothing”** – Strong ability to turn a visual reality or imagined outcome into a codified set of steps, actions and goals on paper.
- **Detail oriented** – Can process, record and react to details relating to effective implementation and produce written work which captures “the devil in the details.”
- **Self-Starter** - The individual must be a highly motivated self-starter who can creatively ensure that the engagement between different delegations (mainly Innovation, Curriculum and Research) is cohesive, while ensuring that the main decisions are evidence-based.
- **Energy, motivation and stamina** - The role can be demanding and, at times, subject to external pressures for timely completion. The candidate must be adaptive, creative, organized, and highly motivated.

Time period: 2-year, with potential for extension pending performance.

Location: Flexible