Opportunities for volunteers, interns, and advisors

Purpose of this document

Multiple people have reached out to us with the explicit wish to help our organization achieve its mission. Here is a list of the most important projects that either a volunteer, advisor or a working group ("Ring") could help us to do. Some of these intern/ volunteering positions require specific experiences and skills, others primarily require problem-solving abilities and general intelligence.

About Family Empowerment Media

We are a new family planning non-profit aimed at enabling informed family planning decisions through clear, compelling, and accurate radio-based communication. We were established after both co-founders partook in the Charity Entrepreneurship incubation program. Our charity intervention was chosen after 188 different family planning interventions were evaluated based on their cost-effectiveness, evidence base, and potential to scale. We now reach 5.6 million listeners in northern Nigeria with our programs. We believe that FEM can have a tremendous effect on the lives of mothers and children in the regions we work, and we are grateful that you have expressed an interest in supporting us to reach this goal.

About volunteering for us

Currently, nine people are working directly for FEM, and around 15 people are working on our project locally through our partner organization iDevPro. We have had around 20 interns with us since we started, and we have been very happy with their engagements.

We are looking for volunteers who are particularly independent. We have designed the volunteering positions in a way that should make it possible for volunteers to largely be working on the project by themselves or with a group of people outside of the organization.

We believe that support could be disproportionality impactful now. The reason for this is that good advice or feedback could impact our strategy for the better. In more established organizations, it is rare to have the opportunity to impact decisions in this way.

Express your interest here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd9U3NOFCY7eK94IO16bEijeSvUzXUsQ5cVE88OzSLKsYb4iA/viewform

Impact category 1: Program Implementation

Formative Research Advisor/ Volunteer

Priority: MEDIUM	Time required: 1-40 hours in total. Experts could provide valuable input through a meeting with us. Other supporters can support as described below.
Project: We have developed a formative research strategy outlining how we are planning to get the information necessary to develop effective programs. Formative research advisors could read up on relevant studies and come up with suggestions for improvements to the strategy.	
Deliverable: You will receive our current formative research strategy. The deliverable is a strategy in the same format with relevant updates, and an accompanying document explaining why the relevant updates were made.	
Skills & experience required: Independent & critical thinker, an understanding of the cost-knowledge tradeoffs inherent in researching an issue, good written communication skills.	
Skills & experience that could help: Expert in area, a really good understanding of how to conduct qualitative research, experience conducting qualitative research.	

M&E Advisor/ Volunteer

Priority: HIGH	Time required: 1-40 hours. Experts could provide valuable input through a meeting with us. Other supporters can support as described below.
Project: We have an M&E strategy outlining how we are planning to measure the effect of our programs. The M&E advisors/ volunteers could come up with suggestions for improvements to the strategy. The M&E advisors/ volunteers could also give feedback on surveys that will be developed.	
Deliverable: You will receive our current formative research strategy. The deliverable is a strategy in the same format with relevant updates, and an accompanying document explaining why the relevant update was made.	
Skills & experience required: Independent & critical thinker, an understanding of the difficulties of conducting M&E on a mass media campaign, good written communication skills.	
Skills & experience that could help: Expert in area, a really good understanding of how to conduct mass media M&E, experience conducting M&E.	

Radio Communications Advisor/ Volunteer

Priority: MEDIUM	Time required: 1 hour- 40 Experts could provide valuable input through a meeting with us. Other supporters can support as described below.
Project: We will be developing scripts for radio dramas aimed at promoting family planning and birth spacing. We are looking for someone who can give us feedback on script dialogs prior to media production.	
Deliverable: We will send you scripts for our radio dramas. You will send a document/ have a meeting with us to give feedback on what can be improved.	
Skills, experience required: Experience developing entertaining material aimed at promoting healthy behaviors either through TV or radio.	
Skills, experience that could help: High level of expertise in this area.	

Qualitative Research Intern

Priority: MEDIUM	Time required: 5-15 hours per week for ~ 5 weeks
Project: Soon we will be conducting formative research in the field. We are looking for an intern who can support us in analyzing the data we will get from our focus group interviews and key informants' interviews. You will be receiving transcripts from these interviews daily and will help us to tease out the most important barriers to target in our program.	
Deliverable: We would like the research intern to give us daily / bi-daily reports on the most important findings, and drafts concept notes.	
Skills, experience required: Highly independent & critical thinker, qualitative research skills.	
Skills, experience that could help: Preferably, we are looking for a student with a relevant academic background. Experience with quantitative research, understanding of the local context of Kano.	

Quantitative Research Intern

Priority: MEDIUM	Time required: 5-15 hours per week for ~ 4 weeks (x 2).
Project: We will be conducting the baseline and endline M&E of our pilot. We are looking for an intern who can support us in analyzing the data we will get from these surveys.	
Deliverable: A rapport showing the results of the baseline and endline M&E of our Pilot. Analysis of the effect of our Pilot.	
Skills & experience required: Highly independent & critical thinker, qualitative research skills, very reliable.	
Skills & experience that could help: Preferably, we are looking for a student with a relevant academic background, like statistics, maths, CS, or M&E.	

General research volunteer

Priority: HIGH	Time required: 5-15 hours a week.
Project: We would like to work with an intelligent and highly critical volunteer who could look into important research questions as they come up. This desk research will help support our decision-making. One example of such a research question is "what are early predictors of long-term behavior change with regards to family planning."	
Deliverable: Short 1-2 page summaries of the relevant literature on the question.	
Skills & experience required: Highly independent & critical thinker, qualitative research skills.	
Skills & experience that could help: Experience working as a researcher within the cause area.	

Impact category 2: Communication and Fundraising

Copyeditor

Priority: VER HIGH	Time required: 2-6 hours per week
Project: Ensuring that our writing is clear, compelling and free from mistakes is crucial for our organisation's continued success. We are looking for a volunteer with great communication skills, who can read and edit fundraising proposals, strategy documents, our newsletter.	
Deliverable: We will send you drafts for important documents, and you will send them back to us improved.	
Skills & experience required: Exceptional communications skills, a track record of success with regards to writing well.	
Skills & experience that could help: Experience working as a copy editor.	

Visual Communication Material volunteer

Priority: HIGH	Time required: 1-6 hours per week
Project: The aesthetic expression we have will affect the amount of support we can gather. We are looking for an intern with visual editing skills to improve our website when it needs changing and improve the visuals of fundraising proposals, pamphlets, and other communication materials.	
Deliverable: We will send you drafts for important documents, and you will send them back to us improved.	
Skills & experience required: Experience/ strong interest in developing visual material.	
Skills & experience that could help:	

Impact category 3: Organisation Building

No relevant volunteering positions for the time being