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### **IMMEDIATE OPENING**

### AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY IN AUTISM RESEARCH PROGRAMME

# **Position Overview**

Role: Research Assistant - Implementation Science

Number of Position: 01 (One)

Project: NAMASTE Location: East Delhi

Reports to: Research Associate - Implementation Science

**Time:** Full time (5 days a week)

Remuneration: 3.60 - 4.20 LPA (All staff benefits including EPF, health insurance and gratuity will be

additional as per organizational policy)

Grade: F2/F3 - Junior Officer

# **About Sangath**

Sangath (<a href="www.sangath.in">www.sangath.in</a>) is one of India's leading mental health research non-profit organisation. It was founded in 1996 with its headquarters in Goa; major hubs in Delhi and Bhopal, and programme sites in many parts of the country. Sangath's mission and expertise lies in developing and evaluating mental health interventions to be delivered through existing public systems. Its major thematic areas are: Child development and disability; adolescent health; mental disorders; and ageing. Sangath was awarded the prestigious MacArthur Foundation International Prize for Creative and Effective Institutions in 2008 and the WHO Public Health Champions Award for India in 2016. It has completed a number of randomized controlled trials for mental disorders in India, including the only two autism trials in the country.

# **About the Project**

Neurodevelopment and AutisM in South ASia Treatment and Evidence (NAMASTE) is an exciting new program which will be implemented by Sangath, an Indian not-for-profit working in the field of public health research for over 25 years. NAMASTE will aim to design and implement a flexible evidenced pathway towards universal health coverage for children with Autism, through a programme of research, training and capacity building across India, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

NAMASTE is the result of a 10-years collaboration, Sangath, and the University of Manchester that have carefully adapted the 'Parent-mediated Autism Social Communication Intervention for non-Specialists Plus (PASS Plus), which has shown real-world effectiveness in two initial randomised trials, with large-scale evaluation now within the New Delhi health system. NAMASTE will leverage Sangath's extensive experience with digital training and supervision, which can support both health workers and researchers. NAMASTE will also be collaborating with the World Health Organisation's 'Caregiver Skills Training' (CST) for more general neuro-disability. Care pathway components will include a novel, flexibly staged, digitally enabled, detection protocol (for neurodevelopmental difficulties and autism); combined with a complimentary and evidenced intervention protocol consisting of CST training for general delays and the PASS Plus intervention for autism. In each region and at each stage, community partners and co-applicants will help co-design awareness materials and advise on tool and protocol development.

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## **About the Role**

Sangath is seeking to recruit a **Research Assistant – Implementation Science** for the NAMASTE programme. The role entails managing various implementation research activities, including supporting field-level implementation of study activities, data collection, documentation and analysis. The role will involve regular field visits to Anganwadi Centers and in the community.

# The ideal candidate will be expected to:

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Undertake training in ethical data collection practices and in the use of mobile-based data collection tools.
- Support the translation and documentation of data collection tools and other programme materials from English to Hindi.
- Conduct field-based data collection with Anganwadi workers, health systems, and assigned communities, following all project protocols and data quality standards.
- Ensure timely and accurate daily data entry, cleaning, and organization of collected data.
- Assist in basic data analysis and contribute to the preparation of presentations, reports, and programme documentation.
- Adhere to ethical guidelines and ensure compliance with all relevant organizational policies and procedures.
- Actively participate in programme activities, including meetings, trainings, and joint tasks with the programme team.
- Maintain regular coordination and communication with the Project Research Associate, providing timely updates on progress, challenges, and achievements.
- Undertake additional tasks assigned by the senior programme management team within CDG group projects.
- Participate actively in all Sangath activities, especially those organized by the Child Development Group (CDG).

# **Qualifications & Experience**

## **Essential:**

- Minimum Bachelor's degree in any discipline (preferably Social Work, Public Health, Psychology, Education, or related fields)
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills for working with diverse populations.
- Demonstrated ability to maintain high-quality research documentation and adhere to research protocols.
- Proficiency in spoken and written Hindi and English.
- Competency in using computers and digital tools for data collection, entry, and management (smartphones, laptops and audio/video recorder etc.)
- Willingness to travel locally for data collection and support field operations.

### Desirable:

- Prior experience in field-based data collection or community work.
- Prior experience of working with participant population (caregivers or Anganwadi Workers)
- Experience in scientific writing or drafting research reports.
- Prior experience working with Sangath or similar research-based organizations in the development sector.

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# **How to Apply**

- Interested candidates should email their resume to <u>raghuveer.singh@sangath.in</u> no later than 5:30 PM on December 14th, 2025, with the subject line: Application for RA Implementation Science, Delhi.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the next stage of the selection process.

# **Equal Opportunity**

Sangath is an equal-opportunity employer committed to building a diverse and inclusive team. We value all employees, regardless of gender, caste, religion, disability, or sexual orientation, and encourage applicants from all backgrounds to apply. For this position, we strongly encourage applications from people with disabilities, and these applications will be prioritized given the participatory nature of the project.