

Associate for Oxygen Access

CHAI Liberia Overview

Founded in 2002, by President William J. Clinton and Ira C. Magaziner, the Clinton Health Access Initiative, Inc. (“CHAI”) is a global health organization committed to saving lives, reducing the burden of disease and strengthening integrated health systems in the developing world.

In 2006, CHAI was the first international NGO to help Liberia’s government rebuild after a decade-long civil war in Liberia had killed an estimated 270,000 people, decimated the nation’s health infrastructure and hindered the country’s ability to deliver vital health and social services. The partnership between Liberia’s Ministry of Health (MOH) and CHAI evolved from being HIV specific to addressing cross-cutting health systems challenges. CHAI has since supported the MOH in strengthening supply chain management, health workforce, health financing, and provided technical assistance across various vertical programs including HIV, maternal and neonatal health, sexual and reproductive health, malaria, cancer, essential medicines, and assistive technology.

Oxygen therapy (or respiratory care) can be used to treat any form of hypoxemia—abnormally low level of oxygen in the blood—and has the potential to reduce morbidity and mortality among many patient groups, particularly in vulnerable populations such as newborns, children, and pregnant women. CHAI’s Essential Medicines team has been working to expand access to medical oxygen in countries with high rates of mortality for pediatric pneumonia, and has recently begun work in additional geographies catalyzed by the critical need for oxygen access in the context of the global COVID-19 response. CHAI, along with consortium partners including PATH and JustActions (Every Breath Counts [EBC] Coalition Coordinator), is supporting low and middle-income countries (LMICs) in improving reliable access to a comprehensive respiratory care treatment package, both as part of the immediate COVID-19 response as well as over time to strengthen respiratory care systems in the long term.

CHAI is seeking a high-motivated individual for the position of **Associate for Oxygen Access** to support the government in increasing access to oxygen therapy in Liberia. This position is a unique opportunity to gain experience in health systems strengthening and work across all critical systems building blocks. The Associate will provide technical support across multiple workstreams – national strategy development and costing; procurement, supply chain, and inventory management; clinical training and mentoring; and health information systems. **Specific responsibilities include:**

- Provide technical and coordination support to the Liberia MOH to develop a national strategy or roadmap to scale-up oxygen access, and conduct costing of validated roadmap
- Support establishment of a dedicated ministry working group for oxygen access, and build the capacity of relevant MOH staff in coordination of all oxygen-related activities in the country; act as secretariat to the working group, which may include drafting presentations, meeting agendas, taking meeting minutes
- Support broader advocacy and resource mobilization efforts for oxygen access, e.g. drafting grant proposals, concept notes, presentations, budgets
- Support national quantification exercises for oxygen equipment and supplies
- Integrate oxygen equipment procurement and distribution into existing routine supply chain processes and systems, such as the country’s logistics management information system (LMIS/eLMIS)
- Develop or update national standards and guidelines for oxygen equipment (or biomedical equipment [BME]) procurement, donation, and regulation
- Develop monitoring & evaluation tools and data collection processes for CHAI and ministry use, at the national, county, and health facility levels
- Support planning and implementation of clinical training and mentoring in oxygen, including revision of training and mentoring materials, tracking training gaps and progress
- Improve the Ministry’s oxygen equipment or BME inventory management systems, through development of inventory management tools, routine maintenance schedules and standard operating procedures (SOPs), and supporting capacity-building of biomedical technicians (BMETs) and facility health workers

- Regularly liaise with MOH units, other government agencies, NGOs and international multilateral organizations for oxygen-related work, and serve as focal person at relevant workshops and meetings
- Lead internal communications on key donor reporting deadlines to relevant team members – work closely with Associate Director of Finance and Administration to ensure activity plans and programmatic budgets are shared proactively; coordinate with PM and Country Leadership to ensure any major risks and challenges for programmatic objectives are escalated and addressed accordingly
- Develop materials and document internal updates to share with other CHAI Liberia and global team members; highlight opportunities for integration and coordination across work streams wherever possible
- Conduct literature reviews and research activities as needed, and undertake other duties related to improving oxygen access in Liberia

The Associate for Oxygen Access will report to CHAI Liberia’s Program Manager and work closely with Country Leadership and other team members, as well as CHAI’s global Essential Medicines Team. This position will be based in Monrovia, with minimal travel to other counties. The duration of assignment will be for an initial period of 6 months.

Qualifications

This position requires an individual with a self-starter attitude who is comfortable working with minimal direction, with the ability to apply systems thinking to their everyday work. The position also requires that the individual be capable of building strong and effective working relationships with a variety of stakeholders in the government, health facilities, and NGOs. The ideal candidate should have the following qualifications:

- University degree in public health, biomedical sciences or engineering, supply chain, or related discipline
- Bachelor's degree and at least 3 years of professional experience in health systems strengthening, or Master’s degree and at least 2 years of relevant experience
- Experience conducting desk and literature reviews; ability to streamline and synthesize large amounts of information into high-quality documents for a wide range of stakeholders
- Experience in convening meetings and facilitating discussions among multidisciplinary group of stakeholders; previous experience working with government stakeholders is a strong plus
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills; high proficiency in MS Office Suite, particularly Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook
- Strong critical thinking skills and ability to problem-solve independently
- Great attention to detail, with exceptional organizational, coordination, and time management skills
- Able to quickly learn and become well-versed in all relevant aspects of oxygen delivery, across components of supply chain, equipment management, human resources and clinical training, etc.
- Understanding of and sensitivity to limitations in low-resource settings
- Prior experience in West Africa or other low-resource settings strongly preferred

Please apply at this link: <https://careers-chai.icims.com/jobs/10441/associate%2c-oxygen-access/job>