

**JOB OPPORTUNITY: Research Coordinator, YSMENA Study**  
Youth Sexual Health and HIV Prevention in Middle Eastern and North African Communities in Canada

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**ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION:**

Brescia University College, a Catholic university college affiliated with Western University, is Canada's only women's university and provides instruction to over 1,400 students. We are a small university in a beautiful setting with a strong sense of mission and a vibrant campus community. In addition, we have access to resources at the much larger Western University. We welcome students, faculty, and staff from all faiths and backgrounds. Information about Brescia may be found on the university website: [www.brescia.uwo.ca](http://www.brescia.uwo.ca).

**INTRODUCTION:**

The *Youth Sexual Health and HIV Prevention in Middle Eastern and North African Communities in Canada* (YSMENA Study) is an innovative, strength-focused, resilience-based, and youth-driven program aimed at reducing HIV vulnerabilities and sexual health disparities among Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) youth, including youth with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations. Since it was initiated in 2019, the YSMENA research program has received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and more recently from the Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research (CANFAR).

**Funded by CANFAR**, we aim to apply community-based participatory principles and peer-led approaches to develop and distribute an electronic-based survey to determine meaningful HIV prevention interventions for youth from diaspora MENA communities in Ontario and British Columbia (BC) that will capture the diverse voices of youth. The goal is to address gaps in research and services on sexual health needs of MENA youth and encourage collaborations for future research initiatives and knowledge translation and exchange.

**Main Research activities:** (1) Designing, piloting and finalizing a survey; (2) survey dissemination in Ontario and BC; (3) survey analysis; and (4) final report writing. Brescia is seeking a **Research Coordinator** to work with the Research Team to design and implement all the proposed research activities and prepare project report(s) for funding partner and community dissemination. **Contract term:** This is a part-time position: 0.4 FTE (2 days/week) for 52-weeks, based on a salary of \$52,000 per year plus 18% for benefits. **Salary/year for this posted part-time position is: \$20,800 (plus benefits).** Some weekend and evening work may apply.

**ACCOUNTABILITY:**

The Research Coordinator will work under the guidance of the YSMENA Study Research Team: Nominated Principal Investigator, Dr. Roula Hawa, Principal Knowledge Users, Fanta Ongoiba of Africans in Partnership Against AIDS and Patience Magagula of Afro-Canadian Network of BC, and Co-Principal Investigators, Dr. Josephine Wong and Dr. Mandana Vahabi of Ryerson University. The Research Coordinator will:

- Report directly to: Nominated Principal Investigator, Dr. Roula Hawa for specific job deliverables and project content issues.
- Report to Dr. Roula Hawa for all administrative, financial, and human resources issues.
- Report to the Research Team on project implementation, progress, outcome and evaluation issues.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Working in collaboration with and under the guidance of the YSMENA Research Team, the Research Coordinator will coordinate and implement all project activities **including but not limited to:**

**1. Project administration:**

- Coordinate the development of a Community Advisory Committee (CAC)
- Coordinate all project related meetings with the Research Team, Peer Research Associates and CAC
- Maintain and distribute minutes of all meetings
- Collect and maintain all relevant documentation on all project administrative activities including financial reporting
- Compile and submit report of project activities as per funders' requirement

## **2. Research Activities:**

- Coordinate ethics submissions for all research protocols
- Coordinate outreach and promotional activities of project in both Ontario and BC
- Recruitment of target group stakeholders to engage in project deliverables in Ontario and BC
- Recruitment of target community members and peer leaders to participate in study
- Prepare research reports and knowledge transfer/exchange tools based on research findings
- Coordinate all research training, data collection, analysis and knowledge transfer activities as per operational plan developed in collaboration with Research Team
- Support the writing of one peer reviewed manuscript under the guidance of the research team and two submissions for conferences.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Master's degree in Health Promotion, Family Studies, Education, Nursing, Social Work and/or related fields or equivalent experience. **Graduate students are welcome.**
- At least two (2) years of experience in health promotion and/or non-profit project coordination
- Sound understanding of the Social Determinants of Health and how this relates to HIV risk
- Knowledge and/or experience on issues faced by the project's target communities (racial and sexual and gender minority youth, and economically marginalized youth)
- Knowledge of the effects of marginalization on health and strategies to promote health equity
- Experience in community-based research using quantitative methodologies
- Proven commitment to social justice and anti-oppression
- Demonstration of effective coordination of community-based action research or equivalent projects
- Demonstrated strong writing skills in preparing research reports and translating research findings into lay language and accessible formats for public dissemination
- Excellent organizational, facilitation and communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to deliver timeline sensitive project outcomes
- Proven ability to work in a collaborative and fast paced environment
- Demonstrated ability to exercise initiative, sound judgment, discretion, and tact
- Proficiency in MS office, Qualtrics/REDCap, outlook and web technology. Proven ability to work with SPSS/Stata highly recommended.

**Application deadline:** Friday, February 18, 2022

**Please submit a detailed resume and cover letter to the attention of:**

**Dr. Roula Hawa, PhD, MSc, MPH, BEd, OCT**

Assistant Professor,

Family Studies & Human Development

School of Behavioural and Social Sciences,

Brescia University College at Western

1285 Western Road, London, ON N6G 1H2 Canada

**Email:** [ysmenastudy@gmail.com](mailto:ysmenastudy@gmail.com)

Brescia University College is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and we encourage women, members of racialized groups/visible minorities, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression to apply. We invite applications from all qualified individuals.

Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process. If you require accommodations for interviews or other meetings, please contact Dr. Roula Hawa at [ysmenastudy@gmail.com](mailto:ysmenastudy@gmail.com). We thank all applicants but only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

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