

## Internship opportunity to support HIV care and research in Zambia

### Now accepting applications for *HIVCorps* 2007-2008

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Established in 1999, the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ) is a non-governmental entity affiliated with the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). CIDRZ's work includes research, training, and service delivery in the areas of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, and maternal-child health. CIDRZ has experienced phenomenal growth, garnering over \$70 million in grant funding for work in Zambia. Its faculty and collaborators are among the world's leading thinkers on issues related to the prevention of HIV transmission from mother-to-child, capacity building, and program management of HIV/AIDS programs in developing countries. Recently published (August 14, 2006) in *The New York Times*, CIDRZ programs were "hailed as a success".

In 2003, CIDRZ created an internship program called *HIVCorps*.<sup>\*</sup> This program is designed to provide students and recent graduates with the opportunity to participate in international HIV program and research initiatives. Interns are attached to new and on-going initiatives, which in the past have included: (1) expansion of pediatric HIV care and treatment, (2) integration of HIV and tuberculosis care, (3) development and implementation of community outreach programs, (4) development of programmatic data systems and clinical monitoring systems, & (5) data management and outcomes analysis

The *HIVCorps* internship is targeted at pre-medical or pre-MPH students (including those graduating from post-baccalaureate programs); medical or nursing students who are able to delay their studies; and recent MPH graduates who wish to gain international experience. A broad range of work experience has proven useful in the past, including project management, public health, community outreach, study coordination, data management, and statistical analysis. Previous international experience is beneficial but not a requirement. Overall, 4-6 expatriate interns will be selected for 2007-2008. Work will be based in Lusaka, Zambia, though travel to various parts of the country may be required.

**Duration:** 10-12 months (with allowances made for medical / graduate school interviews if needed). All applicants must be available to start in mid-July 2007.

**Compensation:** Interns receive a monthly stipend of \$1000; this is expected to cover basic living expenses and international airfare to Zambia. Housing, costs related to program activities, and local and emergency evacuation insurance will also be provided.

**Application Procedures:** Send your CV and a 1-page cover letter to Maria Lombe, administrative coordinator ([maria.lombe@cidrz.org](mailto:maria.lombe@cidrz.org)). Please emphasize your motivation for applying, general areas of interest in HIV and/or international health, and any relevant work experience. Deadline for applications is February 23, 2007. Phone interviews will be conducted for selected applicants; final decisions are expected in April 2007.

**Contact Information:** For additional information or questions regarding *HIVCorps*, contact Maria Lombe. For a more detailed description of CIDRZ activities, please check our website at [www.cidrz.org](http://www.cidrz.org).

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<sup>\*</sup> Chi BH, Fusco H, Goma FM, Zulu I, Simmers E, Stringer JSA. *HIVCorps*: using volunteers to rapidly expand HIV health services across Zambia; *Am J Trop Med Hyg* 2006; 74: 918-21.