# Apply today and you could be... A GP at Monze Mission Hospital in Zambia

### What's the context and purpose of the role?

Zambia continues to be an island of peace and stability in a conflict-ridden region. However, the country suffers from rising poverty and acute depletion of human resources, exacerbated by the impact of the HIV pandemic. The disease burden is felt hardest in rural areas, where services are weak or non-existent. The Zambian government is committed to addressing this with a national strategy. As a general practitioner working in the Monze Mission Hospital, you'll support the introduction of antiretroviral drugs (ARVs) to build a sustainable hospital service for patients living with HIV and AIDS. In addition to this, you'll work to develop the confidence and skills of colleagues. You'll play an important role in strengthening community follow-up, and ensure patients in remote areas can better access primary care.

#### What does the role involve?

- > Overseeing the roll-out of anti-retroviral medication by developing HIV treatment, care and support services
- > Teaching and training staff in basic clinical skills, Zambian treatment protocols and the use of ARVs
- > Supporting hospital staff to manage patient caseloads
- > Strengthening the follow-up of home-based patients and support staff with care in the community
- > Supporting the care and treatment of acutely ill patients, particularly those living with opportunistic infections

## What skills, experience and personal qualities are needed for the role?

You'll be a qualified GP with a minimum of 3 years' post qualification experience. An interest in HIV and AIDS, TB, STIs or public health and some management or planning experience would also be useful. You'll need to be patient, flexible and resourceful, and have good team working skills in order to build relationships with colleagues and members of the community. A positive attitude and good sense of humour always help to integrate into the local culture and get the most out of your volunteering experience!

#### And the rest...

Landlocked Zambia is located between the southern rim of the Zaire Basin and the Zambezi River. The country is home to the majestic Victoria Falls as well as excellent National Parks teeming with a huge variety of wildlife. You'll be based in Monze, a quiet town in the Southern Province of Zambia, located 120 miles south of the capital Lusaka. The average Zambian diet is pretty healthy, often consisting of 'maize flour mash', usually served with a tomato and onion sauce and relish.

We'll ask you to commit to 12-24 months to make a sustainable contribution to our development goals. In return, we'll give you comprehensive support. We'll provide you with extensive training before your placement, provide a living allowance, return flights, accommodation, insurance and more. When you return to your home country, we'll help you to resettle and many of our returned volunteers stay involved with us long after their placement ends.

www.vso.org.uk/volunteering