Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Fellowship for mental health reporting for journalists with 5 years of experience

Greetings from SCARF!

Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF) in Chennai , an NGO working in the field of mental health for over 3 decades ( www.scarfindia.org) and another NGO Sangath ( [www.sangath.org](http://www.sangath.org)) are happy to offer fellowships for a period of 12 months for senior journalists ( those with 5 years or more experience in reporting). The fellowships are open to print and on-line journalists working with national newspapers in English and Hindi.

This fellowship is part of a NIH funded project ESSENCE (Enabling translation of Science to Service to ENhance Depression CarE) , which aims to bridge the gap between Science and Service delivery in India and the neighbouring countries of Nepal, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

We urge you to encourage senior journalists from your media house to apply for the fellowship. Please find appended some features of the Fellowship.

Applications can be sent to mangala@scarfindia .org. For clarifications if any, please feel free to write to us or call Dr.R.Mangala on 9444027388.

IS THERE AN APPLICATION FORM?

Looking forward to your active participation

Dr. R. Thara

Vice Chairman, SCARF & CO-PI ESSENCE

**1.** This is a part time fellowship and will require 20% of the fellow’s time during the tenure which comes with a remuneration of Rs.50,000/- per fellow for the entire duration of the fellowship.

2.Journalists who are in regular employment with media houses are eligible to apply. The tenure of the fellowship is 12 months

3. The fellows will have a 2 day face to face orientation program at the beginning of the tenure at SCARF, Chennai.

* The fellows will have to **publish a minimum of 4 articles** during their fellowship.
* The stories should be well researched original ones and should not be news reporting. Stories can focus on policies, MH budgets, infrastructure, service delivery, laws and legislations, institutions, innovations, research etc. Human interest stories can be part of their stories.
* **There will be 3 senior fellowships every year, for 3 years, open to national level newspapers and magazines, two in English and one in Hindi.**
* All fellows who complete their tenure satisfactorily will receive a certificate from SCARF/ESSENCE.
* Successful fellows can continue to engage with us as mentors for the fellows of the subsequent years.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applicants must:

• Be nationals of ESSENCE countries, i.e., India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Nepal;

• Have completed (undergraduate) graduation or master’s degree in media studies, journalism,

• Has a minimum of 5 years experience as journalist in print/online media**. Experience in health /mental health reporting is desirable but not mandatory.**

• Must be currently working as journalist in print /online media.

• The employers should commit to release 20% of the employee’s time for the fellowship and undertake to publish the stories written in the course of the fellowship.

• Proof of current employment status (i.e., employed), letter of support, and with 1 year of employment commitment from the employers.