



Stakeholder Relations Manager, Data Driven Districts – Johannesburg, South Africa

About the Data Driven Districts (DDD) Program

The [DDD Program](#) uses technology to support improved learner outcomes through the increased quality, availability, analysis and use of education data. DDD aims to provide complete education data in a seamless and accessible way to empower district officials, curriculum providers and educators to enable them to make real-time data-driven decisions and drive informed school interventions towards positive outcomes for learners. The DDD program was piloted by the Department of Basic Education (DBE) in 2012 in partnership with Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, and is implemented by New Leaders Foundation and technology development partners.

The DDD program has scaled since inception and processes learner and educator data for 90% of all schools in South Africa. This data is visualized on the DDD Dashboard, a highly intuitive online tool that provides learner performance data, key education metrics, and corresponding reports at multiple levels from school, circuit, district, province, to national. Our work involves developing and improving on technology to validate, aggregate, analyse and visualize learner and educator data, and engaging closely with government stakeholders and users of the toolset to facilitate their use of data in their education work.

Current opportunity – Stakeholder Relations Manager, DDD Program

Having achieved scale and maturity with high penetration in the South African education sector, the DDD program is at an exciting juncture and poised to achieve greater impact by increasing the depth of usage of the DDD toolset by education officials. To contribute to this next leap in impact, the DDD program is seeking to fill a new position for a Stakeholder Relations Manager to strengthen existing relationships, as well as broaden the DDD program network and champions. We require a strategic thinker with public sector experience and the expertise to provide stakeholders with an accurate view of DDD to raise top-down brand awareness and build trust. This role reports into the DDD Managing Director.

Responsibilities

Drive DDD stakeholder strategy:

- Build collaborative relationships with senior DBE and Provincial Education Department representatives to align on their objectives in the delivery of DDD's mission

- Define DDD strategy for stakeholder engagement, defining stakeholder segmentations and objectives, and desired messaging, engagements, and partnerships to further the DDD mission, strategy and planning
- Building an understanding trends in the education and data-driven innovation sectors and building relationships to position DDD as a critical contributor in the South African education sector
- Drive DDD collaboration with other players in the education and data-driven innovation sectors to drive increased use of data in decision-making in the education sector

Stakeholder relations process coordination and support the DDD Managing Director with developing a network of potential funders to diversify DDD funding base:

- Executing along an advocacy plan with respect to the DBE to ensure effective and sustainable program implementation
- Ensuring senior stakeholders understand and support DDD value proposition
- Managing the integration of stakeholders, relevant MOUs and stakeholders' needs across all workstreams
- Broadening the DDD network to include stakeholders and champions within and external to the public sector

Team and expert contributor leadership:

- Coordinating between Program Delivery and Product Management for alignment on stakeholder needs
- Coordinating engagements with external experts and organizations to support thought leadership and collaboration
- Monitoring performance and problem solving to ensure function goals are being met

Education / experience required

- A mission-aligned individual with a minimum of 15 years' experience in development sector, and education, driving strategic relationships to improve outcomes
- Postgraduate professional qualification from a leading university
- Proven experience in building, sustaining, and monitoring stakeholder relationships to drive long-term and robust engagements
- Prior knowledge of the education sector in South Africa; a burning curiosity to learn about all aspects of education delivery is essential



- A fundamental belief in the power of education to lift people out of the cycle of poverty and the ability of data-driven insight to improve outcomes

Qualities of a successful candidate

- Strategic integrator that works with others to drive the goals of education, technology, and government
- Education policy expert who can communicate DDD's role in supporting national policy mandates
- Persuasive communicator able to steer team and stakeholders' ideas into action
- Connected networker able to leverage the input and commitment from individuals and their networks
- Seasoned professional with the insight and respect for the sensitivities around building and maintaining senior stakeholder relationships
- Conversant in two or more South African languages
- Ideally based in Johannesburg and ability to travel nationally approximately 15 percent time (according to national Covid-19 protocols)

Applications

To apply please email CV to gia@homecomingrevolution.com