



New Partnership: InterHealth & ILS bring together security, health & wellbeing for effective staff care

Introduction

InterHealth and ILS have entered into a partnership to provide humanitarian and development organisations with a holistic solution to the challenges of managing staff care.

Working in the humanitarian and development sectors can often mean working and living in highly stressful, challenging and insecure environments. The psychological toll of witnessing extreme suffering, being isolated from support networks and coping with a range of threats to your personal safety and physical health should not be underestimated.

Organisations have a responsibility to keep their people safe, healthy and resilient. We believe that an organisation's staff are core to achieving their mission and objectives and that staff care is a priority to build a healthy, resilient and thriving workforce; the safety and wellbeing of staff is essential if organisations are to be effective.

It is for this reason we are very excited to announce the launch of this partnership between ILS and InterHealth, bringing together the fields of safety and security with physical and psychological wellbeing. We firmly believe these areas are intrinsically linked and that organisations can better support their staff to effectively carry out their work by approaching security and wellbeing holistically.

InterHealth & ILS are aligned in both our values and vision to see excellent staff care, a thriving workforce, effective responses and successful programmes. Our purpose is to support our clients in effective staff care and to contribute to strengthening a culture of staff care across the sector. We believe this is critical, not only for the wellbeing of individual staff members, but also for the communities and individuals they are assisting.

What we bring together

- **Delivering Joint Training Courses**

Kidnap Avoidance & Hostage Survival

10th Dec (Nairobi, Kenya) & 10th February (London, UK)

Crisis Management
On Request

Deploying to Disasters
18th – 20th January & 28th – 30th March (London, UK)

- **Developing and Distributing Resources**

Together we will be sharing resources on a variety of topics related to staff care. For example:

- Carjacking
- Documents - What to bring with you as you travel
- Road traffic collisions

- **Thought Leadership of Staff Care**

There have been a number of recent initiatives (including a petition to the WHS, online consultation by PHAP and the CHS Alliance guidelines and their message to WHS) which have brought into focus the issue of improving staff care particularly within the humanitarian sector. ILS & InterHealth are keen to maintain the momentum and continue this conversation, actively seeking out opportunities to contribute to and advance this agenda.

- **Consultancy**

InterHealth and ILS will be working together with our clients to further their understanding of their duty of care obligations to all those they work with. This would include national and international staff, consultants, volunteers, ambassadors, trustees, local partners etc. We will work with them to develop a roadmap, with a series of practical and pragmatic steps that will help them discharge their duty of care more effectively. We will be jointly developing a toolkit for distribution to all agencies to help identify gaps within their staff care, training and security management frameworks.

Statement from CEO of InterHealth

"InterHealth's approach is holistic - we want to see the whole person thrive in their place of work: mind, body, soul and spirit. Whether or not expatriate and national humanitarian workers flourish in country depends not only on recruiting the right person for each role, but on the organisational infrastructure, ways of working, leadership, support and training provided. Security is always top of mind in these situations, not least because many humanitarian crises are the result of human conflict or natural disasters.

We cannot ignore the fact that physical safety and reducing workers' vulnerability as much as possible, are as important to their overall wellbeing as medical, nursing and psychosocial care. We are delighted therefore to be working with International Location Safety (ILS). ILS share InterHealth's values for being respectful, compassionate, creative, and professional. They have built an outstanding reputation for providing high quality security consultancy to many NGOs and private companies working in some of the most dangerous places in the world. We look forward to working together on the various initiatives mentioned above."

Statement from the founders of ILS

“ILS believes that staff working in the relief and development sectors deserve to have their safety and wellbeing prioritised. For organisations to be effective they need staff that are able to do their jobs to the best of their abilities. The very nature of the work will mean that staff will be exposed to risks and witness extreme human suffering. However by understanding the risks and the psychological stressors, organisations can put in place mitigation measures, supporting staff to stay healthy, safe and well.

We are therefore extremely excited to partner with InterHealth, who we recognise and respect as leaders in this field, to enable a more holistic approach to the intrinsically linked components of staff care: safety & security and physical & psychological wellbeing. Human behaviour and reactions play such a key role in security that by bringing together the expertise of these two organisations we feel we are bringing a new and exciting approach which we hope will contribute towards engendering a culture of staff care within the sector.”

About International Location Safety & InterHealth

ILS is committed to the safety and security of professionals working overseas through the delivery of advice, support and training. We pride ourselves on our understanding of the international development and humanitarian relief sector, which enables us to develop and deliver appropriate and context specific approaches to security management and training. We believe that a key part of managing security is understanding the human factors behind commonly encountered risks and reactions.

Since 1989, InterHealth has been committed to supporting the health and wellbeing of those making the world a better, fairer and healthier place. We do this by providing medical, psychological, occupational and travel health services, training and supplies. We partner with organisations so that staff are adequately prepared and supported as they work and travel. We believe that healthy & resilient staff is key to effective delivery of services. We achieve our mission through our operational centres in both the UK and Kenya.

Find out more

If you would like to find out more about the IH & ILS partnership then please do not hesitate to get in touch via the details below. We would be eager to hear your thoughts on this partnership and how we can partner with your organisations to integrate security with psychological and physical health needs.

InterHealth

info@interhealthworldwide.org

ILS

info@locationsafety.com



INTERNATIONAL LOCATION SAFETY

www.locationsafety.com

Brighton, UK

+44 (0)1273 833070

info@locationsafety.com



INTERHEALTH WORLDWIDE

www.interhealthworldwide.org

Nairobi, Kenya

+254 (0) 714763560

info-kenya@interhealthworldwide.org

London, UK

+44(0) 207 902 9000

info@interhealth.org.uk