

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

GRASSROOT SOCCER ZIMBABWE

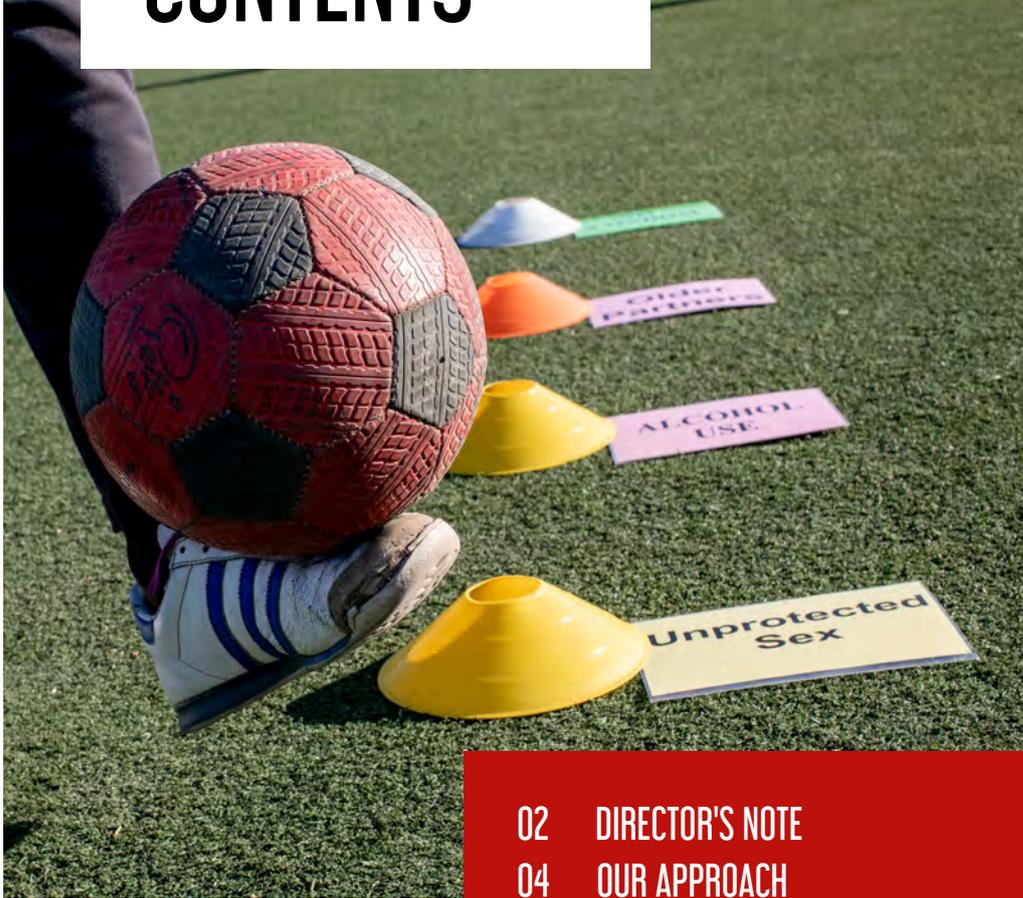


EDUCATE. INSPIRE. MOBILISE.

GRASSROOTSOCCER 



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DIRECTOR'S NOTE



It brings me pleasure to once again connect with you all after an exciting year of programming in 2019. This was a unique year with its own political, economic, and social challenges. Zimbabwe experienced one of its worst disasters in history, Cyclone Idai, where many people lost their lives and property. The country further experienced a serious drought that put many people in need of food aid. Grassroot Soccer (GRS) Zimbabwe continued to partner with the government to meet the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) needs of adolescents by empowering young people with health and life skills ASSETS, facilitating their ACCESS to high-impact, youth-friendly health services such as HIV counseling and testing and family planning, and supporting ADHERENCE to related care and treatment. We are an organisation by Zimbabweans, for Zimbabweans, and are proud of the work accomplished by our all-local staff and board.

This past year we continued to consolidate our presence in the five provinces of Zimbabwe where we had programming in 2018, including Bulawayo, Harare, Manicaland, and Matabeleland North and South. We delivered our base programmes, a mixed-sex curricula for very young adolescents, the single-sex curricula for both boys and girls and the SKILLZ Plus curricula that targets HIV positive adolescents, all while supporting adherence to SRHR services. Together with your support, we've launched our longitudinal SKILLZ Teen Clubs, expanding access and repeat uptake of priority health services. This curriculum will foster adherence to positive behaviour by adolescents, ensuring continued engagement after completion of GRS base programmes by setting up clubs that will be run by adolescents themselves.

This continued growth means we reached 29,017 adolescents through SKILLZ Health interventions in 2019 alone!

In partnership with the Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC), GRS Zimbabwe designed and piloted the concept of Youth Reproductive Health Assistants (YRHA), trained Coaches who will serve as a much needed link between adolescents and access to youth-friendly health services within the communities. Partnerships strengthen our work, and during the year we signed national MOUs with ZNFPC and the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education.

Grassroot Soccer continues to reach adolescents with life-saving health information and access to health services and treatment through our "Total Health" project. This four-year project, which aims to reach 80,000 young people in Zimbabwe and Zambia, will run through 2020 and will support key national government efforts to improve the sexual and reproductive health of young people.

Through the power of collaboration and the support of PEPFAR/USAID, we increased our impact on adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) and men and boys. In partnership with FHI 360 under the USAID Adolescent Girls & Young Women Health for Life 360 (DREAMS) Project, we achieved our annual DREAMS targets of reaching over 9,000 very young adolescent girls aged 9-14 years in only nine months. As a result of this strong performance, FHI 360 has doubled our target for Fiscal Year 2020 and we look forward to expanding our impact. PEPFAR's Ambassador Birx had exciting news for the global health community on World AIDS Day this December: a 25% reduction in new diagnoses amongst AGYW in almost all regions implementing DREAMS. Zimbabwe's DREAMS districts saw the largest reductions amongst AGYW of any country in Africa, and we're so very proud to have been part of this joint effort over the past three years! In partnership with Population Services International (PSI), we also had success launching the USAID Going the Last Mile for HIV Control in Bulawayo and Harare in January, and circumcised over 3,100 adolescent boys and young men in 2019.

These achievements would not have been possible without the hard work and the full support from all our Caring Coaches, dedicated staff, and partners. I am immensely grateful for their support. I also want to thank every supporter in advance for 2020 as we continue to work towards building the assets of our young people, enabling them to access health services, and ensuring that they adhere to positive health behaviours. Siyabonga; Tatenda – thank you so much – a huge kilo of gratitude as we look forward to an inspiring year ahead.

Bheki Moyo

Grassroot Soccer Zimbabwe Managing Director

OUR APPROACH

OUR MISSION

Grassroot Soccer Zimbabwe (GRS) is an adolescent health organisation that leverages the power of soccer to educate, inspire, and mobilise young people to overcome their greatest health challenges, live healthier, more productive lives, and be agents for change in their communities.

EDUCATE

GRS uses soccer-based activities and lively discussions to educate participants on HIV, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and gender-related issues that affect them and their communities.

INSPIRE

GRS trains young community mentors and leaders, including local professional soccer players, to be health educators and GRS Coaches. Coaches connect personally with participants and become trusted mentors.

MOBILISE

GRS provides referrals to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and social support for participants who access these services. GRS provides health events, community mobilisation, and other opportunities for young people to access comprehensive health and social services. We provide young people with the life skills they need to break down harmful social norms that negatively impact their health.



ORGANISATIONAL INFO

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

While the core of GRS's direct implementation focuses on five provinces, GRS has programming experience nationwide through technical assistance support to other local organisations.



GRASSROOT SOCCER ZIMBABWE IS PROUD TO HAVE AN ALL-ZIMBABWEAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Elizabeth Langa
- Sikhanyisile Magagula
- Linda Magwaro, Secretary
- Cecilia Mudzana
- Themba Ndlovu
- Sihle Ndlovu

AT A GLANCE: GRASSROOT SOCCER HAD 100% LOCAL HIRES & CARING COACHES IN 2019

- 16 salaried staff members
- 12 interns
- 3 casual staff
- 4 Senior Coaches
- 3 Master Coaches
- 152 Coaches

GRS ZIMBABWE IS A REGISTERED PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION (PVO) WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE, MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE UNDER (REGISTRATION NUMBER 22/11).



OUR DELIVERY METHOD



OUR IMPACT

3A's



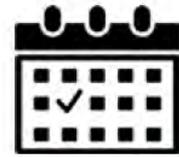
ASSETS

Increased health knowledge and the confidence to use it



ACCESS

Increased uptake of high-quality health services



ADHERENCE

Adherence to medical treatment, therapy, and healthy behaviors

OUR MODEL

3C's



CURRICULUM

SKILLZ soccer-based health curriculum



COACHES

Caring adults and mentors



CULTURE

Vital conversation, safe spaces, inspiration, and fun

PROGRAMMING OVERVIEW



GRS was founded in 2002 with a local board and all Zimbabwean staff and reaches approximately 30,000 adolescents and young adults across five provinces each year.

Of the youth reached, over 55% are adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) 10-24 years old. In collaboration with a variety of research institutions and funders, GRS has participated in seven research studies in Zimbabwe, including two randomised controlled trials.

GRS brings deep experience in adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), including combination HIV prevention, ART adherence, family planning/ reproductive health, gender-based violence prevention, positive youth development, and community mobilisation.



In addition to our full-time staff, GRS has more than 150 Coaches, operates in schools and health facilities through National MOUs with the Ministries of Education and Health, respectively, and has built strong relationships with health and SRHR institutions and referral service providers including the Zimbabwe National AIDS Council (NAC), Population Services International (PSI), Child Line Zimbabwe, and the Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC).



BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ACROSS GRASSROOT SOCCER ZIMBABWE SKILLZ PROGRAMMING IN 2019

29,017

PARTICIPANTS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS REFERRED FOR SRHR SERVICES FROM JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, HELPING TO ENGAGE YOUNG PEOPLE AND MOBILISE COMMUNITIES AROUND SUSTAINED ACCESS TO HEALTH INFORMATION AND SERVICES

13,182

NUMBER OF ADOLESCENT BOYS AND YOUNG MEN WHO UNDERWENT VOLUNTARY MEDICAL MALE CIRCUMCISION (VMMC) IN 2019.

3100+

SOCCER-BASED EVENTS USE POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE AND PROVIDE MOBILE, ON-SITE, AND INTEGRATED HEALTH SCREENINGS TO REDUCE STIGMA, NORMALISE SERVICE UTILISATION, AND DRIVE THE UPTAKE OF HEALTH SERVICES.

ASSETS

ENGAGING ADOLESCENT BOYS AND YOUNG MEN

GRS's evidence-based SKILLZ Boy curriculum reflects the needs, interests, and health behaviours of boys aged 15-19. We know adolescence is a tricky time, made easier by the presence of relatable, reliable role models. That's why GRS programmes are delivered by young adult mentors, our Caring Coaches. SKILLZ Boy combines soccer language, metaphors, and activities to enable reflections and meaningful discussions around gender norms, violence, substance use, HIV, family planning, goal setting/achievement, and peer support.

REACHING VERY YOUNG ADOLESCENTS EARLY

GRS's mixed-sex SKILLZ Core model for very young adolescents ages 9-14 emphasises interactive games, physical movement, and learning-by-doing. This interactive approach introduces core SRHR topics and provides critical safe space to discuss power dynamics and gender norms. The research is clear: The role and perceived benefits of soccer in sport-based HIV prevention programmes is strongest for younger adolescents, under 14 years of age, making early intervention critical to delivering effective health messaging.



ACCESS

MAKE THE CUT: GENERATING DEMAND FOR VMMC

GRS's Make The Cut (MTC) is a short, interpersonal intervention facilitated by circumcised "Coaches" aiming to generate demand for voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) among males 10-35. Developed in Bulawayo in 2012 and scaled to eight VMMC priority countries to date, MTC can be a standalone activity, integrated into SKILLZ interventions for ABYM, or utilised during community soccer tournaments to facilitate on-site access to VMMC services. MTC was showcased by PEPFAR in COP17 Regional Guidance and awarded best-in-class by the USAID OPTIONS Consortium in 2018. GRS conducted randomised controlled trials in 2012 and 2014. The results included increased uptake of VMMC within three months (9x for adult men (ages 18-35) and 2.5x for adolescent boys (ages 13-18)).

Under the PSI-led USAID Going the Last Mile for HIV Control Project, GRS Coaches generated demand for voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) and condoms among adolescent boys and young men ages 15-29. Leveraging GRS's award-winning Make The Cut intervention, and linking them to PSI's clinical services, GRS motivated 3,100 adolescent boys and young men to get circumcised — averting nearly 800 HIV infections.



In July 2019, GRS partnered with the Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC) to train 20 Coaches as Youth Reproductive Health Assistants (YRHA) in Bulawayo, Matabeleland North, and Matabeleland South. They help individuals access critical health services like family planning, HIV/STI prevention, and counseling services. YRHA mobilise communities and provide access to short-term contraception services and SRHR information to youth through one-on-one consultations, home visits and at clinics, and other facility-based services. These young adult mentors help alleviate some of the burdens carried by village health workers.

When research showed a higher need for access to services in older adolescents, with a high rate of HIV incidence and transmission, GRS was moved to action. We responded by introducing VMMC programming in tertiary institutes for men ages 23 and up. Additionally, we scaled the updated SKILLZ Boy curriculum. Through Swedish Postcode support, GRS Zimbabwe hosted two Football Festivals in Matabeleland North and Bulawayo in November which highlighted a community mobilisation event, including a march against GBV, and offered HIV testing and counselling, cervical cancer screening, psycho-social support services, birth registration and the provision of drug and substance use information, as well as VMMC.

ADHERENCE



PROMOTING LONG-TERM ADHERENCE TO HEALTHY BEHAVIOURS

GRS Zimbabwe was thrilled to pilot a new Teen Club curriculum in 2019, incorporating a new, youth-guided approach with less structure than traditional GRS curricula. This approach supports adolescents' long-term uptake of services and healthy behaviours after graduating from SKILLZ programmes. Teen Clubs focus on adherence to healthy SRHR behaviors and services, and the curriculum includes sessions led by local service providers.

SUPPORTING YOUTH LIVING WITH HIV

GRS partners with local health clinics to deliver its 12-session SKILLZ Plus programme for adolescents living with HIV (ALHIV). Facilitated by GRS Coaches openly living with HIV, SKILLZ Plus introduces key topics including acceptance, disclosure, healthy relationships, positive prevention, mental health, and ART adherence. ALHIV participants demonstrate increases in self-concept, feeling supported in their lives, SRHR knowledge, retention in care, and adherence to ART after participating in the programme. For long-term adherence support, GRS enrolls SKILLZ Plus graduates into monthly adherence support clubs, which were adapted in 2019 to include self-care and career development programming for 17-25 year-olds living with HIV and transitioning to adult care.

Perhaps the most exciting adherence innovation in 2019 was the piloting of GRS's new self-reported adherence tool, following a new finding in the literature noting the importance of combining a range of metrics to capture adherence, and that self-reported and clinical adherence data are strongly associated. The newly developed tool will allow GRS to triangulate self-reported adherence, attendance at SKILLZ Clubs, and clinical data in order to better understand adherence outcomes in our participants.

"THE SKILLZ GIRL PROGRAMME REALLY INSPIRED ME AS A YOUNG GIRL. THE WAY IT SHED LIGHT IN THE WAYS WE SHOULD LIVE, BEHAVE AND ACT OUT AS GIRLS CAUGHT MY ATTENTION AND IT MOTIVATED ME. DURING THIS EXPERIENCE THERE WERE SO MANY ACTIVITIES THAT WERE DISCUSSED AND I WOULD WANT TO EXPLAIN WHAT I LEARNT BECAUSE IT CHANGED MY LIFE COMPLETELY."

- SKILLZ Girl Participant Faith



"AFTER A CAREER SPANNING FIFTEEN YEARS, I DECIDED TO HANG UP MY BOOTS DUE TO A RECURRING KNEE INJURY THAT I HAD PICKED UP IN THE EARLY YEARS OF MY CAREER. I HAD THE DRIVE TO PLOUGH BACK TO MY COMMUNITY AND GRASSROOT SOCCER (GRS) ZIMBABWE GAVE ME THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY AND PLATFORM TO FULFILL IT."

- Amelia Chifodya, Grassroot Soccer Zimbabwe Curriculum Development and Training Officer, former Zimbabwe Women's National Team player



WHAT OUR COACHES & PARTICIPANTS SAY

SUCCESS STORY

The following story highlights Grassroot Soccer Zimbabwe's DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe) programming, in partnership with FHI360, and was written by GRS Coach Rejoice Blessing Murunge.



My name is Rejoice Blessing Muruge, I am a young lady aged 19. I just completed my Advanced level at St Dominic's High, in November 2018 and attained 11 points in Pure Mathematics, Biology and Chemistry. My ambition is to be in the medical field.

I was raised by a street vendor who was widowed when I was less than two years old and I am an only child. My mother is living with HIV and sometimes falls sick, leaving me to take up the vending role to sustain our family's income. I have met some hardships on the streets which include having older men proposing to me in exchange for money. I am however strong and determined and I have not fallen prey to their devices. Because of this my wish is to one day be able to remove my mother from the streets.

In high school I found myself in different leadership roles which included being a prefect, a mentor patron to the DREAMS club, of which I was also a co-founder. My first encounter with Grassroot Soccer was when they came to my school St Dominic's. As a participant, I was moved by how other young people like myself were able to teach us because amongst the coaches were some of our former schoolmates. The information that Grassroot Soccer gave us empowered us to think more critical about our future and to protect ourselves from HIV/AIDS.

After my A level, I joined GRS as a Coach. The experience has been amazing as I can move around schools in Mutare district empowering young adolescents to adopt healthy behaviours and to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS. I love this experience as it has showed me that there are more ways of giving to the community and I have the potential to have great impact not only in my country but in the world at large. I have had the opportunity to meet up with the U.S. Ambassador to Zimbabwe to discuss the DREAMS programme and the impact it has on an ordinary Zimbabwean girl child like me, and this has even pushed me to become a better person and to achieve my goals.

As Grassroot Soccer Zimbabwe looks ahead to 2020, we are grateful for the opportunities presented to us in 2019 and the support of our proudly Zimbabwean local board.

Technical Working Groups and Forums

Within the districts of Bulawayo, Harare, Manicaland, Matabeleland South and North

- Rural District Development Committee
- Provincial Development Committee
- Provincial and National Adolescents Sexual Reproductive Health Forum
- District AIDS Action Committee
- DREAMS Referral Working Group
- Young People, HIV and AIDS
- Young People's Network
- Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education: Life Skills, Sexuality and HIV/AIDS Education
- Provincial AIDS Action Committee
- Community Interventions
- NAC Monitoring and Evaluation Taskforce
- NAC Prevention Taskforce
- NAC Mitigation Taskforce
- Rural District Council Social Services Committee

Major Presentations

- Zimbabwean Ministry of Health – Baseline survey report for Total Health Project 2020 and the baseline assessment: Changing the Game for Adolescents: Improving and enhancing adolescents and young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights through the power of soccer
- Presentation to ARHS National Technical Working Group: Make the Cut: A best practise for demand creation for VMMC

2020 Outlook

Grassroot Soccer Zimbabwe continues to strengthen its programmes in pursuit of reaching young people in Zimbabwe with life-saving SRHR knowledge, services, and support. By continuing the advances we made in 2019, we are looking to work with local government to engage them in strategies that support the overall community health and wellbeing of adolescents.

We will continue to address barriers to youth access and adherence to SRHR services, all within an enabling and safe environment. After conducting successful pilots in 2019, we plan to broaden the implementation of youth-reproductive health assistants and Teen Clubs. Additionally, we look forward to expanding our work in Harare beyond VMMC and continuing to reach young people throughout Zimbabwe.



Grassroot Soccer programming and its significant impact on adolescents across Zimbabwe would not be possible without the support of:

Government and Public Sector Partners

- Bubi Rural District Council
- Bulawayo City Health Department
- Bulilima Rural District Council
- Harare City Health Department
- Lupane Rural District Council
- Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education
- Matobo Rural District Council
- Ministry of Health and Child Care
- Ministry of Public Services, Labour and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing
- National AIDS Council
- Umzingwane Rural District Council
- Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council

Referral Partners

- Bulawayo City Health Department
- Harare City Health Department
- Ministry of Health and Child Care
- National AIDS Council
- Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council

Additionally, the work we do is powered and uplifted by generous financial support from the following organisations and foundations. Thank you!

- AIDS Healthcare Foundation
- FHI 360
- FIFA Foundation Community Program
- FIFA Legacy Trust
- MAC VIVA GLAM Fund
- Population Services International
- Swedish Postcode Foundation
- TDH Schweiz
- Vitol Foundation

OUR SUPPORTERS



AUDITED FINANCIALS

FINANCIAL POSITION FIGURES IN USD

	2019	2018
ASSETS		
Non-Current Assets		
Property, plant, and equipment	24,588	18,868
Current assets		
Accounts and grants receivable	17,652	16,067
Cash and Cash equivalents	<u>28,086</u>	<u>28,376</u>
	45,738	44,443
TOTAL	70,326	63,311
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Accumulated Fund	(22,489)	(26,894)
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	11,240	24,116
Accrued salaries and leave pay	11,523	6,169
Due to related party	<u>70,052</u>	<u>59,919</u>
	92,815	90,204
TOTAL	70,326	63,310
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		
Grant income	639,933	584,473
Other income and donations in-kind	3,703	1,244
Operating expenses	<u>(639,230)</u>	<u>(582,269)</u>
TOTAL GAIN (LOSS)	4,406	3,448
TOTAL EQUITY		
Balance at 01 January 2018		(30,342)
Net assets for the year		<u>3,448</u>
Balance at 01 January 2019	(26,894)	
Net deficit for the year	<u>4,406</u>	
Balance at 31 December 2019	(22,488)	
CASH FLOWS		
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash generated from (used by) operations	12,796	(8,004)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of property, plant, and equipment	(13,086)	(9,588)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant, and equipment	-	-
Net cash (used in) from investing activities	(13,086)	(9,588)
Total cash movement for the year	(290)	(17,592)
Cash at the beginning of the year	28,376	45,968
TOTAL CASH AT END OF YEAR	28,086	28,376



GRASSROOTSOCCER ZIMBABWE



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