

2019 -  
2020

# ANNUAL REPORT

GRASSROOT SOCCER SOUTH AFRICA



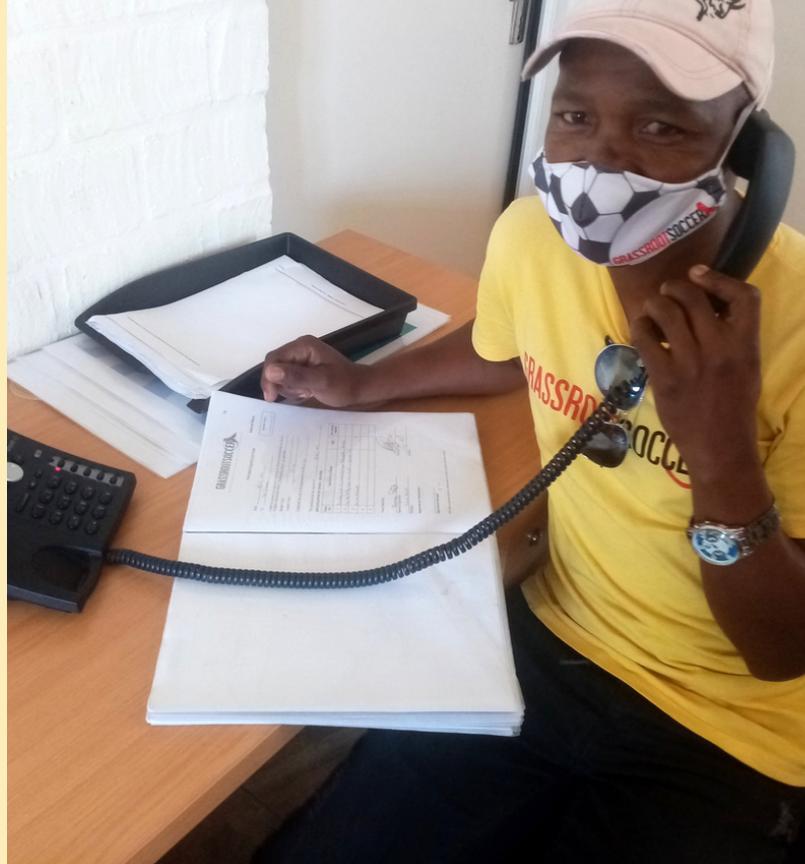
**GRASSROOTSOCCER**  
SOUTH AFRICA

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# MISSION

Grassroot Soccer South Africa (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.

# OUR DELIVERY METHOD



## OUR APPROACH:

### 3C'S

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#### CURRICULUM

SKILLZ soccer-based health curriculum



#### COACHES

Caring adults and mentors



#### CULTURE

Vital conversation, safe spaces, inspiration, and fun

## OUR IMPACT:

### 3A'S

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#### ASSETS

Increased health knowledge and life skills, and the self-confidence to use it



#### ACCESS

Increased uptake of high-quality health and social services



#### ADHERENCE

Adherence to medical treatment, therapy, and/or healthy behaviors

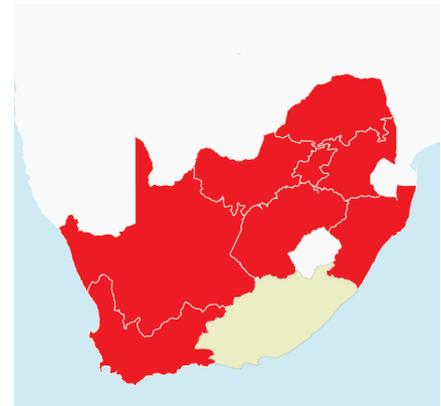


# ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION

*GRS SA is a nonprofit organisation registered with the Department of Social Development.*

## GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

Grassroot Soccer South Africa (GRS South Africa) is an independent, locally registered non-profit organisation with a South African Board of Directors. Grassroot Soccer first began programmes in South Africa in 2006, and has steadily built a very strong local infrastructure.



In addition to our three core sites in Alexandra, Khayelitsha, and Soweto, GRS's footprint currently covers Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and Western Cape, and it leverages experience in KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Free State, Northern Cape, and North West provinces.

## GRS SOUTH AFRICA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Chris Todd
- Vincenzo Scarcella
- Risana Zitha
- Mbulelo Malotana
- Fiona Shanks



“ My name is Kgosi. I am a 16-year-old Grassroot Soccer participant in grade 10. My relationship with Grassroot Soccer started when I was in Grade 6 in 2017. To be frank, I only came here at the Football for Hope Centre to play soccer, but then I got to do the SKILLZ sessions, which I realised teach me important things in life. Most of my peers are addicted to something. It might be cigarettes, alcohol, or drugs, but with me it's different. I was fortunate to attend Grassroot Soccer sessions at the Football for Hope Centre because they help me make better choices about my health and life. Thank you, Grassroot Soccer, for the information and the love.

**KGOSI, GRS SA PARTICIPANT**”

# A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

**Dear Grassroot South Africa (GRS SA) Friends,**

A sincere welcome to our 2019/20 Annual Report! As we are all aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a great impact on all of our lives. As I write this note, I am quite cognizant of the fact that 2021 is going to be a testing and challenging year for everyone. In this light, let me first start by saying that GRS SA has taken major steps at both an institutional level and at an impact level to ensure the health of our adolescents and beneficiaries.

We remain resolute in our endeavour to build the health and life skills assets of youth, including their knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and the self-confidence to use it, facilitating access to a wide range of youth-friendly health and social services, and promoting adherence to biomedical treatment and long-term healthy behaviours. In this regard, GRS SA has developed innovative programme and operational adaptations to reach its beneficiaries during this period. These include the uptake of technological advances and virtual platforms, as well as integrating these approaches with relevant access, health, and psychosocial partners. We are quite hopeful that we will reach our desired impact in 2021!

During 2019/20, GRS SA reached more than 96,500 young people through a hybrid of implementation approaches including delivery of SKILLZ and other evidence-based programmes, as well as through technical assistance to implementing partners across eight provinces in South Africa, which enabled GRS SA to scale its work in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Free State, North West, and Mpumalanga provinces.

At an institutional level and through a great partnership with the Ford Foundation, GRS SA has also made significant strides in re-enforcing its internal controls and compliance, including reviewing and amending its finance and operations, human resource management, and monitoring and evaluation functions to fit purpose.

We are greatly appreciative of the commitment and support of our partners, staff, and Coaches for our 2019/20 achievements and look forward to a great year in 2021!

Siyabonga! Thank you!

Mbulelo Malotana  
Grassroot Soccer South Africa (GRS SA) Managing Director



# PROGRAMMING OVERVIEW

## ASSETS

### **Sports-based HIV, Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), and Life Skills Programmes in Alexandra and Khayelitsha:**

GRS leveraged key strategic partnerships with local organisations, community leaders, and local football associations to continue programming in Alexandra and Khayelitsha. GRS implemented a range of SKILLZ curricula including SKILLZ Core (a mixed-gender intervention), Community League, SKILLZ Boy, and SKILLZ Girl, all of which built adolescents' HIV, gender-based violence (GBV), sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and life skills knowledge, along with their agency to use that knowledge to live healthier, more productive lives.

### **Combination Prevention Solutions to Reach Epidemic Control Among High-Risk, Priority Populations in High-Burden Areas:**

GRS partnered with TB HIV Care to deliver a combination prevention programme, called Man2Man, with men aged 18+ in the City of Cape Town. Man2Man engaged men in conversations around HIV testing, voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) for HIV prevention, condom use, and GBV. Man2Man sessions were well received by participants, who indicated a desire for safe and non-judgmental spaces to speak with other men who have similar lived experiences. Facilitators were further encouraged by the observed changes in both attitudes and communication among men participating in the programme.

### **Care and Support for Teaching and Learning (CSTL) in Schools:**

In order to support the Department of Basic Education's (DBE) Care and Support for Teaching and Learning (CSTL) programme with its goal to transform schools into inclusive centers of learning, care, and support, GRS partnered with UNICEF to deliver the Girls and Boys Education Movement (GBEMS) programme. GBEMS is a sport for development programme that aims to increase school completion and learning achievement among adolescents by supporting comprehensive life skills, psychosocial support, and improving school environment for health and safety.



31,145  
YOUTH REACHED  
IN 2020

# PROGRAMMING OVERVIEW CONT.

## **Primary HIV Prevention Among Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Mpumalanga:**

GRS and mothers2mothers partnered to successfully engage orphans and vulnerable children and adolescents through primary HIV prevention activities. GRS's SKILLZ CHAMP intervention is an evidence-based, 10-session intervention conducted across Mpumalanga to promote the health and well-being of orphans and vulnerable children. Despite programmatic disruptions due to COVID-19, in 2020 GRS reached 19,451 orphans and vulnerable children and adolescents through the SKILLZ CHAMP Curriculum and adapted virtual messaging – including primary HIV and GBV prevention, COVID-19 information, and mental well-being themes delivered through multi-channel methods (SMS, phone, and WhatsApp platforms).

## ACCESS

### **Vulnerability and Risk Assessment:**

GRS developed a vulnerability and risk assessment tool to develop detailed risk profiles for GRS participants as a starting point to refer youth to high-impact, youth-friendly services. The vulnerability and risk assessment tool screens participants to determine their degree of risk (i.e., engagement in risky sexual behaviours, substance use, HIV status, etc.), to provide comprehensive and tailored guidance on the type of services and supports that could benefit participants.

### **Linkages to Services:**

GRS's Care Coordinator, who is a qualified social worker, facilitates linkages to recommended services, assists youth to make appointments, and jointly creates a tailored care plan with each adolescent to promote their consistent uptake of recommended services.

28,159

PARTICIPANTS ACCESSED  
SRHR SERVICES FROM 2019-  
2020, INCLUDING 11,918  
ACCESSING HIV TESTING.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, GRS is working with partner organizations to ensure participant follow-up after getting an HIV test.

The services offered in 2020 range from HIV test, STI screening, PreP, GBV, VMMC, and psycho social support.

### **Case management:**

Overall, 1,863 cases were referred in 2020 (1,434 cases were referred and successfully accessed services, and GRS SA is currently following up on the outstanding 429 cases).

# PROGRAMMING OVERVIEW CONT.

## ADHERENCE

### Care Coordinator Follow-Up Support:

Through the use of the vulnerability and risk assessment tool, the Care Coordinator was able to understand the health needs of participants, link them to services, and follow up with them to ensure that they had accessed the services they were referred to and were adhering to treatment and receiving regular psychosocial support. Follow up and support is conducted with both the service providers and the participants to ensure linkages are confirmed and loss to follow up is managed.

## COVID-19 RESPONSE

GRS developed and launched an open-source SKILLZ COVID-19 RESPONSE Curriculum based on WHO guidelines to address the COVID-19 pandemic in the communities in which GRS works. The curriculum fosters youth resilience through an asset-building approach and includes activities on hand washing, mask wearing, debunking myths around COVID-19, and mental well-being.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated lockdowns and restrictions on group gatherings and interactions, GRS SA adapted its delivery model to include various virtual implementation approaches. For example, GRS offices in Alexandra and Khayelitsha were set up as call centres to enable teams to deliver interventions remotely. Additionally, in Mpumalanga, GRS successfully implemented an adapted approach to its primary prevention activities, using multi-channel virtual messaging interventions through SMS, WhatsApp, and other virtual communication methods to deliver key health messages to participants, ensure that Coaches are fully utilised during lockdowns, and maintain personal connections between Coaches and participants.



65,355  
YOUTH REACHED  
IN 2019



“ My name is Nomthandazo. I joined Grassroot Soccer as a Coach in 2018. Since then, my life has never been the same. I joined Grassroot Soccer with a small understanding of how to work with children. After working for Grassroot Soccer, I became a role model to the participants. ”

**NOMTHANDAZO,  
GRS SA COACH**

# RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

## GIRLS ACHIEVE POWER (GAP) YEAR

With funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, GRS partnered with the Wits Reproductive Health Institute, PATH, and Sonke Gender Justice to conduct a three-year randomized controlled trial to look at the impact of a holistic package of interventions on school dropout, educational attainment, and uptake of sexual and reproductive health services.

## GOALS FOR GIRLS

Goals For Girls (G4G) is a cluster-randomized controlled trial that will evaluate the impact of SKILLZ on STI prevalence, incidence of HIV and pregnancy, and contraceptive uptake among girls in South Africa. The study compares SKILLZ when integrated with an in-school South African government sexual and reproductive health program, to the government program alone. GRS partnered with the Desmond Tutu Health Foundation and also trained participants as 'youth investigators' to collect qualitative data and conduct collaborative analysis as part of a participatory sub-study. Analysis is complete and final results are forthcoming.

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## PRESENTATIONS & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Members of the GRS SA team were invited by Linda-Gail Bekker and the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation to be presenting panelists at the NIH-funded [Adolescent HIV Prevention & Treatment Implementation Science Alliance](#) (AHISA) meeting in Cape Town in February 2020. In attendance were representatives from NIH-funded study teams across the continent, including Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Botswana. The panel, titled Community-based, Adolescent-centered, Peer-led Interventions in South Africa, included GRS insights on what participatory research with youth really looks like, and best practices on effectively training adolescent peer educators.

# PRESENTATIONS CONT.

## 2019

- **Adolescents, Young People, and Linkage to HIV Services: Sport-Based Demand Creation for the First 95 - Poster, SA AIDS 2019**

An evaluation of GRS SKILLZ Health programmes on reach, uptake, and linkages to HIV-related services in Zimbabwe, Zambia, and South Africa

- **Evaluation of SKILLZ for Life in South Africa: A Sport-Based Health and Life Skills Programme for Adolescents with Intellectual Disabilities - Poster, SA AIDS 2019**

A mixed-methods evaluation on SKILLZ for Life (SfL) to assess the benefits of the intervention among participants, including sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) knowledge, access to and utilization of health services, and adherence to medical treatment.

- **Evaluation of SKILLZ for Life in South Africa: A Sport-Based Health and Life Skills Programme for Adolescents with Intellectual Disabilities - Poster, SA AIDS 2019**

A mixed-methods evaluation on SKILLZ for Life (SfL) to assess the benefits of the intervention among participants, including sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) knowledge, access to and utilization of health services, and adherence to medical treatment.

## 2020

- **Building a Strong Team for Girls: Qualitative Findings on the Acceptability and Feasibility of a Sport-based Sexual and Reproductive Health Intervention for Adolescent Girls - Poster, International Workshop on HIV & Adolescence, 2020**

- **Adolescent Girl-led Participatory Action, Research: Early Lessons from a Sport-based Cluster Randomised Trial in Cape Town, South Africa - Oral Presentation, International Workshop on HIV & Adolescence, 2020**

- The GRS SA team conducted a "virtual site visit" in October 2020 with students enrolled in the University of Cape Town's Adolescent Health Policy Short Course. This course aims to build the capacity of those with management responsibilities for the implementation of their policies and programmes through improved knowledge about adolescence, key health problems affecting young people, and priority evidence-based interventions, as well as strengthened programming skills. This virtually hosted visit focused on discussion of policy-specific successes, challenges, and lessons.



## A GRS SOUTH AFRICA SUCCESS STORY:

# MEET ANDILE

*In 2020, GRS, in partnership with mothers2mothers, provided 17,700 of the most vulnerable young people in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa with key information on HIV and GBV prevention as part of the five-year USAID Children and Adolescents are My Priority (CHAMP) Project.*

*Andile is a 16-year-old CHAMP participant living in the Mpumalanga province. Andile was introduced to the CHAMP programme by his mothers2mothers (m2m) Family Mentor Mrs. Kula, and attended 10 CHAMP sessions with his Grassroot Soccer South Africa (GRS) Coach Nonhlakanipho.*

"The thing that challenges me the most about being a teenager, and in my childhood, is going to school. I think that's the biggest issue. School subjects, especially physics and math, are the most challenging for me and the problem I'm facing as a teenager.

I first got involved with Grassroot Soccer when I was seeing our Family Mentor, Mrs. Kula, passing by on the road. She said hi, and then afterwards she came to my house and told me about this organisation, Grassroot Soccer, and registered me in the group. Afterwards, she invited me to one of the events, a career exhibition, and I attended other CHAMP events, too.

**My favourite thing about Grassroot Soccer and CHAMP is the fact that, as I learned more about HIV and AIDS, I also learned more about choosing the future for myself. When I grow up I want to be a doctor, and maybe do media at the same time doing TV presenting. I learned about how to protect**

myself as a teenager and how to protect myself from getting infected with HIV and STIs.

I also learned about choosing the best careers for ourselves, finding what we are good at and have skills in, being a good teenager, and living healthy.

I think I've changed a lot [since joining the programme]. I've learned to take care of myself. I learned more about the future and the environment that I'm living in....I say it's a good idea for youth to join the CHAMP programme so they can learn more about the future, get motivation about themselves, lead others, and get more information about life, how to be a great person, and how to fit things in a great way for the future."

A LOOK AHEAD:

# 2021 OUTLOOK

In 2021, GRS SA is looking forward to expanding its reach among adolescents in South Africa through its direct, modified direct, and indirect programming approaches. GRS SA will continue to strengthen its relationships with its multilateral partners including USAID, CDC, and UNICEF with the aim of contributing to the South African Government's National Development, especially as it relates to youth. GRS SA will look to continuously innovate to address the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, support adolescents with life-saving skills, and ensure that its teams are capacitated to succeed in the changing adolescent health landscape.



# OUR SUPPORTERS



BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation



ExxonMobil

fhi360  
THE SCIENCE OF IMPROVING LIVES

FIFA  
FOUNDATION



FORD  
FOUNDATION

King Baudouin  
Foundation  
Working together for a better society

Laureus  
SPORT FOR GOOD FOUNDATION

MAC  
VIVAGEM



PEPFAR

SVENSKA  
POSTKOD  
STIFTELSEN



unicef



University of the Witwatersrand  
WITS RHI

# AUDITED FINANCIALS

Figures in Rand

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	<u>291,333</u>	<u>675,913</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Trade and other receivables	3,688,358	15,668,190
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>5,647,569</u>	<u>396,727</u>
	<b><u>9,335,927</u></b>	<b><u>16,064,917</u></b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>9,627,260</u></b>	<b><u>16,740,830</u></b>
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained income	123,757	423,359
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Other financial liabilities	<u>1,042,129</u>	<u>10,629,688</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	8,461,374	5,687,783
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>9,503,503</u></b>	<b><u>16,317,471</u></b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>9,627,260</u></b>	<b><u>16,740,830</u></b>

## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Revenue	21,860,590	30,804,621
Other Income	-	95,242
Operating expenses	<u>(22,255,724)</u>	<u>(31,257,041)</u>
<b>Operating loss</b>	<b><u>(395,134)</u></b>	<b><u>(357,178)</u></b>
Investment revenue	<u>95,532</u>	<u>96,709</u>
<b>Loss for the year</b>	<b><u>(299,602)</u></b>	<b><u>(260,469)</u></b>
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive loss for the year</b>	<b><u>(299,602)</u></b>	<b><u>(260,469)</u></b>

# AUDITED FINANCIALS (CONT.)

Figures in Rand

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	<b>RETAINED INCOME</b>	<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>
<b>Balance at 01 January 2019</b>	683,828	683,828
Loss for the year	(260,469)	(260,469)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive loss for the year</b>	<u>(260,469)</u>	<u>(260,469)</u>
<b>Balance at 01 January 2020</b>	<u>423,359</u>	<u>423,359</u>
Loss for the year	(299,602)	(299,602)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive loss for the year</b>	(299,602)	(299,602)
<b>Balance at 31 December 2020</b>	<b>123,757</b>	<b>123,757</b>

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Cash generated from (used in) operations	14,667,084	(2,202,909)
Interest income	<u>95,532</u>	<u>96,709</u>
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b><u>14,762,616</u></b>	<b><u>(2,106,200)</u></b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(9,216)	(83,490)
Sale of property, plant and equipment	<u>85,001</u>	<u>(101,974)</u>
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	<b>75,785</b>	<b>(185,464)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Movement in other financial liabilities	(9,587,559)	702,993
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<b><u>(9,587,559)</u></b>	<b><u>702,993</u></b>
<b>Total cash movement for the year</b>	<b>5,250,842</b>	<b>(1,588,671)</b>
Cash at the beginning of the year	<u>396,727</u>	<u>1,985,398</u>
<b>Total cash at end of the year</b>	<b>5,647,569</b>	<b>396,727</b>

# GRASSROOTSOCCER



## SOUTH AFRICA

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