



# Proud To Make a Difference

I work as a Coach for Grassroots Soccer in Tembisa, Gauteng. Through my work, people are opening up about different issues that affect them. Firstly, they do not know the facts about HIV and the effect it has on people. This is a real problem and it hurts me to know that my community is going through so much difficulty. I was also one of the people that did not have enough information about HIV. I only knew about blood-to-blood contact.

I fell pregnant at a very young age; I was only 17 years old and did not know the risks of not using a condom. I did not know that women are the most vulnerable to HIV. My life was a mess and I thought it was going to end but didn't give up. I fought hard so that I could finish school and I passed my matric and am currently studying IT.

**I hope to continue as a mentor until every girl in South Africa is Determined, Resilient, Empowered, Aids-free, Mentored and Safe. 🙋🙋**

I heard about Grassroots Soccer and I was keen to join. Getting a stipend at the end of the month was not the main reason for being part of the team. I wanted to make a difference in young girls' lives in our community. Being a Grassroots Soccer coach gives me the opportunity to educate the youth about the risks of not using a condom and how to protect themselves from HIV, unplanned pregnancies and abuse, while advising them on how to take care of themselves. Most young women's lives are being destroyed because they do not have the correct information. They do not have people to look up to and to support them.



*Thulisile Sokhulu*

Volunteering as a coach, I am proud to make a big difference in the lives of girls and young women in my community. I hope to continue as a mentor until every girl in South Africa is Determined, Resilient, Empowered, Aids-free, Mentored and Safe.

257 Brooklyn Road, Block D, Equity Park, Brooklyn, Pretoria, Gauteng, 0011, South Africa  
 TEL: +27 12 366 9300 FAX: +27 12 366 9301  
[www.ccisa.org.za](http://www.ccisa.org.za)

**Determined**

**Resilient**

**Empowered**

**AIDS-Free**

**Mentored**

**Safe**

