

## **GRS Partnership Projects** **2004-2016**

### **Botswana**

#### **Youth Health Organization (YOHO) / Seboza Life Skills**

Between 2005-8, GRS partnered with Youth Health Organization (YOHO) in Botswana to launch “Seboza Life Skills”. During this three-year period, GRS provided technical assistance to YOHO, working to create the Seboza Life Skills curriculum, deliver training for all project Coaches, support the development of a comprehensive implementation plan, design the projects’ monitoring and evaluation system and tools, and building a solid program infrastructure and foundation. The TA work GRS provided was incredibly successful, reaching more than 9,000 youth, and in 2008 YOHO assumed full responsibility for project management. GRS transitioned out of Botswana at this time, and continued to provide technical support on an as requested basis.

### **Brazil**

#### **Instituto Promundo / Project F**

In early 2013, GRS and Promundo combined expertise in working with sport and young people to design “Project F” – a sport-based HIV and life skills curriculum for urban youth aged 12-16 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Aimed at developing comprehensive HIV knowledge on high-risk behaviors such as unprotected sex while promoting positive behaviors like HIV testing and healthy decision-making, Project F also seeks to challenge gender norms and promote critical thinking and gender equity. GRS supported the training of 10 Coaches who reached approximately 1,000 youth by the end of the project in December 2014. Promundo is also working towards government adoption of the curriculum with the Ministry of Education.

### **Central African Republic (CAR)**

#### **Mercy Corps / Sports pour La Paix et La Vie**

In August 2010, Mercy Corps contracted GRS to develop “Sports pour La Paix et La Vie” an HIV prevention and life-skills curriculum designed to reach 15-25 year-old youth in rural areas of CAR. The GRS and MC teams adapted the curriculum materials and implementation plan so that Coaches with little to no training and low levels of literacy would be able to effectively implement programming, and receive appropriate management support to do so. The first year of the program was delivered in Bouar, and in late 2011 launched a second round of programming in Bangassou and Rafai. The Sports pour La Paix et La Vie reached 1,174 youth by the project’s end in December 2011.

### **Côte d’Ivoire**

#### **Johns Hopkins Health and Communication Partnership (JHUCCP)/ Sports for Life**

GRS collaborated with JHUCCP in 2006 to design and launch a soccer-based HIV prevention initiative called Sports for Life. Over the course of 4 years (06-10) this successful USAID funded project reached more than 275,000 youth. In order to engage participants’ parents in the fight against HIV/AIDS, *Sports for Life* programs ran concurrently with *Communication Parents-Enfants* (CPE). CPE was designed to give parents the skills to

discuss issues surrounding sexuality and HIV with their children.

The project was delivered in schools and through local soccer teams, as well as through mass communication via TV, radio, and newspapers. During the 2008 Africa Nations Cup *Sports for Life / Play for Life* reached 5 million viewers across the nation. The project engaged several star Ivorian players including Kolo and Yaya Toure.

## **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**

### Lake Tanganyika Floating Health Clinic (LTFHC) / Katanga Kicks

In June 2010, LTFHC hired GRS to design “Katanga Kicks”, a sport-based malaria education intervention for delivery in the Katanga region of DRC. GRS developed the curriculum and training program, and supported design of an implementation plan and monitoring and evaluation system. GRS trained 29 Coaches—including 4 professional Congolese soccer players from TP Mazembe—who delivered Katanga Kicks programming and 15,000 bed nets to 7,500 households (approximately 45,000 individuals), in the areas surrounding Lake Tanganyika.

### Georges Malaika Foundation

Beginning in 2016, GRS and the Georges Malaika Foundation partnered together to implement a curriculum intended to combat the spread of malaria in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The first training of coaches was completed in February, 2016 in Lubumbashi, during which 50 coaches were trained. Georges Malaika operates a school and a newly constructed Football For Hope Centre in Kalebuka, both of which are being used to pilot the malaria curriculum. The Malaika Foundation is committed to improving the lives of African girls and providing them with opportunities for education and personal advancement.

## **Dominican Republic**

### The DREAM Project / Deportes para la Vida

In 2005, GRS began working with the Dominican Republic Education and Mentoring (DREAM) Project to create “Deportes para la Vida” (DPV). Tailored specifically for the Caribbean region, the program utilizes the country’s love of baseball to teach youth life skills and HIV prevention tactics. In 2010, DREAM partnered with the Peace Corps to expand their reach, and now train PCVs to deliver DPV across the nation. At the conclusion of 2015 DREAM and Peace Corps Dominican Republic had together reached almost 10,000 youth. GRS and DREAM regularly share best practices and continue to collaborate around program design and monitoring and evaluation.

## **Equatorial Guinea**

### Biriaelet / Biriaelet SKILLZ

In February 2012, in partnership with local non-profit Biriaelet and ExxonMobil, GRS launched the “Biriaelet SKILLZ” project in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. The two organizations designed a culturally appropriate curriculum and in May 2012 GRS technical staff delivered training for 24 Coaches who began to deliver the program to youth ages 12-18 in schools in July. Since 2012 GRS has continued providing technical assistance as well as organization capacity building support. The project expanded its impact in 2015 and has now reached 3,032 youth with SKILLZ programs, 54% of whom are female.

## **Ethiopia**

### Academy for Educational Development (AED) / Sports for Life

In 2004, Academy for Educational Development (AED) in partnership with the Ethiopian Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Culture, subcontracted GRS to design and implement the “Sports for Life” HIV prevention and life skills project. Physical Education Teachers were trained to implement the SFL curriculum as part of the “Sports for All” program within the Ethiopian school system. This 5-year USAID funded project reached youth in both urban and rural areas across all eleven regions of Ethiopia. Between 2005-14, the program reached 701,705 youth.

### **Guatemala**

#### Mercy Corps / Deportes para la Vida (DPV)

In 2008, Mercy Corps hired GRS to integrate Deportes para la Vida (DPV) into their Community Health and Micro-Credit (CHAM II) program in Guatemala. GRS adapted curriculum and training materials for use in Guatemala prior to providing training for 27 community members as Coaches. These coaches then formed 15 sports groups and engaged more than 500 youth, 80% of them girls, through HIV prevention activities.

### **Haiti**

#### Mercy Corps / Foutbol pou Lavi

In 2011, under the US State Department’s International Sports programming Initiative, Mercy Corps hired GRS to help design “Foutbol pou Lavi”, a Haitian-tailored version of the effective SKILLZ HIV prevention program. Working together to adapt the curriculum, GRS led training for 60 local Coaches in November 2011. Launched on World AIDS Day 2011, the Foutbol pou Lavi Coaches aimed to reach 13,000 youth and community members by 2013, in the country with one of the highest HIV rates in Latin America.

### **India**

#### Dream a Dream / Dream Sports

In January 2011, Bangalore based NGO, Dream a Dream (DAD), hired GRS to develop sports-based life skills curricula for 3 separate age groups. The curricula, collectively called “Dream Sports,” cover topics such as HIV prevention, communication skills, gender equality, and road safety. In April 2011, GRS technical staff trained 20 Coaches to deliver the program, and 10 DAD staff to provide on going training and monitoring & evaluation support. To date, the Dream Sports program has impacted more than 3,000 youth.

### **Kenya**

#### Vijana Amani Pamoja (VAP) / SKILLZ Kenya:

In 2004, VAP founder and Executive Director, Enouce Ndeche, asked GRS for support on how to use the power of soccer to fight HIV in Kenya. Launching our first implementing partnership, we mailed Enouce a copy of the original GRS curriculum, which he used to train a group of 20 Coaches and launch a project in Nairobi that continued operating for the next 5 years. In 2010 funding allowed GRS to design the cutting edge youth behavior change program, SKILLZ Kenya for VAP. Since then, GRS has further developed Skillz Kenya into a two-curriculum approach targeting different age groups and supported the development of VAP's Mrembo project empowering young girls. GRS continues to provide technical support for VAP including curriculum design, program adaptation, training delivery, and monitoring

and evaluation support. The VAP team has reached more than 22,260 youth since 2004, and continues to be one of GRS' strongest local partners.

#### Mercy Corps / LEAP (Local Empowerment for Peace)

In the wake of the heavily disputed 2007 presidential election in Kenya, Mercy Corps engaged GRS to design the LEAP Sport program for local partner A-STEP to implement. With the ambition to help reunite a divided country that had become overrun with violence, the LEAP Sport program combined inter-ethnic sports leagues with a conflict resolution curriculum to help bridge the gap created by the election. A-STEP engaged 270 Coaches to deliver LEAP programs to more than 4,400 youth over a 3-year period, strengthening the ability of young Kenyans to address root causes of violence, and to promote peace and reconciliation at the community level.

#### **Lesotho**

##### Kick4Life (K4L) / Kick4Life

Kick4Life and GRS have closely collaborated since K4L's inception in 2006, continually sharing best practices and lessons learned, effective tools/systems, cross-training staff and volunteers, and proving the collective impact of using sport for development. In 2007 GRS helped develop the original K4L life skills curriculum, which, though constant revision, remains at the cutting edge of HIV prevention and youth development. GRS' continues to offer technical support on curriculum development, training delivery, monitoring & evaluation systems, and staff development. Kick4Life has reached more than 40,000 youth to date. GRS and K4L continue to effectively work together and lead the sport for development field in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

#### **Liberia**

##### Mercy Corps / YES (Youth Education through Life Skills) to Soccer

In 2006, Mercy Corps engaged GRS to develop and support the rollout of a short-term program called "YES to Soccer" aimed at community mobilization and youth life skills development in war-affected regions of Liberia. GRS' technical team collaborated with MC on the design of the 8-week life-skills YES curriculum, and further delivered training to 80 Coaches and Master Coaches across multiple sites in Liberia. Over the 3-months immediately following training, these Coaches reached more than 3,000 war-affected youth with the YES to Soccer program.

#### **Malawi**

##### Baylor Clinic Malawi – Children's Foundation Malawi (BCM-CFM) / SKILLZ Malawi

In 2008, in response to a gap in holistic HIV prevention and treatment efforts for Malawian youth, Baylor and GRS created SKILLZ Malawi, an innovative combination intervention model that uses the power of soccer to link prevention education, HIV testing and adherence to treatment. Between 2008-12, twenty-five highly trained Coach/Counselors delivered the SKILLZ curriculum to 6,994 youth aged 10-18 in schools across Lilongwe, and conducted home visits with each program participant to engage their families in education sessions and private counseling and testing. Additionally, the SKILLZ Malawi team held regular community HIV testing Tournaments, providing communities with a locally based continuum of education, care and treatment support services. Throughout the life of the project, more than 6,700 individuals,

including SKILLZ participants and their family members, were tested for HIV and linked to appropriate referral services.

#### Concern Worldwide / SKILLZ Malawi & SKILLZ Girl

In mid-2013, GRS and Concern Worldwide-Malawi (Concern) collaborated to launch SKILLZ Malawi in the Nsanje and Nkhotakota Districts of Malawi. In early 2014, the two expanded their strategic partnership through the launch of SKILLZ Girl and expanded activities to Mchinji. Both SKILLZ programs are critical components of Concern's Ministry of Health supported maternal and child health project, which aims to improve availability, accessibility and utilization of high quality maternal and reproductive care services, including youth friendly HIV and sexual reproductive health services. At the end of 2014, the GRS Coaches were also trained as Youth Health Assistants by Banja La Mstogolo (Marie Stopes International local affiliate) in order to provide contraception to local youth and provide referrals for youth friendly health services. Preliminary program data has shown this project has contributed to increased uptake of SRH services by youth 12-18 years old including increased use of contraception, HIV testing, and averted teen pregnancies. GRS has provided technical assistance to Concern including program design, curriculum adaptation, training delivery for more than 60 SKILLZ and SKILLZ Girl Coaches, and monitoring and evaluation design and execution. By the end of 2015 Concern had reached 8,085 youth with SKILLZ programs.

#### Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance (GAIA) / SKILLZ Malawi

With support from the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation, GRS and GAIA joined forces at the beginning of 2014 to bring the SKILLZ program to youth in rural Mulanje, Malawi. GRS trained 30 young Coaches who have reinvigorated GAIA's Youth Clubs through the delivery of regular SKILLZ interventions. GRS Coaches also provide support to families through coordinated home visits to encourage uptake of HIV testing and receive additional health services. GAIA's local mobile clinics coordinate with youth club activities to support motivated participants to receive services including HCT. Through 2015, GRS and GAIA had reached 1,941 youth. In 2016, GAIA will be scaling the project into three additional areas of Mulanje and will add Skillz Girl to their portfolio aiming to reach 10,000 youth.

#### Raising Malawi & Home of Hope Children's Home / SKILLZ Malawi

Funding support from the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation allows GRS to collaborate with Madonna's organization, Raising Malawi (RM). The partnership is brought to life through the delivery of SKILLZ Holiday programs at the Home of Hope (HoH) Children's Home in Mchinji, Malawi. GRS specially trained a set of SKILLZ Malawi Coaches on how to deliver a weeklong intervention with youth from HoH, and clinicians and social workers from Baylor and the local district hospital were engaged to provide psychosocial and medical services as necessary. RM and GRS have delivered 4 Holiday programs and reached 239 youth. All youth have been tested for HIV through the holiday programs.

#### Dignitas / SKILLZ Malawi

In 2008, GRS was contracted by Dignitas International, a Canadian medical humanitarian organization with the mission to increase access to effective prevention, treatment and care for HIV/AIDS and related conditions in the developing world to help them launch a



small scale SKILLZ Malawi program in the Zomba district of Malawi. The 6-month project successfully trained 16 Coaches who delivered programs to in- and out-of-school youth.

## **Namibia**

### NawaLife Trust / NawaSport

In 2006, in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University Centre for Communication Programs and Academy for Educational Development (AED), GRS worked closely with NawaLife Trust, a Namibian run health and development communications organization, to design “NawaSport”. The project was delivered through high profile community-based soccer tournaments as a means to bring HIV/AIDS prevention and care messages to men aged 15-35. In 2009, GRS again worked with NLT to incorporate critical behavior change messages in to their Coach’s Guide and increase the capacity of NawaSport Coaches through technical training workshops.

### Academy for Educational Development (AED) / SKILLZ Namibia

In 2007, with support from Johnson & Johnson, AED once again contracted GRS as a technical partner to help design a street soccer program focused on educating out-of-school boys and young men aged 14-24 in Northern Namibia. The resulting “SKILLZ Namibia” program was designed in complement to the NawaSport program, providing critical HIV prevention information to Namibian youth over a longer intervention period. Between 2007-2010, GRS provided technical support for the “SKILLZ Namibia” program by designing curriculum materials, delivering training workshops, developing a comprehensive M&E system, supporting international youth exchange events and ongoing technical advice. The program reached more than 8,000 youth through after school events, soccer leagues and community events.

### Special Olympics Namibia / SKILLZ for Life

In 2009, fellow streetfootballnetwork member Special Olympics Namibia (SON) contracted GRS to develop a SKILLZ curriculum for youth with intellectual disabilities. The resulting “SKILLZ for Life” program sees one SKILLZ for Life Athlete (intellectually disabled youth) “buddy up” with up with one SKILLZ for Life Partner (youth without an intellectual disability). The buddies together learn about HIV prevention methods, support each other to lead healthy lifestyles and identify physical and sexual abuse. In addition to curriculum development, GRS provided technical support to help SON Namibia launch SKILLZ for Life at the Katatura Football for Hope Centre in 2010.

## **Nigeria**

### Youth Empowerment Development Initiative (YEDI) / SKILLZ Naija

In collaboration with YEDI, a non-profit organization based in Lagos, Nigeria, GRS designed and piloted a youth focused malaria and HIV prevention program in 2011. The successful “SKILLZ Naija” program uses soccer to educate Nigerian youth from the most disadvantaged communities, and empowers them by providing important life and coping skills through participatory activities delivered in schools. In early 2015 YEDI rolled out “SKILLZ Girl Naija” which uses powerful female role models to teach girls about sexual reproductive health, and female empowerment. GRS’ technical support and the

organization's exceptional commitment to effective programming has allowed YEDI to train 475 coaches who had reached over 63,100 youth by the end of 2015.

#### Special Olympics Nigeria (SON) / SKILLZ Together

Building on the "Skillz for Life" program with Special Olympics in Namibia, GRS and Special Olympics piloted a renewed and more comprehensive partnership in 2015 with the potential to include multiple countries. The new program includes Malaria and HIV education. Working closely with SO, GRS will provide technical assistance to design and implement an evidence-based and locally inspired program that uses sport to educate, empower and mobilize African youth with and without intellectual disabilities to avoid risks and access critical health care services. In 2015, SO Nigeria trained 15 coaches and reached over 2,000 youth.

#### **South Africa**

##### Isiqalo Foundation / Waves 4 Change (W4C)

In 2011, GRS provided curriculum design support to help develop 'Waves for Change', a pioneering HIV education and life skills program that uses surfing as a tool to engage hard to reach young adults in South Africa's poorest and most dangerous communities. Based around proven educational curriculum developed for first-time water users, W4C uses surfing to create an alternative learning environment for children and young adults who are identified by their schools and communities as 'at-risk'. Youth participants complete symbolic beach and water games, role plays, debates and discussion groups which educate about community building, value and goal setting, and addressing the challenges of HIV, substance abuse, peer pressure, violence and gender discrimination.

##### Hoops 4 Hope / Soccer 4 Hope

In 2007, GRS partnered with Hoops 4 Hope (H4H) in Cape Town, to design "Soccer 4 Hope," an HIV prevention and life skills program for young women that focused on challenging gender norms, combating violence against women, and encouraging healthy lifestyles. GRS' technical team supported the design of an interactive curriculum and delivered training for the S4H team to manage and deliver an effective sport based life skills program for young girls in South Africa.

##### Grassroots Edge

In 2014 a dedicated group of former Grassroot Soccer coaches and staff members in Kimberley, South Africa founded Grassroots Edge to continue providing HIV prevention and gender-based violence education in their community. GRS continues to provide technical assistance to GE with organizational development, business development and capacity building for staff. GE maintains 70 active coaches who, by the end of 2015, had graduated over 2,000 youth from their programs. They additionally tested over 8,850 individuals for HIV, and plan to continue their excellent work in 2016.

##### MacAIDS PPP-CBOs

In 2015 Grassroot Soccer and MacAIDS commenced a public-private partnership with USAID to reach South African youth with GRS SKILLZ curriculum through community-based organizations (CBOs). The project will capacitate up to 10 organizations over 3 years to deliver life-changing interventions to 10,000 youth. In 2015, GRS formally trained three

organizations in South Africa to facilitate the newly created SKILLZ Athande curriculum: Philakahle, YASPO and Waterberg Welfare Society.

- Philakahle: Based in the scenic foothills of the Drakensberg Mountains around Bergville, Philakahle was formed in 2003 in order to encourage the well-being of rural populations in the Okhahlamba region of KwaZulu-Natal. Philakahle trained 27 coaches in 2015 that reached over 1,369.
- Youth Ambassadors Sports Program Outreach (YASPO): Located in rural Mpumalanga near the town of Marapyane, YASPO uses the power of sport to empower youth, develop community leaders and stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. In 2015, YASPO reached 674 youth and held the organization's second ever HTC testing tournament and holiday camp.
- Waterberg Welfare Society (WWS): Located in Limpopo Province, WWS has many inventive programs designed to help local people affected by HIV/AIDS, including an income generating community garden, radio show and OVC centre. During 2015, WWS was able to train 20 local coaches and reach over 500 youth.

### Hope in South Africa (HISA)

HISA is a community-based organization from Richmond, Northern Cape that focuses on improving the lives of youth through health, education and sanitation programs. GRS and HISA began their partnership in 2009 with Skillz Core and Generation Skillz being implemented in both primary and secondary schools respectively to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in their region. HISA recently expanded their work with GRS by implementing the SKILL Athande curriculum in schools in Richmond and Colesberg to educate local youth on the dangers of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

### SKILLZ Together – Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness

Beginning in 2015, GRS piloted a program aimed at addressing the serious issue of FASD in the Northern Cape, which has some of the highest FASD prevalence rates in the entire world. Funded by Rotary International, the project is an ongoing collaboration between GRS, HISA, Grassroots Edge, Hantam Trust Farm and FASFacts. With the feedback and assistance of their partner organizations, GRS developed a curriculum designed to raise community awareness about the dangers of alcohol abuse and FASD called SKILLZ Together. The pilot stages of the project occurred in 2015 and the program aims to reach over 3,000 youth during 2016.

## **South Sudan**

### Mercy Corps / Sports for Peace & Life

Between 2006-7, GRS was contracted by Mercy Corps in South Sudan to design "Sports for Peace & Life," a sport-based HIV prevention and conflict management curriculum. GRS technical staff delivered comprehensive training for representatives from the Ministry of Culture, Youth, and Sport from the 10 states of South Sudan. Over the course of 9 months, GRS led 14 Training of Trainers workshops, reaching a total of 366 facilitators. Once trained, these facilitators graduated a combined 5,500 youth from the Sports for Peace & Life program.

## **Swaziland**

### Centre for HIV and AIDS Prevention Studies (CHAPS)



Founded in 2010, CHAPS is at the forefront of global HIV/AIDS prevention research through their work on voluntary male medical circumcision (VMMC). They have pioneered studies in South Africa regarding VMMC's effect on decreasing HIV transmission amongst males and have conducted over 300,000 circumcisions in South Africa and Swaziland. GRS and CHAPS are currently forming a program that aims to dramatically increase the uptake of VMMC services in South Africa and Swaziland.

## **Tanzania**

### FHI360 / ZINDUKA kupitia SOKA

In 2008, during the first year of FHI360's UJANA project (a 5-year, USAID funded youth HIV prevention initiative), GRS was contracted as a technical service provider to develop a football-based life skills and HIV prevention curriculum for Tanzanian youth. The resulting "ZINDUKA kupitia SOKA" program uses analogies and language from the game of soccer to deliver key messages and facilitate vital conversations that promote healthy, responsible, risk-reducing behaviors among boys and girls aged 10-19. Over the course of the project, 4 local Implementing Partners have been engaged in delivery of ZINDUKA programs across Tanzania: IDYDC in Iringa and Dar es Salaam (formerly Youth Serve Trust in Dar es Salaam), Faraja Trust in Morogoro and Peace Corps countrywide. Collectively, more than 10,000 youth graduated from the 4 year PEPFAR funded program.

### IDYDC / ZINDUKA kupitia SOKA

Since 2008, GRS and IDYDC have partnered to deliver critical HIV and malaria prevention messaging to Tanzanian youth through the ZINDUKA kupitia SOKA project. During 2015, ZINDUKA Coaches reached approximately 2,000 youth with HIV programming and encouraged over 700 community members to test for HIV. IDYDC coaches have graduated just under 10,000 youth since 2012. In 2014, IDYDC also piloted Jitambue Msichana (aka SKILLZ Girl) in Iringa to address gender-based violence and provide young Tanzanian women with a voice. Peace Corps extension volunteers have been placed with IDYDC since 2012 to support daily program execution, capacity building of IDYDC staff, and monitoring and evaluation efforts of the ZINDUKA program. GRS continues to provide IDYDC with technical support as they continue to be one of GRS' strongest partners.

### BRAC

In 2015, GRS and BRAC entered into a partnership to study sexual and reproductive behavior amongst adolescent girls in Tanzania. The program features an RCT to assess outcomes of BRAC's numerous youth clubs throughout the country in terms of uptake of sexual reproductive health services and behaviors. The BRAC Empowerment and Livelihoods for Adolescents (ELA) program had 160 clubs reaching over 6,500 girls at the beginning of the partnership in 2015. GRS is very excited to see the partnership develop in 2016 and expand their work with BRAC in the areas of SRH education and gender equality.

### Symbion Sports Group Limited (SSGL)

SSGL oversees the Jakaya M. Kikwete Youth Park in Dar Es Salaam. The JMK Youth Park opened in mid-2015 and has been reaching youth through schools, mobilizing street children, targeting out-of-school youth, and engaging league play. SSGL has partnered with GRS and IDYDC to implement the Zinduka curriculum to address HIV/AIDS and malaria prevention as well as Zinduka Girl curriculum to empower young girls to be agents of change in their community. SSGL is targeted to reach over 7,000 youth during 2016.

## **Uganda**

### Menstrual Hygiene and Safe Male Circumcision Promotion in Ugandan Schools (MENISCUS)

Currently a collaborative study between GRS, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Uganda Virus Research Institute and MRC Uganda, MENISCUS aims to analyze the positive effects that menstrual hygiene education and voluntary male medical circumcision (VMMC) have on Ugandan boys and girls, respectively. Early results from this RCT demonstrate negative correlation between menstrual education and school absenteeism for adolescent girls. Similarly, VMMC interventions have been shown to increase uptake of services in a country where less than a quarter of males are circumcised. GRS is excited to see programming efforts and results expand in 2016.

## **Ukraine**

### GIZ / Fair Play

In conjunction with the Ministry of Health and the State Service of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, GIZ launched the “Fair Play” school-based, healthy lifestyle program in 2011. GRS and GIZ worked together to strengthen and expand Fair Play and have engaged more than 600 teachers across Ukraine to deliver Fair Play programs to the general youth population (10–17 year olds). Fair Play was adopted by the Ministry of Education and enabled GIZ and GRS to reach 50,024 youth by the end of the project in December 2014.

### Peace Corps Ukraine / Free Kick

Building on a successful global partnership, GRS and PC have designed the “Free Kick” life skills and HIV prevention program for implementation across Ukraine and targeting most-at-risk groups. GRS and PC technical staff have developed a Coach’s Guide as well as Summer Camp & VCT Event implementation toolkits, drawing from GRS’ evidence based Peace Corps SKILLZ Curriculum materials. More than 100 Peace Corps Volunteers, Community Leaders and Youth Peer Educators have been trained as Free Kick Coaches, and delivered the program to 2,412 youth beneficiaries, juvenile detainees and at vocational school participants by September 2014. Additionally, Free Kick encouraged 3,952 community members to test for HIV, and link them to appropriate referral and treatment services as necessary.

## **Worldwide**

### Peace Corps / Peace Corps SKILLZ

In 2011, GRS and Peace Corps signed a global MOU to support one another in implementing effective HIV-prevention and life-skills behavior change programming for youth worldwide. In response to direct requests from PC posts and Volunteers, GRS has designed “Peace Corps SKILLZ” toolkits and evidence based behavior change curricula specific to the unique needs of PCVs, their community counterparts, and their rural communities. PC SKILLZ is delivered to youth ages 10-19 by local community members in partnership with their Volunteer. The PC SKILLZ suite includes PC SKILLZ (HIV prevention), Malaria SKILLZ (malaria prevention), and SKILLZ Girl (gender empowerment and HIV prevention). PCVs are provided with basic program materials including an indestructible football, and regular guidance from GRS technical staff. GRS has also developed several training models to meet the needs of Peace Corps posts. Through January 2016, GRS has trained just under 2,000

Peace Corps Volunteers and their counterparts, and have collectively reached 36,856 youth.

F-MARC (FIFA's Medical Assessment and Research Centre) / 11 for Health

In 2009, F-MARC contracted GRS to develop an innovative sport-based curriculum to educate youth on basic health issues. Building on the success of F-MARC's previous "11+" initiative, which gave participants 11 simple steps to avoid sports-related injuries, GRS helped develop "11 for Health." The program breaks down the complexities of living a healthy life into 11, discrete messages, including AIDS awareness, malaria prevention, respect for women and girls, avoiding alcohol and substance abuse, and maintaining basic hygiene. Since the successful pilot in South Africa in 2009, FIFA has expanded the program to Botswana, Colombia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, and Zimbabwe.