COACH MPILO
EXPLAINER

"An HIV positive personal coach to help me journey through my HIV positive life in the best, most supported way"

Coach Mpilo is:

- An HIV positive male who is living openly and positively with HIV and has been adherent to treatment for at least a year.
- A male role model able to stand his ground about his HIV positive status. He fully understands the benefit of adherence and the motivations and desires associated with it.
- A people's person able to communicate with and motivate a wide spectrum of men.
- A reliable, problem-solving orientated individual who understands the challenges men with HIV face.
- A non-judgmental, empathic leader who can help a man initiate treatment but more importantly stick to it.
- A Skilled recruitment advocate and organizer.

Coach Mpilo uses the analogy of a soccer coach to quickly impart the role and nature of relationship being offered to a User / Player / Client.

The impact mechanism in Coach Mpilo is:

- The nature of the relationship,
- The 'living positively with HIV' status of the Coach,
- The personality and people skills of the Coach,
- The knowledge and mentorship of the Coach,
- and most uniquely, the longevity of contact.

The Coach Mpilo training focuses intently on forging an individual relationship, managing that relationship and maintaining or exiting that relationship.
The training envisaged will also capacitate coaches to help players 'trouble -shot' their health and problem - solve generally.

Because Coach Mpilo operates in casual settings and doesn't follow a prescribed 'time limited engagement', the demands on him require the ability to tailor the relationships he has with his clients according to the issues that emerge organically, this skill set requires a wider scope and deeper level investment in his people management training.

An important part of the Coach Mpilo model is its cascading knowledge and stigma reduction element, knowledge flowing from super coach, down to coach, down to player. Each coach is required to recruit 20 'players' which will require an important module on 'managing your 20'.