

SWAZI SHEROES

Freedom
begins with
economic
empowerment



A program of :





SWAZI SHEROES

We envision an Eswatini where empowered women have a seat at the economic table and their health, livelihoods, and future are in their own hands.



Eswatini has the highest prevalence of HIV in the world.



Women ages 15-24 are 4x more likely than men to be HIV positive. HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death among women.

OUR APPROACH

Swazi SHEROES focuses on fighting HIV/AIDS through economic empowerment. The goal of SHEROES is to work with young women to build entrepreneurial and workforce skills that translate into viable, sustainable economic opportunities.

HOLISTIC SUPPORT

Job training and mentoring complemented by mental health support

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

SHEROES will learn entrepreneurship, marketing, and business skills in order to achieve economic independence

MENTORSHIP

Participants return to the program to mentor and coach a next generation of SHEROES



Swazi SHEROES aligns with three of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and nine program elements

SHEROES is aligned with three of the SDG's outlined by the United Nations.

- **SDG #3:** Good Health and Well Being
- **SDG # 5:** Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
- **SDG #8:** Decent Work and Economic Growth

PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- Psychosocial Support
- Communication/Life Skills Training
- Financial Literacy/Support
- Job Skills Training
- Job Placement and Coaching
- Sexual/Reproductive Health Education
- Parenting Skills
- Volunteering
- Emergency Housing



Our Founders



Steve Driehaus is a former U.S. Representative for Ohio's first congressional district. From March of 2011 to December 2015, Driehaus served as Peace Corps' Country Director in Eswatini focusing on HIV/AIDS education and gender empowerment.



Zandile Nhleko is a dynamic and motivated public health professional in Eswatini with a proven record of managing projects from concept to completion, generating and building healthy work relationships, designing health education curricula, and project monitoring and evaluation. She has extensive experience in the health sector of Eswatini, and holds a Masters of Public Health, as well as a Bachelor of Nursing Science degrees.



Melanie Heston - Dlamini Is a passionate advocate of youth empowerment and community development. Melanie served four years as a youth development Peace Corps volunteer in Eswatini. During her service she created, launched, and oversaw programs and campaigns targeting orphaned and vulnerable children, teen mothers, and the nation's youth as a whole. She also launched her own program to impart job skills and personal development training to the Swati girl child. She holds a bachelors degree in Architecture and Urban Planning from the University of Washington.

