



POSITIVELY ALIVE

Faghmeda Miller

Based: Cape Town

Description: Motivational HIV+ Guest Speaker



Faghmeda Miller is the first Muslim woman in South Africa after diagnosed with HIV in 1994, to have publicly disclosed her HIV status (1996.)

Thus far she has survived living with HIV for 27 years where doctors initially gave her 5 years to survive after diagnoses.

She has done several television programs locally and internationally, and appeared in various magazines, newspapers, documentaries and on radio stations in Cape Town where she is living and other provinces in South Africa. Her documentary "The Malawian kiss" and "Beyond Positive" tells her story, and shares how she continues to educate others about the virus. In 2000 Faghmeda received the Femina "Women of Courage" Award and was nominated for "Women that made difference" in their community.

She have completed short courses in HIV&AIDS Counselling Course (5 days), Counselling and Testing, The role of men as partners in HIV&AIDS campaigns, Basic counselling Course, Lifeline/Child line – counselling Skills Course and Completion of various HIV&AIDS Workshops.

In 2011 Faghmeda received the DramAide, John Hopkins, and USAID Award for Media Face and Health Promoter of the Year. Since then she has been awarded many more awards for her role in the community and for living openly with the HI Virus. In January 2001 she achieved her "greatest award", to herself, performing Hajj, holy pilgrimage with her mom.

Her message to newly diagnosed HIV positive people, "HIV is not curable but it is manageable therefore do not think it is the end, rather see it as the beginning of a new life, don't give up, persevere".

My disease cannot be by chance, I believe God chose me to become an ambassador of this pandemic, speaking openly about Living with HIV.

HIV is part of ME; it is who I AM but it does not define ME or stops me from living my life the way I want to live it.

"You only live once, if you do it right, once is enough....."

For more information or to book **Faghmeda Miller** as your guest speaker contact:

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