‘My Story’ – Young people, some paints and Adolescent Engagement in HIV Research
“Zvandiri’ – Peer-led HIV testing, treatment, care and support services for children and adolescents living with HIV
Methods
Key Principles

- Confirmed disclosure of HIV status
- Anonymity assured
- Caregiver consent; story teller assent
- Safe, confidential, trusted space
- Author ownership of films and photos
- Author’s final sign off
- Sharing with caregivers
- Full engagement in dissemination
Story Telling – what did we learn?

- A powerful, effective approach to engaging young people in their own research
- Enables them to elicit their needs and experiences
  - Late disclosure, HIV status, grief and loss, neglect and violence, stigma, poverty
  - Impact on adherence, viral suppression, engagement in care, mental health
  - Importance of peers and supportive adults in improved outcomes

- A therapeutic process
  - Sharing of experiences not shared before
  - Reframing the dominant themes in their lives
Dissemination

Peer Reviewed Papers

Text Books
Dissemination
Impact

- Improved mental health
- New Skills
- Improved evidence
- Improved service delivery
- Informed guidance
- Youth Researchers
To find out more.....

www.africaid-Zvandiri.org/resources

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