## AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



Princess Kasune Zulu | HIV and AIDS speaker/educator & advocate



Zulu and family in Zambia



Belina Collins and Princess Kasune Zulu.

www.princesszulu.com

## The People's Princess

Princess Kasune Zulu of Zambia was only 17 when she lost both her parents to a mystery illness. Although she worked to provide for herself and her six siblings as best she could, she believed the only way out was to enter into a relationship with a much older man. She soon became pregnant and married him, settling into life as a village wife and mother. Years later, now a mother of two young daughters, she realized that the disease that took her parent's lives was, in fact, AIDS. Determined to find out her own status, Zulu herself tested HIV positive in 1997. Despair at the diagnosis quickly turned to determination as she realized, "This is why God put me on earth. HIV is my cause, my mountain to climb."

Although her husband forbade her to speak about her status, Zulu could go back to her regular routine while her neighbors were dying. Breaking the barriers of African culture that forbade talking about sex and disease prevention, she soon embarked on a campaign to educate other Zambians to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS. Knowing that unconventional methods would be required to reach those most at risk, she gave seminars to major employers, worked with churches and primary and secondary schools, and even hitchhiked with truck drivers.

Princess Zulu has dedicated her life to fighting the global AIDS epidemic and has become a much sought after keynote speaker. She has met with senior government leaders from the British and Irish Parliaments, her own President of the Republic of Zambia, Senator Hillary Clinton and the wife of the UN Secretary General, Mrs. Nane Annan. In 2003 Zulu was part of a delegation to the White House's Oval Office that met with President Bush and former Secretary of State Colin Powell, convincing the US government to commit \$15 billion to the AIDS epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa.

Zulu is the co-founder and former associate pastor of Apostolic Church in Zambia Newton Branch. She currently leads global missions as an associate pastor at River City Church in Chicago. She is an HIV and AIDS advocate and educator for World Vision's HIV and AIDS HOPE Initiative. In this role she speaks about the HIV and AIDS crisis around the world and aims to raise awareness about related issues such as education for girls, child labor, child soldiers, child prostitution, human rights and gender and equality.

Belinda Collins, a native of Australia, is a speaker, author and communications specialist. She undertakes strategic projects and builds relationships between charitable organizations and the broader community. Belinda holds degrees in business and public relations from RMIT. She lives with her husband Darren and son Samuel in Melbourne.



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