This is the story of how everyday people help keep the world on the pathway to ending HIV and TB.

Each morning Thabiso passes a billboard for HIV testing. Today he decides it is time he gets tested. Through free rapid testing at a clinic, Thabiso learns he is HIV positive. He is scared of what this means for him and his family – his wife Margaret is pregnant with their second child and has never been tested for HIV.

The health worker tells Thabiso that the best way to stay healthy is to start HIV medication right away – and he agrees. Thabiso knows that he must now stay strong and tell Margaret his status, so that she may also get tested.

The next day Thabiso goes with Margaret to the antenatal clinic, where she gets tested and learns she is HIV positive. They listen carefully to the nurse explain how they can best protect their unborn baby.

They agree to do what is necessary, and Margaret starts HIV medication immediately. She screened negative for TB, so also starts TB preventive treatment. Margaret vows to stay on the medication, and give birth at the health facility, so the new baby can be given preventative HIV medicine once born.

Because Thabiso and Margaret do not know when they got HIV, the nurse advises them to get their older child tested. When their child's HIV test result is positive, they immediately start her on HIV treatment – and on TB preventive treatment, because the nurse did not find symptoms.

Through enrollment at the clinic, the health worker also screens Thabiso for TB – he is told he has no symptoms, and he agrees to start TB preventive treatment.

Thabiso worries that, like him and his family, his friends may underestimate their HIV risk. He tells them his story to encourage them to get tested. One friend says his doctor at the TB clinic tested him for HIV – and he is also HIV positive.

Another friend has an appointment at the male circumcision clinic, but shares that he has never been tested for HIV. After Thabiso’s story, he decides he should also get tested while at the clinic.

He tells Thabiso and the others that he has kept himself healthy by taking all of his HIV and TB medications.

Thabiso, Margaret and their daughter keep taking their medication, and Margaret gives birth at a facility. Their new baby tests negative for HIV within his first two months – but they know he must be tested again. The second test, given after Margaret stops breastfeeding, confirms that their new son is HIV NEGATIVE!

Margaret, Thabiso and their daughter are given the test and are told that there is very little HIV in their blood because of their commitment to staying on lifelong medication. The nurse explains that the less HIV there is, the more likely they will lead healthier lives and the less likely the virus will be transmitted. She tells them that they should be proud, and urges them to remain on this successful path.

By taking each step on this path, Thabiso, Margaret and their friends joined the millions of others who have contributed to saving lives and ending the HIV and TB epidemic.

The following are CDC’s contributions to the global effort to end HIV and TB as part of PEPFAR.