

Team 8

## *Tonya Haygood*



*I'm dancing  
because...*

I am a survivor of  
domestic violence  
and I want to  
encourage others  
that you can find joy  
and you can survive  
tough moments in  
life.

### *About me:*

As a US Marine Reservist, earning her eagle, globe and anchor was one of the greatest accomplishments Tonya ever completed. She later found herself in abusive relationships but the drive, toughness and determination that was cultivated in her through the Marines would not let her be a victim.

Since 2009, Tonya has awarded over 375 crowns to girls as a symbol of empowerment. She teaches them how to use their crowns as platforms and serve their communities. Her Platform is building their confidence. Tonya helps cultivate their gifts and talents while encouraging young people to fight their fears.

A 4-time National title holder in National Beauty Pageants that award titles on outer AND internal beauty along with community involvement, Tonya received the United States Presidential Volunteer Silver and Bronze awards , and is the author of two published children's books.