

# LESEDI (RIFILWE) BAKERY PROJECT



**LOCATION:** South of Lanseria Airport, South Africa.

**TARGET GROUP:** Lesedi (Rifilwe) community

## HISTORY AND BACKGROUND.

In June 2008 Lonehill Methodist Church in partnership with Siyabonga bakery trained ten underprivileged and marginalised women from Lesedi (Rifilwe) in bread and cake making and two of these women were further trained in basic business management. Startup in the form of equipment (10 loaf capacity oven, flour mixer and oven trays), space (in the Manse), and ingredients (flour, cake mix and bread mix for a year) were provided and thus the Lesedi (Rifilwe) Bakery Project was born.

The project is located South of Lanseria Airport, Johannesburg, on a plot donated to the Methodist Church by Mr Drummond. The residents are former farm workers, who worked for Mr Drummond, and their families. Upon his death the workers and their families continued to reside on the plot but were unable to continue income generating activities. The donation of land to the Methodist Church was a bid to serve the community that was facing enormous challenges that stemmed from unemployment caused by the owners passing away. True to its nature of constantly engaging underprivileged and marginalised communities in areas of hunger and poverty alleviation, the Methodist Church established several projects to combat these social vices, which include the Bakery Project.

The Project is managed by the Rifilwe Methodist Church on behalf of the Lonehill Methodist Church. It currently has a staff complement of 5 volunteers who bake bread and rolls on a daily basis. Raw material are purchased from Premier Foods and packaging from Randburg. The current production levels of the bakery are approximately 20 loaves a day and 70 rolls. The market share is made up of the community and Aftercare Project, also an initiative of the Methodist church.

As the Project heads towards its vision of the eradication of poverty and hunger within the Lesedi (Rifilwe) community, it would certainly be a shot in the arm if the project were to have a bigger guaranteed client e.g. a reputable supermarket and a delivery vehicle for distributing their products.



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