

**MAMA DORAH TSHABALALA**  
**Ncedisizwe Pre School**  
**IKAGENG - Potchefstroom**

**VISIT – 12 NOVEMBER 2009**

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Objective of unannounced visit:

- To observe a day with Mama from as early as possible
- To evaluate her routine with CMA projects

07h00 Unexpected arrival.

Found a very 'shocked to see me' Mama Dorah in her pyjamas baking up a storm with two fellow caregivers.  
Pink cakes were ready previous afternoon.  
There was already about 15 children at the centre.  
Dozens of commuters waiting in cues for their taxis stood just outside her centre.  
It was evident that the day starts much earlier than 06h00 at Ma Dorah's



07h30 Cleaning and more cleaning.

The bakery is clean – all equipment is clean – very impressive  
Mama Dorah is still in her pyjamas overseeing the bread rising and the children that constantly streams into the centre.



07h50 Ma Dorah realises that some caregiver and phone shop chap has still not arrived.

She only now gets a chance to get dressed  
Ma Dorah was very excited with her Best Boiler that replaces the broken one.



08h50 Children are still arriving – the ABC 123 blocks are given and played with.  
6 members have already come to use the phone and Ma Dorah pulls out the mobile public phone



09h10 The bread is taken out and top of bread is stuck to lid – Ma Dorah is not happy that they forgot to grease the lid. (community prefers flat top bread)  
The kitchen is spotless – we get a chance to have a quick cup of tea and go through CMA forms and discuss her dream that she is currently working hard at.



The Bread poster is a hit with Dorah, Dineo, Magdaleen and Patricia

09h30 Baking starts all over – this time with the famous Potch biscuits



09h45 Famous Potch biscuits are out – more is put in  
The table outside is being prepared to layout all the goodies for sale.

10h00 Ma Dorah shows me where they need to go for water – across the road and around  
The children's toilet is just around the corner of the centre – no toilets...just buckets in the open.  
The phone shop chap finally arrives and both Vodacom phone shop and mobile phone is kept busy constantly.



10h30 Everyone gets a piece of hot fresh bread and juice (I got the biggest piece)  
The children sing a song or five and recite the months in English, Afrikaans and in Tswana.



10h45 Ma Dorah pulls out sewing machine and overlock – proudly shows me the cute and most colourful outfit for boys made out of off-cuts and the denim blocks she has cut out to make the first of many ¾ throw overs. These will be decorated with embroidered flowers and various off-cuts. She will use her new found knowledge of the overlock to finish these strips off perfectly. At the last sewing course she was so impressed with what her sewing machine can do as far as embroidery is concerned and will now put it into action with the embroidered flowers.



11h00 SAP arrives to use the phone and purchase their daily Potch biscuits  
The police are very visible in the area but it still won't allow Ma Dorah to take the children for a walk.



11h30 Nap time for the children – good to know that the sleeping lining from Gateway Village is on its way and will make for good bedding where the children can nap lying down.  
Slowly but surely the goodies are selling – Ma Dorah is using the bread poster to show that there is fresh bread baked here.



12h00 There is a constant smell of fresh baked goods coming from the kitchen.  
Lunch for children is now being prepared too (fish, pasta, peas & tomato meat dish).



12h30 Lunch is being served.  
Children say grace and get stuck in.  
Ma Dorah can now carry on with her other office work and sewing project – which keeps her busy to about 22h00.



13h00 Ma Dorah and I continue to discuss projects and vision / assisted her with completing the Siyabonga daily reports – left around 13h45.



#### Observation of the day:

Mama Dorah is serious about her CMA projects – she will have THE bakery in the Sarafina, Ikageng area.

She is grateful that she is in the business hub of town with taxi commuters just outside her door early morning and evening.

I did suggest to Ma Dorah that she tries to sell items before 08h00 (i.e. biscuits and pink cakes) to the commuters waiting for taxis.

She has a well run set up – the caregivers looking after the children get on with their routine and allows Ma Dorah to attend to her kitchen and in the afternoon her sewing.



Part of her dream is to have their own veggie garden – this will be a reality when the surrounding shacks are removed from her property.



Cooking and Baking – currently generates average income R200/day

- She will specialize in cooking meals to be sold at R20/plate – big demand
- Bread baking still on top of the chart
- Confectionery baking growing well
- She is very excited about the beginners baking course – her 1<sup>st</sup> CMA baking course



Sewing – currently generates average income R300-R500/month

- continues to do kids outfits and other clothing with material off-cuts that she sells locally
- will continue with evening dresses to sell/hire
- she enjoys sewing duvet/throw overs

Needs:

- running water
  - hot and cold water in the kitchen
  - toilets for children
  - toilet for caregivers

The council promised her water 8 years ago but has still not come to the party – now they require her to pay R2950 before they do anything.

Paint: kitchen inside / new rooms built and outside area

Sign: marketing sign to market her products



*Proud hard working team  
Magdaleen Moabi, Dineo Dlomo (niece)  
– Ma Dorah – Patricia Dlomo (daughter)*

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