## **TIholego Community Members**



**Kentse Mokgokolo** comes from Tlhabane, a township outside Rustenburg in the Northwest. She was married to Fanki, a long time community member, who passed away at the end of 2007. They have a daughter Basadi and two grandchildren. Kentse is a Board member of Rucore, and has been a key public relations person and office manager for Tlholego.



**Tampoki Dinloane** was born in 1963, and is from Zeerust, a township outside of Mafikeng. He arrived at Tlholego in 1994. He has specialised in mudbrick making and building with earth. Tampoki is quiet in nature and has an inner strength and endurance that shows up on the building site. When working close by to Tampoki, one most likely will hear his joyful singing.



**Karabo Dinloane** is Tampoki's son who has lived in this area all his life. His grandfather lived and worked on this land prior to Tlholego being established. Karabo had difficulty in learning at school when he was young due to hearing problems. He has chosen to work and to further his learning in a practical way. He loves to play soccer.



**Stephne Fain** was born in Johannesburg in 1964. Her Tswana name is 'Mamoosa', which translated into English means 'woman who guides us'. Stephne has a flexible nature. She can be placed in many situations and feels comfortable and present. She enjoys adventure and likes to participate in diverse social and cultural environments.



**Paul Cohen** was born in 1959 and grew up in Johannesburg. He is passionate about the idea of sustainable communities and ecological design. His ability to recognise what will be important for the future has driven him to set up Tlholego.



**David Cohen** moved to Tlholego a month after he was born. He has grown up with Karabo and Masego and has maintained a close friendship with them. David has grown up within a diversity of global cultures. He relates to both rural and urban lifestyles. His close relationship with Karabo and Masego has enabled him to learn some Setswana phrases and songs.



**Mating Njana** was born in the Free State in 1954 and was one of the first people to live and work at Tlholego. She is married to Sethanye, and has two children and four grandchildren who have grown up at Tlholego. Before moving to Tlholego in 1994, she did not know how to grow vegetables but is now in charge of planning the planting of the food gardens.



**Sethanye Nakedi** grew up in the village of Siega in the North West. His father taught him to care for goats and cattle and grow food. He has extensive knowledge of traditional methods of building using natural materials and tactics for survival that rely on understanding the natural environment. He is a community elder and is described by his family and friends as a quiet, gentle man who has a lot of knowledge.



**Nene Nakedi** was born in 1974 at Magatlashoek, which is situated close to Tlholego. Nene lives in a mudbrick house in the village with her partner and has three children, Thabang, Kamogelo and Phantsi. She likes to stay close to home and only goes to town when she needs to shop for Tlholego. She likes to manage money and is in charge of the centre during workshops.



**Modiegi Nakedi** was born in 1986 in Magatlashoek. She came to Tlholego with her parents at the age of seven. Modiegi has matriculated and now works in catering and waitressing at a conference centre close by. She lives with her parents and has a one-year-old child who was born at Tlholego. She loves all the different cultures that pass through Tlholego.



**Thabang Nakedi** was born in 1990 in Magatlashoek. Thabang's family have described her as 'a sangoma'<sup>1</sup>. Her character is quiet and reserved and she is sometimes difficult to get to know. Thabang left school when she was 15 and now works at a conference centre close to Tholego. She enjoys meeting international visitors at Tholego.



**Mmamiki Nakedi** was born in 1973 in Rietfontein Swartruggens in the Northwest. She came to Tlholego in 1995 with her daughter Masego. Mmamiki enjoys going to church on weekends. She loves to cook traditional meals from food grown at Tlholego. She is interested in the relationship between food and nutrition.



**Masego Nakedi** was born in 1994 in Magatlashoek. She has lived at Tlholego since she was 6 months old. Her teachers say she is an enthusiastic student and has an advanced understanding of the English language. She loves to meet interesting people from around the world who come to teach and learn at Tlholego. One day she hopes to visit an ecovillage outside South Africa.



**Stoki Nakedi** was born in Koster about 30 km from Tlholego. She came to live at Tlholego in 1995 when she was 10 years old as her mother was unable to take care of her. Sethanye and Mating have adopted Stoki. She is matriculated and is now a programme manager at Tlholego.

Figure 9: Members of Tlholego Community

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> African traditional healer.