

SMME Profile

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African Dish Restaurant is a recipient of the North West COVID-19 Relief Fund

FORMAL BUSINESS FEATURE: POPPY'S AFRICAN DISH RESTAURANT

Registration Number: 2008/178777/23

The message Mr & Mrs Mangope had for MEC Mosenogi and her team:

"Thank you MEC. The relief fund has greatly assisted us"

Poppy's African Dish Restaurant is a formal private business found in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District in Zeerust and is owned by Mr Mosupi & Mrs Virginia Mangope. This business has been in operation since 2003, approximately 19 years.



100% Black and family owned, Poppy's African Dish Restaurant has a delightful African ambience which is evident upon entering the restaurant. Greeted with smiles by Mrs Virginia Mangope, who is soft spoken yet has a determination and passion in her eyes and body language and her staff, together with motivational, spiritual messages on the wall, we immediately felt at home and very welcome. The delectable smell of food cooking in the background rounded off our meet and greet .

In the beginning there was a lot of unemployment and Virginia was not working at that time. Mr Mangope had a job in government but Virginia wanted to have an income to contribute to the household expenses. She previously worked for Spar which closed down and then worked for a fast food shop whilst trying to assist and alleviate some of the poverty by putting food on the table for other families. This all empowered Virginia, who was a brilliant cook, had a passion

for food and with the relevant experience under her sleeve, to open up Poppy's African Restaurant. As Virginia pointed out, cooking is a family trait that has been brought down from generation to generation.



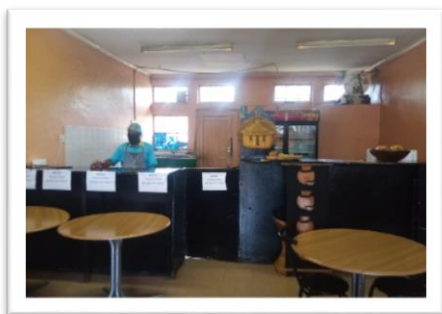
However, since COVID-19 it has become a dilapidated situation and financial aid was desperately and still is needed. They have had to down size staff and have had to try to systematically rebuild the business day by day.

Despite the challenges that COVID-19 has brought, Mosupi and Virginia are determined to rebrand the business and augment it whilst leaving a legacy for the fourth generation and their last born son. It is their goal to start a franchise and create a strong, global business whilst empowering their employees at the same time.

When asked what advice would she give to emerging young entrepreneurs, Virginia stated "If wishes were horses, we would all ride. Easy come, Easy go". She further indicated that one must be consistent, love and have a passion for one's work. Being a motivator of all ages through the word of God, Victoria added that if entrepreneurs really want to make something of themselves and their businesses, put in the effort to reap the reward.

Visit Poppy's African Dish Restaurant for delicious authentic African meals of which Samp is Virginia's speciality and one for which she is renowned. Her samp is a family secret and is well known throughout Zeerust. As Virginia proudly emphasises, it is samp you will never get anywhere else!. Beef, chicken and rice are also served. Virginia points out that interestingly, most of her customer's are men. The latter must be due to the ample sized portions that gets served.

You can visit African Dish Restaurant at Shop Number 4, Anisa Centre, Zeerust Mini Mall, and in doing so support businesses in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District. African Dish Restaurant can be contacted on 073 849 4352 or via e-mail on mosupimangope@yahoo.com.



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Page | 2 of 2