

# Breadtags for Wheelchairs donates 80 wheelchairs in 2016 so far

Administered by the Polystyrene Packaging Council (PSPC), the Breadtags for Wheelchairs project has donated more than 80 wheelchairs during the first six months of 2016.



Students of Cathcart High School

According to Adri Spangenberg, director of the PSPC, this project which collects breadtags made from high impact polystyrene (HIPS) has literally touched the lives of thousands of people during the past nine years.

“We are amazed at the growth of this project as volunteers from all ages and walks of life become involved in collecting these breadtags. We currently have 10 buyers of breadtags and more than 200 collection points around the country. In an effort to assist our coordinators, we have also amended and simplified the collection procedures to make it quicker and easier for them to obtain the wheelchairs, and have also launched a new coordinator kit which includes stickers, posters and containers for collectors,” Spangenberg says.

## Corporate sponsors

Continued investment and involvement from corporate sponsors such as SASKO Pioneer Foods, Dischem and CE Mobility helps to grow the project from strength to strength. Says Spangenberg: “SASKO Pioneer Foods have pledged their support to the project for a second year running, offering assistance with transporting of breadtags from outlying areas, the Pioneer Food PR team will help expand social media campaigns. Dischem Pharmacies and CE Mobility are providing discounted rates on wheelchairs to the project.”

One of the most recent recipients of a wheelchair “purchased” with breadtags, was Xoliswa Yabo, a young woman from the Daliwe Township in the Eastern Cape who was born with a speech impediment and without the use of her legs. Cathcart High School heard about her plight and decided to collect breadtags in order to buy a brand new wheelchair for Yabo.

“Cathcart High is a shining example of how a community can work together to change somebody’s life. The school managed to collect an impressive 271kg of breadtags which was sent to a recycling plant in Cape Town. This was a massive effort considering that 271kg of breadtags translates to a staggering 826,550,000 tags/loaves of bread!” Spangenberg said.

Yabo was accompanied to the assembly by her mother and Angelina Pretorius, a social worker in the Cathcart District. She was also presented with toiletries and a blanket made from squares knitted by members of the M.A.D. (Make-A-Difference) Club at the school.

The teacher in charge of the project, Mary Brown, said it was indeed a very proud and touching occasion for Cathcart High and extended her thanks to everyone who had helped to collect the breadtags over the years.

The Breadtags for Wheelchairs project is also administered with the support of coordinator Mary Honeybun and the Sweetheart Foundation.

For more information about how to get involved in the Breadtags for Wheelchair project, go to [www.polystyrenepackaging.co.za](http://www.polystyrenepackaging.co.za).

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