



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

November 2014 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

"I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service." 1st Timothy 1:12



**From oldest to youngest, left to right –
Joshua, Brenda, Cocus, Joel, Fauziya, Oscar, Esther, Annet, Jerom, Carol, Don, Emma, Abby,
Aisha, Janat, James, Hannah, Zoe, and Baby Junior
(not included in the picture is Mary and the newest addition, Ruth)**



Highlight on Future Resettlement

In Uganda, it is estimated that about 60% of children placed in childcare institutions have living relatives. Over 100,000 children are currently living in orphanages in Uganda. We are striving to work towards lowering these numbers by connecting children with families, either biological, foster, or adoptive families.

We are so excited to share the story of Don and Carol. In the past year, we were able to trace Don's father. We affectionately call him Ttaata Don, which means

Father of Don. Don's mother was only 19 when she died in childbirth. I recently spoke to Ttaata Don and he told me that he was very young at the time and did not know what to do with a new baby. He had no money and no way of caring for Don. He could not afford to buy formula and take care of Don's most basic needs. He decided to have Don be cared for by a family member so that he could finish high school. The family member then told a government official about Don and we came to know about his situation. However, when we visited Don for the first time we were told that he was an orphan with no living relatives and had been abandoned by the mother.

Unfortunately, this happens often as people are desperate to care for their children and there are no records of births and deaths. They believe it is better to lie so the child will be placed in an orphanage and will be given food and a better chance of survival. This story of desperation is common in Uganda where poverty is extreme.

Two years ago, we started to trace Don's family and along the way we were able to get the accurate story and meet Don's father for the first time. In this same process, we found out that Carol is a cousin to Don. Don and Carol have always had a special bond. They even call each other brother and sister. They are the best of friends. We always knew there was something special between them so we were not surprised when we learned that they were related by blood.

Since finding out this new information, Don and Carol have been able to go for family visits during their school holidays. Our social workers have done a Family Assessment and Home Study. Don's father has expressed his thankfulness to the ministry for caring for Don. Ttaata Don and his new wife both desire to care for Don and Carol. They want to be a part of our new resettlement program. Please pray for this new process and for Don and Carol's family.

Update about little Ruth

Ruth is growing and thriving in her new home. We are so thankful for the opportunity to be a part of her life.

We are still in need of monthly sponsors to cover the expenses of caring for Ruth. Prayerfully consider becoming a sponsor to this precious little girl! Your gift will help her to know about Jesus Christ!

Orphan Sunday – November 2nd

Orphan Sunday is this coming Sunday, November 2nd. We will be having a lunch fundraiser at First Baptist Church Pflugerville from 10:30am to 1:30pm. Many thanks to Katha Kirkland is cooking her delicious chicken spaghetti spaghetti, salad, green beans, garlic bread, and dessert!



Christmas Wish List at **TARGET!**

I cannot believe that the Christmas season is almost upon us. Our Christmas Wish List was a HUGE success the past three years! We are excited to continue the tradition for a fourth year. We have created a wish list of items including new clothes, toys, and Bibles for the kids. The children were so excited last year to receive new clothes, a special toy, and soccer balls for outside play. We would love to bring a special item for each child again this year.

Rafiki Africa Ministries has created a wish list at Target. Please visit our **TargetList** by clicking on the following link or cut and paste it into your web browser →

<http://www.target.com/ot/list/j96GEJPdeIvUiTA7ejLY8g>

You can find the ministry wish list by going to www.Target.com or in person in any Target store. Just search for Rafiki Africa Ministries with the TargetList advanced search tool or search using the name Sara Kiwanuka.

It is easier than ever to send a gift. All you have to do is click on the link and make your purchase. You do not have to worry about gift-wrapping it or delivering the items – as the toys will ship directly to Rafiki Africa Ministries in Pflugerville. If you do not want to shop online, then you can make purchases at any Target store and then deliver the presents to 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, Texas 78660. The gifts will then be packed in suitcases and travel with us to Uganda when we return at the end of December. Please do not wrap the gifts because they will be opened as they go through customs.

Other beneficial gifts include:

- Used laptop in good condition
- Clothes for kids in all sizes from size 12 months to 14/16
- Swimsuits for all ages, boys and girls
- Lifeway and Mardel Gift cards to purchase biblical and educational materials

Fundraiser Yard Sale! Raised \$1,500!

Thank you for all of the donations and support! The yard sale was a HUGE success! We were able to raise \$1,500 in only 2 days. Plus we received a \$1,000 donation in exchange for a stationary exercise bike!

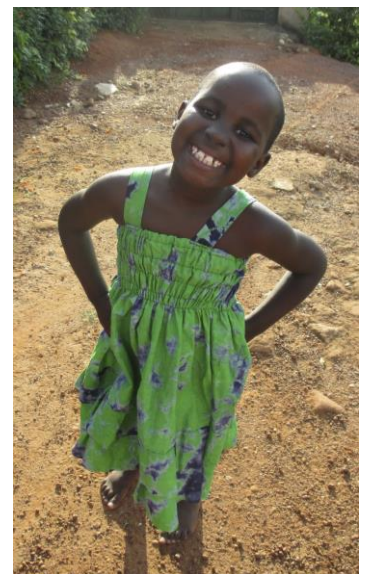
Let us bring the Rafiki Market Shopping Experience to YOU!

Would you like to have a personal shopping experience? Bring the incredible shopping experience to your church, school, bible study, or any group. The Rafiki Market is a fun and rewarding shopping experience! Come together with members of your church or group to shop for beautiful and unique handmade baskets, purses, necklaces, bracelets and much more. 100% of proceeds go to benefit the ministry.



Schedule for Upcoming Craft Shows

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Saturday, November 1 st	10am-2pm	Open House – Jo and Frank Hamilton's Home 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, TX 78660
Saturday, November 1 st	9am-2:30pm	Jingle Bell Market Riverbend Church 4214 N Capital of Texas Hwy, Austin, TX 78746
Thursday, November 6 th	9am-5pm	Christmas Spectacular First Baptist Church Georgetown 1333 W University Ave, Georgetown, Texas
Friday, November 7 th	9am-6pm	
Saturday, November 8 th	9am-3pm	
Saturday, November 8 th	9am-4pm	Bethany Lutheran Marketplace 3701 Slaughter Lane, Austin, TX
Saturday, November 15 th	10am-4pm	Artreach Fair held by Westover Hills Church 8332 Mesa Dr. Austin, TX 78759
**Please note: We are no longer having an Open House on November 22nd, but we will be at the FBC Round Rock Christmas Craft Show below:		
**Saturday, November 22 nd	9am-5pm	Christmas Craft Show First Baptist Church Round Rock 306 Round Rock Ave, Round Rock, TX 78664
Saturday, December 6 th	10am-7pm	Christmas Market held by Austin Stone Church For the City Center – 500 East St. Johns Avenue Austin, TX 78752
Saturday, December 13 th	10am-2pm	Open House – Jo and Frank Hamilton's Home 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, TX 78660



Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise God for the money that was raised through the Rafiki yard sale!
- Pray for Joseph as he will be arriving in Texas to join Sara and the girls on Nov. 16th.
- Pray for us as we seek to follow God's direction in the purchase of land and building and pray that He will provide the money we need so that we can move out of our rented Rafiki Home.
- Pray for our children as they reconnect with family members. Pray that they will bond and build relationships.
- Pray that we will receive enough new sponsors to take care of all of James, Hannah, Ruth, and Junior's needs.
- Pray for the children and staff as we strive to be more like Jesus everyday. Pray for the children as they learn more about the Lord daily and grow in their walk. Pray they will accept Him as their personal Savior.
- Pray for Rafiki as we continue to work with the local Police, government officials, and Social Workers on the placement of abandoned and orphaned children.
- Pray for excellent physical, mental, and spiritual health for the Rafiki Kids, Staff, Directors, and Missionaries.
- Pray for God's protection over Rafiki Africa Ministries, the directors, staff, volunteers, sponsors, and children from spiritual attack from the evil one.
- Pray for God to make His will for the ministry very clear to us as we seek to follow his direction.
- Praise God for his continuous provision and generosity of blessings we receive from Him.
- Praise God for our sponsors and contributors who have been inspired by God to give of their time, resources, money, and talents. Pray that we will be good stewards of all that is given to us.
- "In all things give thanks". 1st Thessalonians 5:88

Ways YOU can support the ministry –

- **PRAY** for the ministry and orphans in Uganda. "Brothers and sisters, pray for us." (1 Thessalonians 5:25)
- **GIVE** financially. 2nd Corinthians 8:3-4 says, "For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people."
- **SERVE** on the mission field and come to Uganda. We are in desperate need of teachers, childcare workers, nurses, etc. We can use anyone. "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." (Romans 12:6-8)
- **CONNECT** the ministry with local churches, rotary clubs, schools, businesses, etc. Connect us with your friends and family. Please email Sara at sara@rafikiministries.org if you are interested in arranging a speaking engagement.
- **SPEAK UP** and tell their story. What a simple way of obeying God's instruction to us about the poor...simply tell their story. Proverbs 31:8-9 says "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Please Give by Sponsoring a Life

Prayerfully consider making a one-time donation or become a monthly sponsor. You can sponsor a child for only \$35 per month OR any amount you wish. Every little bit helps keep Rafiki Africa Home running. We are currently providing a home for 18 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Baby Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Aisha, Emma, Carol, Don, Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Brenda, Cocus, Mary, and Joshua. When you decide to sponsor a child you will be helping take care of their needs by paying for their shelter, medical needs, food, clothes, and education. Prayerfully consider sponsoring one of these children as a family or as an individual. If you decide to sponsor a child please notify me by email: sara@rafikiministries.org

Methods for Giving:

Donate through PayPal using the link on our website → www.rafikiministries.org

Please mail checks to:

Rafiki Africa Ministries
P.O. Box 3526
Pflugerville, TX 78691-3526

We are a non-profit organization in the State of Texas. 100% of money raised goes to helping orphaned and destitute children in Uganda. Rafiki is classified as a 501©3 charity and contributions to Rafiki are tax deductible under Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the tax code. Rafiki is qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the code. This exemption is retroactive from the date of filing the 501©3. For further clarification, **contact Frank Hamilton at (512) 771-0681 (USA)**
If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Webale! (Thank you!) We continuously thank God for you!

Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka, Founders and Directors, Rafiki Africa Ministries