



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

September 2014 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

“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.”

Proverbs 31: 8-9

Tracing Family Members and Holiday Visits

We have been working hard with the local government officials and police to trace any existing family members of our children. We have started with the older children as we have had them longer and have gathered more information about each one of them. We are excited to reconnect the children to their family members. Over the years, the children have asked us about their past and family members. It has been difficult at times to explain that we do not know their history.



▲ **Joshua visiting his grandmother**

Last April, we were able to meet with some of the family members to do home studies and family assessments. Our goal was to allow the children to visit their families when they were on holiday from school. Some of the children were able to go for day visits in May and enjoyed meeting their relatives for the first time. Some were reunited with parents, uncles, aunties, grandparents, and cousins. The children came back to Rafiki excited and with lots of stories. This month, the kids were on holiday from school and the older children were able to visit relatives for an entire week.

Please pray for the children as they start to build relationships with their extended families. Pray for us as we begin to work with the families more.



▲ **Mama Esther doing a home visit and family assessment**



▲ **Annet (red shirt) is happy to meet her aunt and cousins**

Making Memories

As we work on tracing family members. We thought it would be a fun activity to have the kids put together memory books (scrapbooks) with pictures. We are very sensitive to some of the trauma that some of our kids have faced, but we want them to know the good things about their individual stories. We want them to know that they are loved.

Thank you to all of our short-term missionaries that brought scrapbook paper, construction paper, stickers, and more so that we could do this fun activity with the kids. We all enjoyed telling stories about the family visits and talking about memories.



▲ Emma



◀ Aisha (left) and Fauziya

Uncle Joseph holding
Baby Junior ▶



Update on Baby Junior's Health

In our home the youngest always get's called "Baby" by the older kids. In last month's newsletter, we mentioned that we would be taking Baby Junior to see a pediatrician because he had been wheezing. The pediatrician gave us a good report; Junior just had a cold. August 28th, 2014 is Junior's first birthday. We are excited that he has reached this milestone, considering how malnourished he was just a month ago. He is growing and gaining strength. He has started to pull himself up and walk with assistance. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.

At this time, we only have one sponsor for Junior. We are in desperate need of sponsors for Junior because of the cost of his care. Please prayerfully consider partnering with us to help support Junior's current needs.

Prayerfully consider sponsoring Junior!





▲ Auntie Courtney and Emma in the Child Carrier

Coming to Texas!

Sara Kiwanuka will be in Texas from early October until mid-December. She will be bringing many new items such as “oh so cute” owl backpacks and baby carriers!

Sara would love the opportunity to share about Rafiki at your church or with your group or organization. Please contact her at sara@rafikiministries.org.

Schedule for Upcoming Craft Shows

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	Abby modeling ►
Saturday, October 11 th	10am-3pm	Harvest Fest at Redeemer Lutheran Church 1500 West Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78757	 <p>Isn't this backpack a "HOOT"?</p> 
Friday, October 24 th	9am-6pm	Labor of Love Craft Show at Hillcrest Baptist Church 3838 Steck Ave., Austin, TX 78759	
Saturday, October 25 th	9am-4pm		
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 at Riverbend Church 4214 N Capital of Texas Hwy, Austin, TX 78746	
Thursday, November 6 th	9am-5pm	Christmas Spectacular	
Friday, November 7 th	9am-6pm	First Baptist Church Georgetown	
Saturday, November 8 th	9am-3pm	1333 W University Ave, Georgetown, TX 78628	
Saturday, November 15 th	9am-4pm	Bethany Marketplace at Bethany Lutheran Church 3701 Slaughter Lane, Austin, TX 78749	
Saturday, November 22 nd	10am-2pm	Open House – Jo and Frank Hamilton's Home 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, TX 78660	
Saturday, December 6 th (Date Tentative)	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 this month –

- Praise God for Junior's health. He has greatly improved.
- Pray that we will receive enough new sponsors that we can take care of all of Hannah's and Junior's needs.
- Pray for short-term missionaries, Kyle and Mary, who will be arriving next week in Uganda. Pray for safety, travel mercies, and for them to settle in to the Ugandan culture quickly.
- Pray for our children as they reconnect with family members. Pray that they will be able to bond and build relationships. Pray that hurts will be healed.
- Pray for Sara and Joseph as they prepare to come to Texas and be away from the orphanage for a period of time.
- 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 and grow in their walk of faith. Pray they will accept Christ as their personal Savior.
- Pray for more monthly financial sponsors that will enable the ministry to provide a home for more hurting children.
- 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's guidance in raising the children to be godly adults, for direction for the Ministry.

- Praise God for his continuous provision of our daily needs and for our ministry.
- 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, 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 \(USA\)](mailto:frank@rafikiministries.org)
 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