



# Rafiki Africa Ministries

*Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ*

February 2015 Newsletter

Website: [www.rafikiministries.org](http://www.rafikiministries.org)

Blog: [rafikiministries.blogspot.com](http://rafikiministries.blogspot.com)

**“One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.”**

**Psalm 27:4**



## Celebrating Rafiki's 5-Year Anniversary!

Thank you for helping us reach this milestone! We celebrated by having a party with good food and cake! Our short-term missionary, Grace, even cooked fried chicken! Yum!



# Baby Tendo Fund

The Baby Tendo Fund was started by Amanda Weber, in honor of Baby Tendo's death and to raise money for a children's home to be built in her name. Please check out the following link for more information on how to support this: <http://www.gofundme.com/babytendofund>

"In September of 2013, Amanda Weber travelled to Uganda to volunteer at the Rafiki Children's Home for three months. Rafiki is in the process of purchasing land to be able to expand and provide a home for more orphaned, abandoned, and vulnerable children. Amanda's hope in creating this campaign to raise money is that we will eventually be able to fund a building on the land that Rafiki will be purchasing, naming it after Tendo Victoria, as a memorial of her life and a reminder of what God did in rescuing her and in rescuing all of us.



## TENDO'S STORY:

On Sunday afternoon, we were notified that a newborn baby had been dropped into a pit latrine (a hole in the ground used as a toilet), and left to die amongst human waste and maggots. She was discovered and the police called us to see if we could care for her. We were given guardianship of her and took her to the hospital. We named her Tendo (which means praise in Luganda) Victoria (because of the victory that she was still alive, despite all odds). She went to Heaven the next day.

**"What the world threw away, God rescued and cherished and took to be with Him. Instead of letting her die in that latrine, all alone without anyone even noticing, He chose for her to be surrounded by people who were showing love to her, giving her a name, and recognizing her life. Even in her one day here on earth, God used her to show his incredible, redeeming love. I will never forget Tendo, or this experience, and I plan to share her story for the rest of my life." – Amanda Weber, Short-Term Missionary, Kampala, Uganda 10/13/13**

## Meet Edwin!!!

Edwin is the newest addition to the Children's Home. We now care for a total of 20 children. Edwin is the biological brother to Cocus, one of the other children in the home. When we were doing a family assessment, we discovered that Edwin's home situation was harmful and he was being neglected. We decided it would be best to care for Edwin with Cocus at the Children's Home while we work with their extended relatives.

Edwin is always smiling and playing. He is so excited to be starting school next week. He has never attended school before and does not speak any English. In school he will be able to learn English among other subjects. Please pray for him as he adjusts to his new home and begins school.



▲ Brothers, Edwin and Cocus, Reunited.



## Employee of the Year, Sarah Namukasa

Our employees give everything of themselves to take care of these children. They pore their hearts into the children. Many times our employees work around the clock. As you know, being a parent is a full-time job and never really ends. A lot of times there is no recognition. We recognized Sarah Namukasa as our employee of the year for 2014! She is one of our resident childcare workers and always goes above and beyond to serve the children. She loves them as if they were her own and truly has a gift from God in caring for children. The picture on the right shows Joseph presenting the award to Sarah.

◀ Thank you Sarah, for all of your hard work!  
You are a blessing!



◀ Florence (on the right) visiting a family home.

## Social Worker, Florence Mukankusi

We are excited to announce that we have welcomed a social worker to our Rafiki staff. Her name is Florence and she is a recent university graduate with a degree in social work. She will be working to trace family members of children that we care for, doing family and home studies, and will be working to reunite the

children with their families. As you can see in the pictures, she has already been working hard to reunite our children with their families. Florence has been helping to settle the children in with their families and has been working to get the children ready to begin school.



Florence settling cousins, Don and Carol in with family. ▶

## Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Pray for our children as they reconnect with family members. Pray that they will bond and build relationships. Pray, especially, for the families and the children who are being resettled with their families this month and will be starting in new schools.
- Pray for each child under our care, whether it be for a day, like Baby Tendo, or for years, that they will know that they are loved and cared for by us and by God.
- Pray for our ministry as we reach out to families, to counsel them, and to share the love of Christ with them. Pray that entire families will be led to Christ and that those who are already believers will grow in their faith.
- Praise God for our newest staff member, Florence, and the work she will be doing for the children in service to God.
- 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 short-term missionary, Grace Klein, as she continues to serve with us until February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Pray for short-term missionaries, Kyle Walker, Patty Walter, and Patty Wade, who will be coming to serve with us in February. This will be Kyle's second trip and he is bringing his mother and her friend to serve.
- Pray that we will receive enough sponsors and donations to take care of all of our children's needs. Pray that as God is leading us in the direction of resettling children with their families that our sponsors will understand this change and continue to sponsor their children.
- 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 wisdom and 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 supporting 20 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Baby Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Aisha, Emma, Carol, Don, Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Edwin, Brenda, Cocus, Mary, and Joshua. Some of these children live at the Rafiki Children's Home, while others live with immediate or extended family and Rafiki helps with school fees and other necessities. 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](mailto:sara@rafikiministries.org)

## Methods for Giving:

Donate through PayPal using the link on our website → [www.rafikiministries.org](http://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)**  
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**Webale! (Thank you!) We continuously thank God for you!**  
**Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka, Founders and Directors, Rafiki Africa Ministries**

**Merry Christmas!**



Many of our children were visiting their families during December while they were out for the school holiday, so we enjoyed celebrating Christmas in January! We took some fun pictures with "Santa" (aka Uncle Moses), but of course, our real celebration was in honor of Jesus's birth.

