



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

April 2016 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9

Our First Harvest on the Rafiki Land!! Praise God!

While we are waiting until we build we decided to plant a crop of corn to sell to help with our finances and also to invest in our community. It has been rewarding to harvest the land after our first season. However, we know that it will be even more rewarding to harvest the gospel within the community. In preparation for this, we have begun to build relationships with our neighbors. We are looking forward to doing more outreach ministries within the predominantly Muslim community. We pray that we can be a light in this dark place; that we can reach people for Jesus. We desire to reach hundreds and thousands for Christ!

Many of our neighbors live in extreme poverty and have no hope. We desire to lift their burden by being a blessing to them on a daily basis. We were able to provide work for those who helped with the harvest. We want to live alongside them, serve alongside them, and suffer with them through their daily struggles. We want to provide them hope through a relationship with Jesus Christ, their Savior!

To be able to accomplish more as a ministry, we feel God calling us to move the ministry home to the land. We know that this will happen in God's perfect timing. Even though we do not yet have the finances, we are moving forward with making plans for building on the land. Our first building project will be a main Children's Home to house the children that are currently in our care. This will enable us to move from the current home that we rent in Kampala to the land in Kakiri (an hour from where we are located currently). Through God's grace, Rafiki Africa Ministries will one day be able to house hurting and abused children with a safe home that provides nutritional food, quality education, Christian teachings, and a sense of family. The first phase of building will cost roughly \$50,000. Future phases will include the building of a church, school for the community, staff housing, and medical clinic. With this new project, we need YOUR help! Your partnership will immediately impact the community and the orphan population in Uganda.

“I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.” Romans 1:13

Cooking Maize (Corn) Porridge for the Workers.



Drying the Corn Before Selling.





Joshua at his new school.



Emma with his cousins on his first day of school.



Emma and Joshua at their New School

Emma was recently resettled with his aunt and cousins. He started a new school nearby his home.

Joshua is now attending the same school as Emma, but in the boarding section. Joshua was one of the first children that came to live at the children's home. We do our best to help each one of our Rafiki kids in the way that God leads us. Last year we resettled Joshua with his family. We discovered that Joshua had begun to be around bad influences in his neighborhood. Most of the children do not get to attend school and get into trouble because they have nothing to do with their time. It is especially easy for young boys to get caught up in this lifestyle. Girls are kept busy at home helping with cleaning, cooking, and laundry but boys try to find jobs outside their home to support their families. They are taken advantage of and frequently turn to lying and stealing to get what they want. We desire to prevent Joshua from being in this environment.

Through prayer and discussions with his mother and grandmother, we decided that boarding school would be the best option for Joshua. It is considered a privilege for children in Uganda to attend Boarding School. Joshua is now able to attend school with kids his own age and will receive the support and structure that he needs to thrive. He will enjoy holidays and month long school breaks either with his family or at the Rafiki Children's Home. Your support enables the children, like Joshua, in our program to attend school. Otherwise, the children would be forced into child labour. Thank you for your partnership!



Catching some ZZzzzzz!

The quietest time in the Children's Home is from 2:00-4:00 each afternoon. It is naptime for everyone and I mean everyone!! I love this time of day because I am always able to get more administrative work done...fewer distractions. ☺ But I also enjoy hearing the giggles and fun noises when they wake up.



Yummy Mango!!

When the kids wake up from their naps it is snack time. They usually have mango, banana, papaya, or watermelon. It's ALWAYS messy so the kids eat outside on the front porch. The little ones always have juice dribbling down their faces.



Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise God for his provision for us and pray that we can get monthly financial sponsors for all of the children so that we can support all of their needs. Pray that God provides the funding we need to accomplish His purpose for us.
- Pray for God's direction and provision as we seek His will for building on the new land and serving in the Kakiri area. Pray that Rafiki Village will become a center of hope and refuge for many children and families.
- Please pray for the children by name that are living at the Children's Home: Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Ivan, Aisha, Jerom, Joel, Addadi, Esther, Brenda, Fauziya.
- Pray for these children by name as they settle into their family homes: Annet, Acram, Shakirah, Carol, Don, Emma, Oscar, Cocus, Edwin, Mary, Joshua, Jimmy, Sharifa, Jennifer, Rebecca, and Bright.
- Please pray that the Rafiki staff and short-term missionaries will be strengthened physically, emotionally, and mentally as they care for the children and serve in our community.

- Pray for God's direction in making decisions about the best possible care for each Rafiki child.
- Praise God for the children under our care, pray for their salvation, and pray for those who have received Christ as their personal Savior to carry their Christian faith to their families and serve as a witness to them during family visits and when they are resettled. Pray that God gives them boldness in sharing their faith.
- Praise God for all He has done and for all He plans to do through Rafiki in the years to come.

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 supporting 29 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Rebecca, Bright, Jimmy, Jennifer, Ivan, Acram, Sharifa, Aisha, Shakirah, Emma, Carol, Don, Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Edwin, Brenda, Cocus, Addadi, 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

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)**
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Webale! (Thank you!) We continuously thank God for you!
Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka, Founders and Directors, Rafiki Africa Ministries