



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

January 2016 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Romans 15:13



Christmas Reunion – Children That Have Been Resettled with Families Came to Visit for a Few Days

(Back) Joshua, Oscar, Cocus, Brenda, Fauziya, Joel, Addadi, Esther, Annet, Edwin, Jerom, Don, Carol, Emma
(Front) Aisha, Abby, Ivan, Janat, Hannah, Ruth, James, Junior

Happy New Year! Thank You!

As each year comes to an end, I always find myself pondering and reflecting on what has happened and what is to come. The importance of your partnership is evident in every child that we have rescued, and in each child in our program that is healthy, learning, and thriving. We are humbled and overwhelmingly grateful for your faithful giving and for your prayers for these kids and our work. Over the last year we were able to accomplish so many incredible things because of your involvement.

- 7 abandoned children were rescued in partnership with the police family and child protection unit and provided a safe and loving home at the Rafiki Children's Home.
- 3 of our families were given income generating projects through our partnership with Samaritan's Purse.
- 18 children were able to attend school and promoted to the next grade level.

Carol and Janat Enjoying a New Donated Scooter ►



- 17 children were reunited with their families and given resettlement kits. Rafiki continues to work with each child and family, pays for their school fees, and helps with other things as needed.
- 5 children were rescued from child trafficking.
- 2 new employees, a social worker and a child care worker, were hired to help with new responsibilities that the ministry has taken on with the Ugandan Government to resettle children.
- 6 acres of land was purchased. A two-bedroom home for land caretakers was finished. 5 acres was fenced and a rain tank was installed.
- Rafiki continues to provide safety, and fosters healing and restoration in 29 children's lives.
- Rafiki continues to work closely with the Government's network and is considered one of the top 20 Children's Home in Uganda (where there are currently over 500 orphanages).



Oscar – One of Our Resettled Children

We are so grateful for each one of these projects, programs, and opportunities! Thank you for your partnership this past year. We are so thankful to you for enabling us to rescue children from trafficking, abuse, starvation, and neglect. You have helped us make a huge difference in so many children's lives

We pray that this is only the beginning of how the Lord wants us to serve hurting children and families in Uganda. Our vision is strong and our team is incredible! It is with great joy, that we serve the Lord Jesus Christ and we serve this nation that He loves!

Commit This New Year to Sponsor a Child!

This year we have seen a lot of growth and with that growth comes more responsibility. Without financial giving, we cannot continue in 2016 to continue to grow our programs to care for more children. We have two main areas where your giving is needed and will bring lasting impact to hurting children in Uganda.

Child Sponsorship



Child Sponsorship is the core of our programs. We currently care for 29 children. This year we would like to be able to receive more children from the police that are in need of a home. Children are abandoned every day at our local police station. Frequently, we have to say "NO". Our goal is to never have to say "NO" to a child in need of emergency care.

Ivan is one of those children that we were able to help that past year. Sadly his younger sister, Vanessa, died shortly after being received from the police into our Children's Home because of severe malnourishment. Ivan is now growing and thriving. Ivan has NO sponsors at this time so to continue to be able to support him we need sponsors. It takes roughly **10** monthly supporters, each at \$35/month, to take care of **ONE** child's needs.



▲ Ivan is always smiling and has the cutest chuckle!

Building Campaign

We now have 6 acres of land that has been purchased and fenced. This land is ready to be developed into the permanent home for the Rafiki Children's Home and smaller family foster homes for children needing long-term care. If you would like more information about the next phase for building and how to contribute, then please contact Sara at sara@rafikiminstries.org.

We are committed to utilize every dollar to rescue and take care of the many needy children God sends our way.

Thank you Auntie Niomi for serving with us these last 3 months! We are going to miss you! ►

Niomi will be leaving Uganda on January 13th to return home to her family in Canada. Please pray with us for safe travel and for her as she shares her experience with people back home.



Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise! Sara, Abby, and baby Naomi made it safely to Uganda before Christmas. It was a blessing for them to be reunited with both their immediate family and the Rafiki family and to be able to celebrate Christmas together.
- 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 our short term missionaries – for those that have served in the past and for those who will be coming. Pray that God will prepare the way for “just the right” ones to serve at Rafiki.
- Pray for God’s direction as we improve the land and for God to provide the funds that are needed for building. Pray that it will become a center of hope and refuge for many children and families.
- Please pray for the children by name who are living at the Children’s Home: Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Ivan, Aisha, Emma, Addadi, Fauziya, Edwin, and Cocus.
- Pray for these children by name as they settle into their family homes: Annet, Acram, Shakirah, Brenda, Esther, Carol, Don, Jerom, Oscar, Joel, 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.
- 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 who 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 in 2015 and for all He plans to do through Rafiki in 2016 and 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). 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