



# Rafiki Africa Ministries

providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

April 2013 Newsletter

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

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

**“With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all.” Acts 4:33**

## Happy Easter!!! Jesus Christ is Alive!

### Get to know our staff even better! Introducing our new Staff Sponsorship Program!

In the last month's newsletter, we introduced you to our amazing Ugandan staff. Without the staff here at Rafiki, we wouldn't be able to provide the love and care for the children that we do! Because Rafiki is raising Ugandan children in Uganda to be productive citizens and good leaders of their country, it is important to us that they are raised with Ugandan culture and



customs. Our Ugandan staff are role models for our children - teaching them language, culture, history, manners, customs and behavior that are integral for them as they grow up here in Uganda.

Our staff also provides guidance, discipline, and structure for our children. Our goal is to raise them in a home with a family structure. The kids call our staff Auntie and Uncle, a form of respect in Uganda. We have 5 Ugandan staff working with us; each one is filling a huge need in the home. Our staff live in the home, helping to provide stability and consistent care as well as allowing the home to function as efficiently as possible.

▲ Joseph Kiwanuka with Joel, Oscar, and Jerom

Mama Esther is our manager. She is responsible for making sure that the day-to-day business is taken care of and that we are able to meet the many needs that arise each week – including weekly shopping, communication and direction of staff, errands that need to be done, and paying of bills.

Auntie Sarah (shown on the right) is our main childcare worker. Although she is trained in social work, currently she is working with us in the capacity of childcare, making sure that the daily needs of the children are met including bathing, homework, discipline, activities and working with our youngest, Emma, while all our other kids are in school. She also helps with the cooking and with Esther as the need arises.



▲ Enjoying a rare treat – sugar cane (Ugandan candy 😊)



Mama Monica (shown to the left) is our cook. She works hard throughout the week to make traditional Ugandan food for everyone in the home! She also helps with the children - teaching manners, language, and Ugandan behavior.

Uncle Godfrey (shown on the right closing our gate) is responsible for the upkeep of the home and grounds. With so many people living in our home, you can imagine how dirty it gets! He works hard to keep the home clean - sweeping, mopping, washing windows and helping with the laundry. He is also one of our drivers - our weekly outreach days, market days, going to church on Sundays, medical clinic runs and airport pick-ups wouldn't be able to happen without him driving!



Uncle Moses is also one of our drivers, helping with the many transportation needs that arise each week! He also helps with

the cleaning of the home and is responsible for making sure the mountains of laundry get washed, dried, and put away each week!

Uganda has a very low employment rate – with only about 15% of the country having stable and dependable incomes. Each member of our staff financially helps support their families through the salaries they receive by working here. The money that we pay our staff is then used to support multiple families – paying for education and school fees, access to medical care and medicine as well as the basics of food, water, and housing. One way we are investing in the community is through our staff – providing opportunities for training and further education as well as providing reliable incomes for their families.



▲ Mama Sara, Auntie Sara, Mama Esther, Mama Monica

**Staff sponsorship is important for many reasons. These staff members play a vital role in our ministry; the physical help that they bring to the home as well as the emotional support for the children is crucial for preparing them for life here in Uganda. Sponsorship of a staff member allows you to invest in not only our home and the Rafiki children but also in their families and communities. It only costs \$50/month to sponsor a staff member. If you would like more information about our new staff sponsorship program then please email Sara Kiwanuka at [sara@rafikiministries.org](mailto:sara@rafikiministries.org). Would you pray about supporting God's work?**

## Thank you for blessing us with a new van!



◀ Kids and Staff praying over the new ministry vehicle! Praying for safety and God's protection!



Thank you for your support in helping us raise the necessary funds for the purchase and maintenance repairs needed for the van.

**God has truly blessed us!**

**Only money still needed is for new tires – around \$500 USD!**



## Chicken Pox! Please Pray!

We have been slathering the kids with calamine lotion to help dry out the chicken pox and prevent scratching. The kids were exposed to chickenpox from the kids at their school. So far Annet, Fauziya, Brenda, Esther, and Joel have gotten it. One of our staff, Esther, has also gotten it. Please pray for healing for everyone and for this illness to quickly pass! Especially pray that none of our other staff come down with it.

◀ Esther and Joel covered in calamine lotion  
Joel hunting Easter eggs ▶



## Rafiki Yard Sale – Pflugerville, Texas

*Spring Cleaning! Junk for Jesus! One Man's Trash is Another Man's Treasure!  
Clean Your Closets for the Rafiki Yard Sale! Donations Welcome! Come Shop!*

**Friday Evening, April 12, 4:00 P.M. to Sunset  
Saturday Morning, April 13, Sunrise to Noon (or Sell-Out)**

**At the Home of Frank and Jo Hamilton  
803 West Noton Street  
Pflugerville, TX 78660**

Donations are tax deductible! We are now accepting donations. We have limited storage space prior to the yard sale for large items. Please call Frank (512) 771-0681 or Jo (512) 750-8047 to drop off donation items (or if you need help with pick-up)

## Prayer Needed for Another Washing Machine ▶

God has blessed us so much by giving us a washing machine. It almost seems selfish to ask God for another one, but as you can see in the photo below this is how our laundry area looks on a daily basis and it is even worse when we don't have water.

Why we need a NEW Washer :  
When you have 25-35 people using ONE washer for clothes, bedding, school uniforms (and everything else) it becomes a complicated game to get it all clean!  
Cost of a washer : \$1000



## 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. Joseph and I will be back in Texas at the beginning of October till the end of the year. Please email me at [sarinafrica@yahoo.com](mailto:sarinafrica@yahoo.com) 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.”

## Rafiki means Friend! Thank you for being a friend to the Rafiki Family!

- Pray for our kids and staff to recover quickly from chicken pox. Especially pray that none of the other staff get it.
- Praise for Joseph and Sara expecting a new baby! Please pray for good health for Mom and baby.
- Praise God for the new van! Pray for protection and God’s safety as travel to outreach ministries.
- Pray for our ministry as we reach beyond the walls of the orphanage out into the neighborhood and everyone we come in contact to share the love of Christ.
- Praise God for our 3 long-term missionaries that are serving at the orphanage and with other ministries in the Kampala area. Please pray for their protection and for God’s direction as they reach out to meet the needs of the unfortunate. Please pray for them as they adjust to Ugandan culture and living conditions. Please pray that those they minister to will be open to receiving their message of God’s love and gospel truth.
- Pray for our short-term missionaries as they prepare their hearts to serve in Uganda this summer.
- Pray for good health for the Rafiki Kids. Pray that they “will grow in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and men”, just as Jesus did as a child...Luke 2:52.
- Pray for our Ugandan team – we currently have 5 full-time staff that work with and minister to the kid’s daily. Pray for God’s guidance and wisdom as they minister to the children, for their health, pray that they will be strengthened.
- Pray that God will be a light in these children’s lives and they will ultimately come to know the Lord personally.
- Pray that we will continue to be good stewards of the money and gifts we receive for the ministry.
- Pray that God will bless each person and family that gives to our ministry with their time, talents, spiritual gifts, resources, money, and prayer.
- PRAISE God! “In all things give thanks”...1 Thessalonians 5:18

## Please Give by Sponsoring a Child or Staff Member:

Prayerfully consider making a one-time donation or become a monthly sponsor. You can sponsor a child for only \$35 per month or an adult staff for only \$50 per month OR any amount you wish. Every little bit helps!. We are currently providing a home for 13 children and 5 adult Ugandan staff. When you decide to become a sponsor you will be contributing towards needs such as shelter, utilities, medical care, food, clothes, education. Prayerfully consider sponsoring one our Rafiki family. If you decide to become a sponsor please notify me by email: [sarinafrica@yahoo.com](mailto:sarinafrica@yahoo.com)

**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 \(USA\)](mailto:contact@rafikiministries.org)  
If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with “Unsubscribe” in the subject line.

**Thank you to EVERYONE who is so generous in supporting us! God Bless You!**

**Joseph Kiwanuka and Sara Hamilton Kiwanuka, Directors and Founders of Rafiki Africa Ministries**