



Rafiki Africa Ministries

providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

May 2013 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

“Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.” 1 John 4:11-12

Introducing our Long-Term Missionaries!

This is the first year that we have opened up long-term missionary positions for people to serve with us for 1 year or more. With God's amazing provision they have raised their own financial support to come and serve in Uganda. We have been blessed to have the young women below that joined us at the beginning of this year and will be serving with us for the entire year. In addition to their ministry with Rafiki they serve in the community and ghettos in Kampala. They serve once a week at an orphanage for babies and help with a ministry to street boys, and serve with other ministries as needed. Please read more about them below.

We still have several long-term missionary positions open to fill specific needs in the U.S. and in Uganda. If you would like more information about these positions and feel God leading you to serve as a missionary please contact us. We are especially interested in help with fundraising/event planning and someone experienced in homeschooling.



Rachel Couch, Registered Nurse

“My name is Rachel Couch. I'm from Georgia, USA. At age fifteen I felt like the Lord was leading me to work in places where there is immense physical and spiritual need. So after high school I got my Bachelor's Degree in Nursing, and continued to ask God to guide me. After graduating from college I traveled to Haiti twice, working with kids and in medical clinics. I really heard God speak to me to surrender my life to Him, and He would meet all of my needs. So in January of 2013 I moved to Kampala, Uganda to work with Rafiki Africa Ministries. Aside from childcare, I keep medical records on our kids and take care of them when they're sick. I also do staff training on various topics including fire safety, first aid, and basic medical care. God has blessed me so much in coming to Uganda. I am in love with our beautiful, energetic, hilarious kids! I am also thankful for the other ministries we work with each week. There is so much physical and spiritual need in Uganda, and every day I am seeing God at work!” – Message from Rachel

Rachel's blog - <http://rachelvirginiacouch.wordpress.com/>



Kailey Jensen, Administrative Assistant

“My name is Kailey, I'm from Arizona, I'm a sucker for tea, I love photography and I've fallen in love with Uganda. I've always thought about packing a bag, getting a one-way ticket and seeing where the Lord takes me and so last year I decided to do it! I started working with Rafiki last fall, helping with administration, social media, photography and whatever else comes along. It is a constant learning experience, filled with challenges and beautiful moments. I am so thankful for how the Lord uses the kids here at Rafiki and my friends working selflessly here in Uganda to show me more about His heart beating so desperately for the children and people of this beautiful country. I am excited to see what else He has planned for my friends and I here in Uganda this next year! Thank you for all your support, encouragement and love - we wouldn't be able to do this without you!” – Message from Kailey

Kailey's Blog - <http://kaileyjensen.wordpress.com/>

Showing Value through Sponsorship

The children who are being sponsored take their correspondence with their sponsors very seriously. If you are sponsoring one of our children, they could not be happier to have you as a part of their lives. **Thank you so much.** They feel so honored by you, and your support of them has reinstated their value. They hang your pictures up in the house and savor every word you write to them. Your sponsorship enables us to take care of each child. Without your sponsorship, we could not do this. If you are not currently sponsoring a child, we are still in need of more monthly sponsors for only \$35 a month. This money along with the support of others is used to cover the children's daily needs, such as food, clothing, medical care, and education.

We see so much injustice done to children. Working alongside the Uganda Ministry of Gender, each day we have to problem solve to help bring solutions to the horrific scenarios we encounter. We are so thankful for a team behind us, including people just like you, who empower us to not just talk about solutions but also enables us to act upon those solutions, bringing about real change for these children's precious lives. We are so thankful for your partnership. Thank you for giving and making a tangible difference!

With Love From Uganda

Sponsor Letters have recently been mailed out!

**Joel, Joshua, and Oscar
proudly showing off their
finished letters to their sponsors**



Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is only a week away, and we want to celebrate by honoring mothers around the world. Many say the purest love is between a mother and her child. There's no other bond like it—it's a fierce devotion that can only be understood by a mother herself, a position that will drive her to do anything for the protection and care of her own. Yet there are more than 150 million children in our world today that have never known this kind of love. Orphaned by AIDS . . . extreme poverty . . . the imprisonment of the sex-trade . . . natural disasters . . . there are millions of children without the empowering love of a mother.

This Mother's Day, we want to give you a unique opportunity to tell your mother how much you love her by showing the same love she showed you . . . to a child in need. Our Child Sponsorship Program allows us to wrap our arms around orphaned children and tell them: You are loved.

What better way to honor your mother than by sharing this kind of enveloping love with a child who so desperately needs it? This Mother's Day, tell your mom how much you love her in a way that will last . . . a way that will leave behind a legacy of love. Perhaps you wish to leave a gift in memory or in honor of your mother—sharing her love with a child is a meaningful way to honor her life!

Chicken Pox Update

Pray for our staff and kids as they continue to heal from Chicken Pox. Several of our children have had it. Two of our staff, Esther and Moses, have come down with it and but both had mild cases. We still have 5 children that have not gotten chicken pox - Carol, Don, Joshua, Cocus, and Oscar. Praise God that the children and staff are healing quickly. Thank you for standing with us in prayer!

Yard Sale raised \$1,153

We had another successful yard sale in April. Thank you to everyone that donated and shopped at our yard sale. We raised a total of \$1,153 in 2 days! Praise God! That's amazing! Thank you to everyone that gave items in support of the ministry and shopped. ☺ This money will help us with paying a year's rent that is due this month.

Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise for Joseph and Sara expecting a new baby at the beginning of June! Please pray for good health for Mom and baby, for wisdom for the medical staff and doctor who will deliver the baby in Uganda.
- Pray for our long-term missionaries. We have missionaries that will be serving with us for the entire year of 2013. Pray for strength and for God to speak through them as they minister to the children, the people of Uganda and as they share their experiences when they return home. Pray for their safety and that they will learn the Ugandan culture and adapt quickly.
- Pray for our short-term missionaries as they prepare their hearts to serve in Uganda this summer. Pray for safe travels, as some will be arriving in mid-May and others arriving at the beginning of June.
- Pray for good health for the Rafiki Kids, Staff, Missionaries, and especially as they heal from Chicken Pox
- 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.
- 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".1 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. Joseph and I will be back in Texas at the beginning of October till the end of the year. Please email me at sarainfrica@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."

Thank you to EVERYONE who has been so generous in supporting us!

God Bless You!

Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka

Directors and Founders of Rafiki Africa Ministries

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 13 children (listed from youngest to oldest) 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

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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