



# Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing Hope and Love through Jesus Christ

November 1, 2012 Newsletter

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

**“He administers justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing. Therefore love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.”**

**Deuteronomy 10: 18-19**

## The Rafiki Family – Staff and Children ►

Left to Right:

Back: Godfrey, Sarah, Joseph, Sara, Baby Abigail, Moses, Esther, Monica

Front: Joshua, Joel, Cocus, Brenda, Fauziya, Oscar, Esther, Annet, Jerom, Carol, Don, Emmanuel (Emma), Mary (not shown)



## Christmas Wish List

Christmas is a special time of honoring and worshipping our Savior for the sacrifice that He made for us. The Christmas season brings lots of fun traditions with family and friends. As you are enjoying all of your Christmas traditions this year, I want to ask that you start a new one, by giving a gift to an orphan. We would love to be able to give each child at the Rafiki Home a special gift for Christmas this year.

Last year, our Christmas wish list was a HUGE success! We were able to bring new backpacks, clothes, and a toy for each child. We are excited to continue the tradition this year. We have created a wish list of items including new clothes, toys, and household items to be used at the orphanage.

I cannot wait to see the smiles on each of the kid's faces when they are called by name and receive a special gift from someone far away. They will know that someone halfway around the world cares for them and took the time to make their Christmas special.

Rafiki Africa Ministries has created a wish list at Target. Please visit our TargetList by clicking on the following link or cut and paste it into your web browser →

<http://www.target.com/TargetListGiftGiverCmd?isPreview=false&status=completePageLink&listId=ieNqCjRlyNlc-Q5zROWXtw&registryType=OT&cumulativeTime=-1&isAjax=false&noOfPings=>

You can find the ministry wish list by going to [www.Target.com](http://www.Target.com) or in person in any Target store. Just search for Rafiki Africa Ministries with the TargetList advanced search tool or search using the name Sara Kiwanuka.

It is easier than ever to send a gift. All you have to do is click on the link and make your purchases. You don't have to worry about gift-wrapping it or delivering the items – as the toys will ship directly to Rafiki Africa Ministries in Pflugerville. If you do not want to shop online, then you can make purchases at any Target store and then deliver the presents to 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, Texas 78660. The gifts will then be packed in suitcases and travel with me to Uganda when I return in early January. Thank you for your support!



◀ **Brenda and Cassady**

## National Adoption Month Orphan Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>

by Cassady Weldon, Short Term Missionary  
Currently Serving at the Rafiki Home in Uganda.

<http://hosea143.wordpress.com>

Since I've been in Uganda I have seen so many abandoned children. The reasons vary among each child, but the product seems to be the same. Every time I go into a different orphanage my heart breaks at the number of kids that have been left without a family. At Passion last weekend, Louie Giglio talked about how so many Christians have so much knowledge about God, but they don't really know Him. I have gotten a clear picture of this since I've been in Uganda. The past few years I have learned and researched and talked about this huge problem we have in our world.

- There are over 130 million children who have lost one or both parents worldwide.
- There are over 500,000 children in the US Foster Care system.
- If only 7% of the 2 billion Christians in the world felt the call to adopt there would be no more orphans.

▼ **Esther and Don**

These facts and so many more are consistently in the back of my mind ready to share with anyone willing to listen. I love to talk about the need for orphan care and adoption. However, until you walk into an orphanage and play with a child, feed them, listen to their cries, the facts are just facts. It's only head knowledge. But when you put a face with the facts and a name with the story, it becomes ten times more real. That's how it is with God. It's not enough to just know the information. It is a relationship. It is a daily decision to walk with Him and learn about His character.



## Yard Sale was a SUCCESS!

Thank you for all the families that made donations to or purchased items at the yard sale. We were able to raise \$750 for the ministry. This money will go a long way in supporting the children that we care for. Thank you to everyone!

### **Rafiki Open House – Christmas Shopping!**

**Everyone is Welcome! This Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Time: 10am to 2pm (Come and Go)**

**Location: Frank and Jo Hamilton's Home**

**803 West Noton Street**

**Pflugerville, Texas 78660**

Have some Christmas shopping to do? Who doesn't? Why not support Rafiki Africa Ministries with your Christmas shopping this year? Come by the Open House this Saturday from 10am to 2pm to find presents that will give the gift of LIFE this Christmas! We will be selling beautiful handmade Ugandan crafts. We will have time for you to ask questions about the ministry and orphan care. Please come by if you are interested in learning more about how God has called us to help the orphaned and widowed (James 1:27).



## Schedule for Upcoming Craft Shows

We will be selling hand made African crafts made by local women in Uganda at craft shows in the Austin, Texas area to raise money to support the Rafiki Home in Kampala, Uganda. 100% of the proceeds will be used to help support orphaned and destitute children in Uganda. We will be selling a variety of crafts such as baskets, wallets, purses, scarves, jewelry, dolls, wood spoons, etc. Please come out to support the Rafiki Home!! The schedule for our craft shows is listed below.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Saturday, November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10am-2pm	<b>Open House</b> – Frank and Jo Hamilton’s Home 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, TX 78660
Thursday, November 8 <sup>th</sup>	9am-5pm	<b>Christmas Spectacular</b> First Baptist Church Georgetown Georgetown, Texas
Friday, November 9 <sup>th</sup>	9am-6pm	
Saturday, November 10 <sup>th</sup>	9am-3pm	
Saturday, November 10 <sup>th</sup>	9am-4pm	<b>Bethany Lutheran Marketplace</b> 3701 Slaughter Lane, Austin, TX
Saturday, November 17 <sup>th</sup>	9am-3pm	<b>Conally High School Holiday Bazaar in Pflugerville, Texas</b>
Saturday, November 17 <sup>th</sup>	10am-4 pm	<b>Cedar Park High School Holiday Bazaar in Cedar Park, Texas</b>
Thursday, November 29 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am-8pm	<b>Jingle Bell House</b> 2701 Bear Springs Trail, Austin, Texas 78748
Friday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:30am-7pm	
Saturday, December 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9:30am-4pm	
Saturday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>	10am-2pm	<b>Open House</b> – Frank and Jo Hamilton’s Home 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, TX
Saturday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>	10am-7pm	<b>Christmas Market , Sponsored by Austin Stone Church</b> For the City Center – 500 East St. Johns Avenue Austin, TX 78752



## Sara is in Texas and Joseph will be arriving soon!

Joseph Kiwanuka, Director/Founder, will be in Texas starting November 14<sup>th</sup>. Praise God for granting him a US visa so that Joseph can join his family in Texas. Please pray for safe travels as he will be traveling from Uganda to Texas. Joseph and Sara will be in Texas until the end of December and are available to speak at churches, organizations and group meetings to share about the ministry. It is not too late to arrange a speaking engagement! Please let us know as soon as possible.



## Focus on a Child – Mary, 8 years old

Mary has cerebral palsy and epilepsy. In Uganda there is a stigma attached to children with disabilities. Many even think they are cursed or possessed by demons. Mary was abandoned by her father and mother. She was alone, hungry, filthy, and living almost 24 hours a day lying on the floor in the corner of a dark shack.

Because of her cerebral palsy, Mary has the mental capacity of a very young child. She cannot talk although she likes making noises and loves to laugh. She can walk around, go up and down stairs, and we have to catch her before she climbs on the table. She is a very active little girl. She doesn't have the fine motor skills to feed herself. But she has learned how to use a sippy cup and is gradually learning how to grab objects. She is developing improved muscle strength and coordination with patience and practice.

Mary is an easy-going, happy girl who enjoys just simple touch from others. She loves cupcakes, having her back rubbed, being held, and is very ticklish. Baths and cold drinking water are a couple of her least favorite things.

Mary attends a special needs boarding school called Elizabeth House. She is receiving the therapy and care that she needs. Praise the Lord for the wonderful ways He has provided for Mary. Pray that Mary will know that she is loved by God and by her Rafiki family.

## 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 [sarainafrika@yahoo.com](mailto:sarainafrika@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!

Sara Hamilton Kiwanuka

Director and Founder of Rafiki Africa Ministries

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

- Praise! Joseph was granted a US visa to be able to join his family in Texas. Pray for safe travels.
- Pray for wisdom and God's will as we consider expanding to the property next door.
- Pray for our short-term missionaries. 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 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.
- Pray for good health for the children and those working and serving.
- Pray for more monthly financial sponsors to partner with us so that we can reach more hurting children and share the love of Christ with them.
- Pray for Joseph and Sara as they minister to the children at the orphanage and the full-time staff. Pray for everyone that they come into contact with in Uganda and that they will help more come to know Jesus Christ.
- Pray for our Ugandan team – we currently have 5 full-time staff that work and minister with 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 Uganda's foundation and government will be based on the Lord. Pray for the leaders of the country as they make decisions for the people. Pray that God's kingdom will reign and his righteousness and justice will rule.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment that God will show his desires for the ministry to the staff.
- Pray that Rafiki Africa Ministries will always be in the center of God's will.
- Pray against any attacks of the enemy. Pray for God's protection over the Rafiki Home and the Ministry.
- Pray for God's continued guidance in rearing these beautiful children.
- Pray that God will be a light in these children's lives and they will ultimately come to know the Lord personally.
- Pray that God will continue to provide for our needs as we grow and that God will be glorified.
- Pray that we will continue to be good stewards of the money we receive for the ministry.
- PRAISE God! "In all things give thanks"...1 Thessalonians 5:18

## 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: [sarainafrika@yahoo.com](mailto:sarainafrika@yahoo.com)

## Cut and Paste this website into your web browser to donate now through PayPal ▼

[https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=5H9J86JD8LQ3U](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=5H9J86JD8LQ3U)

## 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.

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