



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

November 2013 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

“Jesus said, ‘I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world’.”

John 16:33

We are Overcomers! Introducing our newest little girl – Aisha

Shortly after receiving Janat into the Children’s Home, another little one also came to join the Rafiki family. Aisha was found alongside a road near a gas station, being strangled by her mentally ill mother. A man passing by saw what was happening and immediately went to get the police. When they arrived, the mother was very hostile and violent and it was obvious that she was not capable of caring for her daughter. The police contacted Rafiki Children’s Home and the mother was eventually admitted to a psychiatric hospital. Aisha is about 2 - 3 years old and was dangerously malnourished. Her hair has an orange tint from severe malnourishment. She also has some scars on her body, evidence of past abuse or neglect.



If you look carefully at these pictures of Aisha you can see that she shows signs of malnourishment called Kwashiorkor (“Kwash”). Children that suffer from this form of malnourishment do not look bony, in fact, just the opposite: they look fat and swollen. The swolleness is not normal in children and it is a result of fluid shifts. Dry brittle orange hair is also a common symptom of this type of malnourishment.

She was greeted at the Children’s Home by some very excited new brothers and sisters. Aisha was a rather quiet and shy little toddler, but she immediately joined in the dancing with a lot of joy during devotions here at Rafiki! In the past few days, she has blossomed into a very social and fun loving girl. We are so thankful for this little bundle of joy!



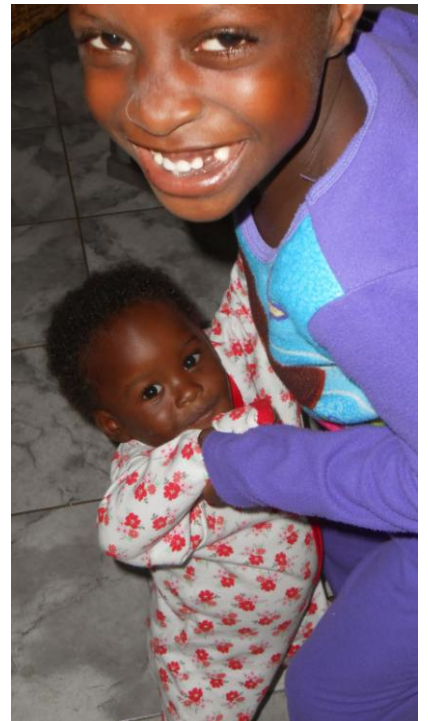
It's amazing the quick transformation that a child can make with good food, clean clothes, and love. Aisha is already doing so much better, but please continue to pray for Aisha's physical and emotional healing! She has been traumatized. Pray for our staff as they make her feel at home. Pray for everyone as they adjust to having two new baby sisters in the home.

◀ Aisha is already showing signs of improved health! Praise!

NEEDED - monthly sponsors for Janat and Aisha!

We are in **DESPERATE** need of more sponsors for our two newest additions, Aisha and Janat. Many people have been asking me lately if we plan to expand, if we are getting more children, and if we are purchasing land. We desire to care for even more hurting children as God has given us a heart to serve orphaned children.

We receive calls weekly, sometimes daily, for children in need of a loving, Christ-centered home. It saddens us greatly (and we know it breaks the heart of God) when we have to say, "No, we can't care for another child as we don't have the funding right now." We can only stretch our funding so far. We have stepped out in complete faith with receiving Janat and Aisha into the home. We currently do not have the financial budget to care for them but God has given us peace that He will provide. We know that God works through individuals like you and people in the past have told us of God's leading to sponsor a child. We pray that if you are not already sponsoring a child, that you would prayerfully consider being a part of a child's life in a HUGE way!



Prayerfully consider sponsoring a child for \$35/month. It is now easier than ever to give.

You can give through our website at:

www.rafikiministries.org

or email Sara at:

sara@rafikiministries.org

for more information.



◀ ▲ Janat with new big sister, Annet, dancing during devotional time!

Christmas Wish List at Target

I cannot believe that the Christmas season is already upon us. Our Christmas Wish List was a HUGE success the past two years! We are excited to continue the tradition for a third year. We have created a wish list of items including new school shoes, toys, and books for the kids. The children were so excited last year to receive new clothes, a special toy, and soccer balls for outside play. We would love to bring a special item for each child again this year.

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/ot/list/kKWYX_V5oKqKk2Cn6llz-w

You can find the ministry wish list by going to 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 purchase. You do not 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 us to Uganda when we return at the end of December.



Other beneficial gifts include:

- Lifeway and Mardel Gift cards to purchase biblical and educational materials
- Chapter books for our older children to read (used or new)

Praise God – over \$1,500 Raised at Orphan Sunday Luncheon Fundraiser

Do you remember Kaleb Kirkland from a previous newsletter? Last year he got his family and friends involved and held a garage sale because he wanted to help the Rafiki kids. He told his grandmother, who is a great cook, that he wanted to do a spaghetti dinner next. Once again he got his family involved, especially his grandmother, Katha Kirkland, who did the majority of the planning, shopping, and cooking. They prepared a wonderful meal for over 250 people. Thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed a meal in support on Orphan Sunday at FBC Pflugerville. Thank you to everyone who donated items and their time to help with the preparation and serving of food. Thanks to First Baptist Church Pflugerville for hosting the event.





We want to especially thank the Kirkland family, Katha, Kaleb, Kelly, and Karlie for organizing this event.



▲ Joseph and Abby Kiwanuka with Kaleb Kirkland

▲ Katha Kirkland Cooking Chicken Spaghetti

Schedule for Upcoming Craft Shows



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Saturday, November 16 th	10am-2pm	Open House – Jo and Frank Hamilton's Home 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, TX
Saturday, November 23 rd	11am-6pm	Market of Hope hosted by New Hope Community Church Christmas Shopping with a Purpose Main Street Plaza - Round Rock, TX
Saturday, December 7 th	10am-7pm	Christmas Market held by Austin Stone Church For the City Center – 500 East St. Johns Avenue Austin, TX 78752
Saturday, December 14 th	10am-2pm	Open House – Jo and Frank Hamilton's Home 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, TX

Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise God that Aisha were rescued! Pray for Janat and Aisha as they continue to adjust to their new home and family. Pray for them to become healthy quickly and that all signs of malnourishment will be gone.
- Pray for more monthly financial sponsors that will enable the ministry to provide a home for more hurting children.
- Pray for Rafiki as we continue to work with the local Police, government officials, and Social Workers on the placement of abandoned and orphaned children.
- Pray for our short-term missionaries, Amanda and Niomi, who have been serving with the Rafiki Team in Uganda. Pray for them as they serve the staff and children. Pray for them as they travel back home in the upcoming month.
- Pray for good health for the Rafiki Kids, Staff, and Missionaries.

- 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, especially with supplying the finances to pay for another year's rent.
- 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". 1st 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. Sara and Joseph are back in Texas till the end of the year. 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 providing a home for 15 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Janat, Aisha, 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)**
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