



# Rafiki Africa Ministries

*Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ*

January 2017 Newsletter

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

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

**“For the needy shall not always be forgotten, and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.” Psalm 9:18**

## Happy New Year from the Rafiki Family!!

We pray that this newsletter finds you well and that you had an amazing time celebrating our Lord's birth this year. We had a very special Christmas in Uganda this year. As a gift, we took the kids at the Children's Home to go see a 3D movie at the nearby movie theater. Many of them had never been to the movie theater before so it was a real treat. The Rafiki employees enjoyed it...everyone went...even the babies. However, the babies did sleep through the entire movie. The adults were as excited as the kids because in Uganda it is rare to be able to go to the movies. ☺



Thank you for blessing us this year! I do not know how to express how thankful we are for your partnership. The past few months have been a whirlwind of activity. The children finished out their school year at the end of November. They have their long holiday break now and will start the next school year at the end of January. All of our students were successful in their studies and have



been promoted to the next grade. Thank you for helping these children attend school and receive an education. They would otherwise not have the opportunity.

The beginning of the New Year, gives us pause to look back on 2016 and take inventory of the impact that was made for families in Uganda. This year we have seen dreams come true. Families have been reunited with their children. Families have been empowered through income generating projects. Homes have been built. Water has been brought to the Rafiki Land. Children have been rescued from abuse and abandonment. Babies have survived starvation and malnutrition. Children have come to know Christ, a cycle of hope is being cultivated, and local leaders are rising up! We won't stop praying BIG prayers! This year, take part in the vision of Rafiki Africa Ministries. Welcome to the Rafiki Family.



**With this New Year brings clean drinking water to the Rafiki Land! Praise God!!**

**“Water is Life!” – African proverb**

# Sponsor a Child in 2017

Reagan →

Rafiki Africa Ministries provides a loving, Christian home for children that have been abused and abandoned. It allows us to say “yes” to one more child. This past week has been a difficult one for me (Sara, Founder and Director) as we received a phone call from a policewoman that we work with in the community. She had a 10-month-old little boy that had been abandoned and was in need of emergency care. We hated it when we had to say, “no”. Joseph and I prayed about taking this little boy in and just knew that we could not care for another baby without more child sponsors. We had just taken in Baby Reagan who was extremely malnourished and only 9 months old. We are at the limit of our budget and space in our current house. It broke my heart when we couldn’t rescue this boy. I am sure that this baby boy ended up at another children’s home but many in Uganda are not operating legally and exploit the children. We are one of the few Children’s Homes recognized by the government of Uganda to care for abandoned and abused children. This has encouraged us to know that we are doing the right thing but also given us a HUGE responsibility. Every time we know that when we are unable to receive a hurting child, we know there is a possibility that they will be going somewhere else where they will continue to be abused and go hungry...sometimes even fearing for their life. We are so thankful when God provides the way for us to help as many as possible.



In the past year, we have rescued 11 children by working with the Ugandan Police Child and Family Protection Units of several police stations in and around Kampala. We have reunited 8 of these children with their families. As much as possible, we continue to help these children once they have been resettled in their families

As we continue to grow as a ministry, please know that partnerships with our supporters are vital to the success of the ministry. Your support is not something that we take lightly and is very much appreciated by everyone involved in the ministry. We ask that if you are not currently sponsoring a child through giving monthly (\$35/month) then please prayerfully consider child sponsorship. It is so easy to sign up through our website. **YOU** can save a life like Baby Reagan!

## Introducing Baby Reagan

Reagan is the newest child at Rafiki Children’s Home. He is around 9 months old. We do not know his exact birth date because he was abandoned on the train tracks in Kampala. He is malnourished and small for his age. He is not crawling yet but we pray that with love and good nutrition he will grow strong. We are in need of monthly financial sponsors to stand with us to cover Reagan’s needs including baby formula with extra protein. Formula in Uganda is very expensive (approximately 3 times as much as you would pay in the United States). We spend roughly \$300/month on formula for only 2 babies.



← Reagan and Florence

↑ Reagan

### Amazon Christmas Wish List

A big thanks to everyone who has purchased gifts!  
Each gift is a treasure!

It is not too late to purchase a gift off of the Amazon WishList. Please visit our Wish List by clicking on the following link or cut and paste it into your web browser ↓

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/PHKWE2CYMCDW/ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_wsg\\_K8ynybGZ4XQ1Z\\_wb](https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/PHKWE2CYMCDW/ref=cm_sw_em_r_wsg_K8ynybGZ4XQ1Z_wb)

## sWays YOU can pray for us this month –

- Praise God for this New Year!! Praise God for His faithfulness and provisions in 2016!
- Pray for our newest child, Reagan. He is 9 months old and is very malnourished. Pray for God to give us monthly partners to help with caring for Reagan's needs.
- Pray for the people of Uganda. Pray for those who are so destitute that they must abandon their families in hopes that their children will be "taken in" and survive. Pray for the Ugandan government as they seek ways to protect children and help the abandoned and orphaned children of Uganda. Pray for Children's Homes, like Rafiki, who are struggling to have the finances and means to support as many children as possible.
- Pray that God will provide the funding needed to move to our new land. Currently, we need \$100,000 to complete the first part of our building phase so that we can move the Children's Home permanently to our land in Kakiri. This will enable us to serve more children and families in the community.
- Please pray for the children by name that are living at the Children's Home: Baby Florence, Reagan, Max, Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Ivan, Aisha, Jerom, Joel, Addadi, Esther, Brenda, Fauziya.
- Pray for these children by name as they settle into their family homes: Matronah, Blessing, Farouk, Michael, Winnie, Tina, Mungu, Sophie, Pony, Annet, Acram, Shakirah, Carol, Don, Emma, Oscar, Cocus, Edwin, 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 and for the use of our land. Pray that many children and families will come to know Christ as their Savior and Lord.
- 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.

## 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 39 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Florence, Reagan, Blessing, Tina, Max, Junior, Mungu, Matronah, Michael, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Rebecca, Bright, Jimmy, Jennifer, Ivan, Farouk Acram, Sharifa, Aisha, Shakirah, Emma, Carol, Don, Sophie, Winnie, 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 us by email: [sara@rafikiministries.org](mailto:sara@rafikiministries.org)

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:frank@rafikiministries.org)

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**Webale! (Thank you!) We thank God for you!**  
**Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka, Founders and Directors, Rafiki Africa Ministries**

## 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, ..."
- **SERVE** on the mission field and come to Uganda. (Romans 12:6-8)
- **CONNECT** the ministry with local churches, rotary clubs, schools, businesses, friends and family.
- **SPEAK UP** and tell their story. Proverbs 31:8-9 says "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, ..."