



# Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing Hope and Love through Jesus Christ

September 1, 2011 Newsletter

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

**“The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed”. Psalm 103:6**



## Joshua - Saved by God's Grace!

We had the opportunity to talk to the kids on Skype this past week. We have not been able to talk to them in a long time due to electricity problems in Uganda. We spoke to Joshua, Rafiki's oldest child, who is 7 years old. He told us that he had made a decision this past Sunday to give his life to Christ! He is the first child in the orphanage to make this decision and we are very proud of him. Joshua was one of the first 3 kids that came to live at Rafiki Home. He was being raised in a ghetto filled with extreme poverty, disease, alcohol and drug abuse, violence, and child neglect. His mother had abandoned him and his grandmother was trying to care for him. The first time I saw him he had been sent by the neighbors to buy sugar. He was completely on his own and at the age of 5 acting as an adult. He was used to being unsupervised and without structure or rules, so he was quite a challenge to handle his first few weeks at the orphanage. He did not understand that he was a child. He was hardened by neglect. It was a joy to see him forget and act like a child after he had been with us for a while. Without the help of this ministry, Joshua might not have been able to hear about Jesus and dedicate his life to serving Christ. Please help these children so that more kids like Joshua can come to know Jesus Christ and His saving power and grace. Joshua has not forgotten his past. We are so thankful that God is softening his heart and we pray that he will grow in wisdom as he grows in stature (Luke 2:52). We look forward to seeing the plans that God has for Joshua's future!

## Missionaries to the Orphaned

Joseph and I feel passionately led by God to serve as missionaries in Uganda and help the poor and destitute. God has placed it on our heart to help **MORE** children. We totally trust God for providing the means to accomplish this. We are completely dependent upon the gifts of God's people to meet our living needs and ministry expenses. Your gift is an

investment in the work of the gospel. God commanded us to take care of widows and orphans (James 1:27). It breaks God's heart that so many children are not being cared for. We consider it a blessing to be able to help the little ones in our care.

There are many hurting and orphaned children in the world, over **3,000,000** orphaned children in Uganda alone. They each have a unique story of how they were abandoned and orphaned. If you could see their hurting faces, you would not turn away from them.

There have been many times (too numerous to count) that Joseph and I have had to say, "NO" to a crying child. "NO, we can not take care for you because we do not have enough money". Do you think a child understands what finances are? It is heartbreaking to have to turn my back on these children and walk away. I have spent many nights crying and pouring out my heart to our Heavenly Father to open the hearts of Americans to **GIVE**.

As I heard from an African friend the other day, "The poorest person in America is the richest person in Africa." We understand that everyone cannot GO as a foreign missionary. But everyone can GIVE. Even the widow gave out of her poverty (passage from Mark 12:41-43). Will you prayerfully consider what part God wants you to have in our support? Will you diligently pray with us that God will meet our needs, provide new opportunities of ministry and make us a blessing to the children He has called us to work with?

Our goal is to get more monthly sponsors (each giving at least \$30/month). If you cannot afford to give \$30/month, that is okay. Any amount goes a long way in helping these children. \$5/month might not sound like much but it can forever change the life of a child in Uganda. Consider what you splurge \$5 on...a cup of coffee...ice cream!

Becoming a monthly sponsor is now easier than ever. You can use your debit or credit card using our Paypal account. You can make a one-time donation using the PayPal account. You can fill out the attached sponsor a child form with your debit or credit card information and you can sponsor a child monthly. The money will be automatically deducted from your bank account or charged to your credit card. All donations are tax deductible.

**Cut and Paste this website into your internet browser to donate now** ➡

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◀ Annet on the left is having a blast drawing a picture.

When you decide to sponsor a child, you will receive updates about the children and beautiful hand drawn pictures. If you would prefer to write a check, please mail it to:

**Rafiki Africa Ministries**  
**P.O. Box 3526**  
**Pflugerville, TX 78691-3526**



Annet, Brenda, Esther, Joshua, Jerom, Joel, Fauziya, Oscar

**God bless you as you consider what He would have you do!**

## **Breakdown of the Ministry Expenses**

\$4,500/month or \$54,000/year

12 Children Currently Living at Rafiki Home = \$375 Per Month Per Child to Support Them

Included in \$375 cost per child are rent, utilities, maintenance/household expenses, food/toiletries, clothing, laundry, transportation/fuel, education, school fees, medical care, and staff salaries (caring and teaching the children, cooking, cleaning, maintaining the home, minimal administrative costs. It costs \$450/year to send 1 child to school (next school term starts on September 5<sup>th</sup>). The starting pay for Rafiki Staff is \$100 per month including room and board.

We send out our newsletter to **1,008** people each month. **27** of those 1,008 people give to the ministry financially each month. Currently, we are at **43%** of support through donations.

## **Upcoming Garage Sale – Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

We are going to have a garage sale to help raise money for the ministry. If you would like to donate something for this please call me at (512) 413-2476 or send me an email at [sarainafrika@yahoo.com](mailto:sarainafrika@yahoo.com) to arrange a time to drop items off. Our address is 803 West Noton Street, Pflugerville, Texas 78660. We will be available most evenings in the upcoming week for donation drop offs.

## **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. Joseph and I will be in Texas for the rest of the year and are available for speaking engagements and functions.
- **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 for Jerom. He has been healing well. Please continue to pray for his healing and that he does not get any more abscesses.
- Praise for the kids and staff no longer being sick. They have all healed well and have begun school this past week.
- Pray for Cocus who just started school this past week for the first time. Pray that he will quickly catch up in school. Please continue praying for him to be healed from TB of the spine. Pray that the hump on his back shrinks.
- Pray for our administrator, Esther, as she is in charge while we are away. Pray for God’s guidance and wisdom as she ministers to the children and staff.
- 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.
- Pray for God’s continued guidance in rearing these beautiful children.
- Pray for our staff that takes care of the children daily – that they will be strengthened and continue to show God’s love to the children.
- Pray that God will be a light in these children’s lives and the children 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. We have a total of 13 beds for children and have room for just one more child. We will reach maximum capacity soon, so we are praying for God's provision so we can help more children.
- Pray that we will continue to be good stewards of the money we receive for the ministry.

### 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 \$30 per month OR any amount you wish. Every little bit helps keep Rafiki Africa Home running. We have 12 children currently in the home (listed from youngest to oldest) 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. You can sponsor a child as a family or as an individual. If you decide to sponsor a child please notify me by email: [sarinafrica@yahoo.com](mailto:sarinafrica@yahoo.com)

**Donations can be made payable to and mailed 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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