



# The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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"Praise God, my voice was back at 6:30 and all my children were surprised to hear Mum talking. After five minutes they started shouting and singing "Mum can talk." It was 10:30 P.M. Thursday evening. My mobile phone registered this heart-rending SMS from a Rafiki Mother who had been functioning without a voice for a week. Mama Lydia is one of nine Rafiki Mothers. She has ten precious children; six boys and four girls ranging from ages one year to eight years old. Please meet this precious family who lives in Cnaan Cottage.



THE CNAAN COTTAGE FAMILY

A typical day begins at 6:00 A.M. for every family rising to diaper changes, dressing for school, teeth brushing, bed making, cleaning rooms and bathroom, breakfast, family devotions, school, lunch, nap time, more diaper changes, athletics or practice singing, supper, chores, and homework for the over fives, baths, story time and bed by 9:00 P.M. God gives our Rafiki Mothers boundless energy to take care of these children.

Rafiki Village Kenya now hosts sixty-eight children in eight cottages; thirty-five boys and thirty-three girls. Our oldest is nine-year-old Kevin Kwera. Our youngest is one-and-a-half month old baby Hannah. Cottage nine named "Nazareth" is readied for occupation as soon as God brings more new children. We continue to work with the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, Rafiki's support church in Kenya and other partner churches to source for and screen orphans and abandoned children that meet our

criteria. We have immediate space for another twenty children. Would you please pray that God goes before us to bring them?

Here is a God-story. Mama Faith let me carry her two-month-old baby Rebecca on the morning that we were going to Thika District Children's Court for mention of her application for legal committal to Rafiki. As I held baby Rebecca, Mama Faith spoke, "Ma'am, Rebecca has Chinese eyes like you—slits, you know. She shall be called Rebecca Yeen." I was speechless. Mama Faith's words brought back a real story that had happened many years ago when I was in my first-year statistics class at the university. The lecturer, a Dr. Bhanoji Rao on secondment from the United Nations could not manage the names of all his students with Chinese names; that is, students who did not have given names such as Sally, Shirley, Sandy, etc. He decided that he would give everyone of his students who had a Chinese name a "western name" to enable him to call on us during our tutorials. And so I was named "Rebecca" – a name I would only respond to whenever I was in his statistics class. (My friends from university who read this letter would remember those days.) I have never ever used that name since. And now for Mama Faith to pronounce her baby girl "Rebecca Yeen." Can you feel the electrifying response that went through my heart? Will you please meet baby Rebecca Yeen from Ebenezer Cottage.



REBECCA YEEN

September 22, 2006, was a very special day for three finishers—Angeline, Juliah, and Zipporah. They had spent three memorable, challenging years training at the Rafiki Girls' Center and are now ready to step into the big wide world armed with confidence and skills they would not have had if they had not come. In her valedictorian speech, Zipporah said, "As we go out of this perimeter, let us be role models in our society—extend the love acquired from our seniors to the wider community." The Rafiki Girls' Center takes small groups of teenage girls and works with them to become useful productive citizens. We still have fourteen teenage girls to train and teach. We wait on God to bring more.

September 2006 was also memorable because we were privileged to offer our twelfth community medical clinic to 1,122 sick adults and children. Let me share with you a "Thank you team" letter (unedited) from a grateful male patient.

*No words can express my joy. I feel great having new lease of life. It is never very easy to put feelings into words but it's comforting to know that God's own timing in these things is best for his reason. God sent you at the appropriate time to people like me and others who really needed help. Rafiki you saved my life, you saved my hand. Once again THANKS A LOT. Dr.xxx may you live long to save lives and help the disadvantaged. Miss xxx and the rest of the team I do appreciate the precious time you spent on 18th September 2006 to squeeze and drain the stuff from my hand. I felt relieved and pain was no more. I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU, ALL DAYS OF MY LIFE. You sympathized and did squeezing with love and kindness. Once again thanks Miss xxx. I pray to the Almighty God to guide you as you continue to help and assisting the poor. I thank God when I look at my hand now.....wow! God is really wonderful. Through Him you did a tremendous job. Yours healed patient, Thomas xxx.*

I remember from Matthew 25:31-46 the poignant reply of the King in the parable of the sheep and the goats, **"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."**

What a privilege it is to be able to serve the fatherless, the abandoned, the sick, and the needy in this place. Thank you, dear family and friends who enable me to serve here.

Rafiki is praying that many more will answer God's call to serve at a Rafiki Training Village in Africa. Is that God's calling to you? Please checkout our website [www.rafiki-foundation.org](http://www.rafiki-foundation.org).

Rafiki is also trusting God to provide more funds for building schools for the children, cottages for the orphans, and sponsorship of these disadvantaged ones. Are you able to give financially? Please write Rafiki Foundation, Inc. if you will.

Serving the least of these in Kenya because it is the most rewarding thing I do,



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