



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

19001 Huebner Road #2 • San Antonio TX 78258-4040 • 210-244-2600 • www.rafiki-foundation.org

November 2004

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord, not for men,” (Colossians 3:23).*

Dear Friends and Family,

“I wish it weren’t Friday!” is what Vaines said as she descended the steps from the Rafiki Girls’ Center expressing the sentiment of the trainees as they completed their first month of training. Imagine looking forward to Mondays rather than Fridays! The ten eager fourteen to seventeen year olds have been working hard and are enjoying all that God is providing for them through Rafiki.



What is it that the girls anticipate? Each day the girls arrive between 7:30 and 7:55 A.M. Because all of the training is in English, they “check their Nyanga at the gate” as they enter. After changing into their uniforms, the girls have a cup of tea. They have a few minutes to rest and chat. Most of them get up early to fetch water and do household chores. All of the girls walk to the RGC. For some it is as much as a forty-five minute trek.

Devotions begin at 8 A.M. The room and surrounding community are filled with praises to God as the girls join in singing hymns. The girls enjoy looking for attributes of God as they sing. Cecilia’s favorite hymn is *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*. She says that it teaches her that God is a compassionate Father who never changes. What a blessing for a girl who is an orphan! After singing, we consider attributes of

God as seen in Scripture. Gladys’ favorite attribute of God is Savior because He, the Man of Sorrows, saved her by dying on the cross for her sins. Devotions end with prayer. Many of the girls have been amazed to learn that anyone can pray. Prayer is simply talking to God.



GLADYS, CECILIA AND VIANES.

English class is from 8:30 – 9:20 A.M. The thing that Lesya enjoys most about English class is reading from the Bible. Each day the girls study a portion of the Gospel of John, as well as studying grammar and pronunciation.

9:20 – 9:30 A.M is Tea Time. In addition to sipping tea and chatting, the girls like to make notes from their classes to take home to show their friends and family. Some even make a complete second set of the notes they took in class.

Sewing class is from 9:30 – 10:20 A.M. This is Eneless’ favorite class. In just a month, she and the other girls have learned to mark, cut, and sew fabric on a sewing machine.

Health and Hygiene class is from 10:30 – 11:20 A.M. Emma says she is happy to be learning how to keep herself and her community clean and free from disease.



EMMA, ENELESS AND LESYA

From 11:30 A.M until noon the girls clean the center and help Tim finish lunch preparations. Annie's favorite job is hostess. The lunch hostesses set the table, serve the food, and look after the people at their tables during lunch. Lunch is served at noon. Ruth's favorite meal is served on Thursday: Beans and Rice, a roll, and Plantation Pride Cake. Yum!! From 12:30 – 1:00 P.M. we clean up. It's easy to tell that Catherine's favorite job at the RGC is washing dishes. As she washes, she sings hymn after hymn, joined by the other kitchen helpers. With songs of praises all around, cleaning the kitchen with the girls is a real treat!



ANNIE, CATHERINE, PATRICIA AND RUTH

Skills training is from 1:00 – 3:45 P.M. The girls are preparing to learn to make purses from African fabrics. Some of them have never used scissors before and none have ever used a sewing machine. It is a joy to get to teach the girls skills that will help enable them to find jobs and become godly contributors to their communities. Our youngest trainee, Patricia, says, "The training is so very interesting. We only started weeks ago and already we have learned many things, as if we had been learning for a year."

At 3:45 P.M. we clean up, and at 4:00 P.M. before we are dismissed, we gather to thank God for all He has provided that day.

It has been our privilege to help set up and open the Rafiki Girls' Center in Lusaka, Zambia. In December, we will be moving to the Rafiki village in Kampala, Uganda where Tim is to serve as the financial manager and help with purchasing, and Patty is to serve as the children's center director. Our Christmas will be filled with joy and the blessing of ministering to the twenty-one orphans who live at the Rafiki village there. We think we will be able to keep our current e-mail address. Our new address follows.

It is a privilege to serve God in Africa. Thank you for helping to make that possible. We appreciate you!

Love Always,

Tim & Patty Yoss

Tim and Patty Yoss

c/o Rafiki Foundation, Inc.
P. O. Box 12714
Kampala, Uganda
East Africa

E-mail: tyoss@attglobal.net

P.S. From the Home Office:

The Yosses are at 81% of the total needed for this term.

NOTE: Please visit www.rafiki-foundation.org to find information on your ROS, what *Rafiki* is doing, the centers, and the Exchange.