



# The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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*“So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, ‘You are a God of seeing,’ for she said, ‘Truly here I have seen him who looks after me’” (Genesis 16:8 ESV).*

Hello, family and friends!

Greeting from Mzuzu, Malawi. I have much to thank God for and much to tell you about all that has happened in the last month. Like Hagar in the above passage, I will start by thanking my Father for being a God of seeing and then I will continue by giving you a glimpse of all that He has done here in Mzuzu.

## God Sees the Followers

On Sunday, February 26, 2006, I said good-bye to my life in America and hello to the adventure that God has given me. I believe with all my heart that this voyage has been a gift from my Father to me. Little and big details were all taken care of by Him, without help from me.

My voyage started as soon as I landed in Amsterdam and got lost inside the airport. I relied upon my skills and my way, and I was lost for hours. I finally got so frustrated that I stopped and did what I should have done in the first place—prayed. I might not have known where I was but God knew my exact location. It was only with the patience and peace of God that I was able to navigate through the confusion to be able to see the city of Amsterdam and get a nap in before I boarded the plane for the next leg of my flight to Nairobi, Kenya.

After layovers in three cities, I landed in Lilongwe, the capital city of Malawi, on Tuesday, February 28, 2006 with all pieces of my luggage. Not only did He watch over me through the entire trip, He watched my luggage, also.



As I rode for four hours on good roads from the airport to the town of Mzuzu, I was able to see what a beautiful country God had made Malawi.

Since then, I’ve met so many people. I’m struggling to keep up with whom I have met and whom I am just meeting for the first time—there are the girls at the Rafiki Girls’ Center, all the workers at our Village, and friends of my co-workers. The people here are very sweet and humble and I look forward to getting to know more of God’s children in this country.

In addition to me, another ROS has come to stay here in Mzuzu, also. Laura Starkey joined the team shortly after me, and we all desire to follow His will for the Rafiki Village in Mzuzu, Malawi.

## God Sees the Faithful



Five of the girls at the Rafiki Girls’ Center completed their three years of schooling and graduated in March. Barb Guthrie, the RGC director, organized a wonderful graduation ceremony, complete with music, speeches, and guest speakers. I was able to help with the cake and cookies for the ceremony. For the first time, I made and applied the icing. To God be the glory, for the cake turned out nice.



The ceremony was the true blessing. Each of the girls wrote and presented their speeches in front of a large audience, which was a testimony to just how much these girls had blossomed while at this school. God was thanked many times in the speeches for how these girls were nothing before but God had made them something. They expressed their love and faith in God as He had brought them through so many hardships. It was wonderful to hear how God made a difference in their lives because they loved and trusted Him. They encouraged the next groups of students to stick with school and not become discouraged. Thank you, Monica, Etta, Angella, Maggie, and Nolit for your wonderful testimonies and again, reminding us that God is the God of seeing.

### **God Sees the Fatherless**

Our first five orphans have arrived and we are taking every chance we can to love on them.



Spencer and Alinafe arrived first, followed by Fiskani, Memory, and Uchizi a couple of days later. Rafiki Mother Veronica and Rafiki Mother Mercy are just bursting at the seams with love and excitement at the arrival of the children. The Mothers' Assistants are glowing as they show the children off to everyone.

Each child has their own wonderful testimony of how God saw them and protected them from the time they were born to the time they arrived here. I am so blessed to have been able to witness these little gifts from God to all of us.

They have only been here a little over a week and already, their transformation is incredible. They are laughing, eating, and talking. The ten-month-old twins, Memory and Uchizi, are already crawling. We are all so excited they are here.

I praise God for not only seeing me, but seeing each one of us in Mzuzu.

### **Thanksgiving and Praise**

- God's continual equipping to do His will
- The orphan children that He has placed in our Village
- The five graduates and their wonderful transformation

### **Prayer Requests**

- Team unity and bonding
- The remaining girls return for school at the RGC
- I glorify God in all I do and say

Serving the God Who sees,

Handwritten signature of Julie Ellington

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