



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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“He told them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field’” (Luke 10:2, NIV).

Dear friends and family,

The statistics are staggering. We read about them in the news, we see them on television, but do they really register? Currently, almost two thirds (63%) of all persons infected with HIV are living in Sub Saharan Africa—nearly 24.7 million people. In that region of the world, approximately nine percent of children under the age of fifteen have lost at least one parent to AIDS, and one in six households with children is caring for at least one orphan. (UNAIDS/WHO AIDS Epidemic Update: December 2006) Experts project that by the end of this decade, due to the AIDS pandemic and regional political instability, there may be forty-five million orphans in Africa—forty-five million! How can we fully comprehend these statistics? What is happening to the future of Africa? Who will care for the children left behind?

That is precisely the goal of The Rafiki Foundation, a non-profit organization currently working in ten African countries. By creating a stable and loving social environment, providing a classical Christian education, and supplying regular medical care, Rafiki is equipping orphans and vulnerable children to become future leaders and contributors to their countries. For more detailed information about Rafiki’s efforts, please read the enclosed packet, contact me, or visit www.rafiki-foundation.org.

As many of you know, this past summer I spent five weeks in Ghana volunteering at the Rafiki Village outside Accra. I witnessed first-hand Rafiki’s vital and unique work and how it is truly transforming the lives of numerous children and teenage girls. Although I instructed my Ghanaian students in grammar and vocabulary, reading, and writing, they taught me as well. They taught me they are not statistics—Abigail wants to be a pediatrician, Akalukri dreams of building bridges and skyscrapers, Eric hopes to learn about agriculture so he can help improve farming practices. They are the future of their country and what awesome potential they have! But without Rafiki’s efforts, Abigail, Akalukri, and Eric would have slim hope of achieving their goals.

Since returning from Ghana in August, God has made it abundantly clear that He is calling me to volunteer as an ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff). I am so eager and excited about this opportunity to serve God. I will be teaching the JSS (Junior Secondary School) aged children at the Rafiki Village in Accra, where I spent my summer. I’ve made a two-year commitment and, contingent on funding, hope to leave for Ghana in August 2007.

How can you help the helpless in Africa? How can you make a difference? Many of you generously supported my trip this past summer through both your prayers and finances. My sincere hope is that you will be moved to help support me on this new journey the Lord has set before me. In doing so, know that you are part of “God’s Word at Work” in Africa.

Much love and thanks,

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