



# The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

PO Box 1988 • Eustis FL 32727-1988 • 407-557-2850 • FAX: 352-483-9132

February 2009

*“Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them (children)”*  
(Psalm 127:5a ESV).

Dear family and friends,

Many changes have occurred at Rafiki Village Rwanda in the past two months. It has been a whirlwind of events and travel. God blessed us with strength and energy to maintain the pace and good health to enjoy all the excitement. The biggest news is that we have children in the Village: twelve of the most beautiful children, thus our quiver is starting to fill. **PRAISE THE LORD!**



First we spent many hours and went miles for home visits to interview and document information on orphans as we began the selection process. Some of the “roads” were like small narrow goat paths. We were so appreciative of Ken’s God-given sense of direction.



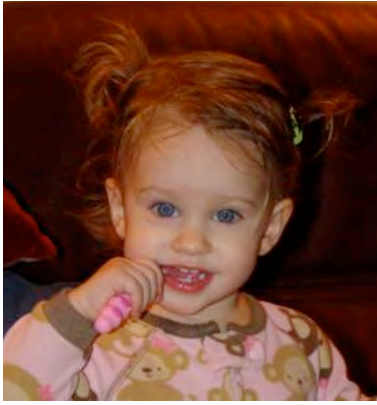
As we located children that were truly orphaned we then made a return trip for further interviews and a preliminary medical assessment.



These were long days and dusty miles but our enthusiasm never waned. People seemed to appear from everywhere and many children also gathered to see what these “wazungu” (white people) were doing.



Twenty orphaned children accompanied by their caregivers came for medical exams on January 10. Thank you Lord Jesus! The hospital agreed to provide a staging area for Rafiki that had a nice grassy area for the children to play while waiting to be examined. Our Rafiki Mothers, Alice, Florence, and Judith, were invaluable in assisting with the children throughout the very busy process.



We were able to go to France and spend ten days vacationing with our granddaughter, Audrey, her parents, and uncle. We enjoyed our time together and were able to get some much needed rest. God is so good.

Our teammates brought the first six children to our Village on January 21st and six more on the 22nd. It was such a wonderful blessing to return to three cottages teeming with twelve little voices. After just a week the three families, two cottages of four girls and one cottage with four boys, were settling in, bonding and adjusting.



OUR FIRST TWELVE CHILDREN

We stand amazed at how well the children seem to be adjusting to their new home and family. Thanks to God for the great things He has done to make all this possible.

We plan to return to the States for deputation this summer and would love to share Rafiki's work in Rwanda. Please let us know if your group, Sunday school class, or church would like us to come, or if you desire to host a coffee fellowship please e-mail us. Our tentative schedule: July—Florida and the southeast, mid July—Oregon, early August—Alaska, then Maine into September.

Please prayerfully consider supporting one of these precious children. You may contact the Rafiki Home Office in Eustis FL at (407) 557-2850, or on the internet at [www.rafiki-foundation.org](http://www.rafiki-foundation.org) for more information.



BEV AND JANVIER IN THE GAZEBO.

**Please pray for:**

- The children to come to trust Christ as their Lord and Savior early in life.
- Rafiki Mothers and children to bond.
- Good health, strength and stamina for children, Rafiki Mothers, ROS, and national staff.
- Our quiver to continue to fill with children.
- Home Office travel mercies and our Village Dedication on February 25, 2009.

Thank you for partnering with us to serve with Rafiki here in Rwanda in the precious and mighty name of Jesus Christ,

In His service,

*Ken and Bev*

Ken and Bev Merrill

PO Box 6856  
Kacyiru  
Kigali, Rwanda, EAST AFRICA

E-mail: [merrill390@yahoo.com](mailto:merrill390@yahoo.com)