



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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“The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands” (Psalm 128:7 ESV).

The Lord is indeed fulfilling His purpose for me and for the Rafiki Village in Mzuzu, Malawi. His love is steadfast and He has not forsaken us. We have experienced many changes in this place since December and all of them have been brought about by His sovereign hand. To Him be all glory and honor forever and evermore. Let me share those changes with you.

The faces of our team:

To our great sadness, but according to His purpose, Vicky and Mike Koch were transferred to Zambia in January. Chris Hudson has become the village director and only remaining man. Barb Guthrie took Vicky's place as RGC director. Charmaine Fuimos also left us in January for a year's sabbatical as originally planned. God has since added two wonderful young women, Julie Ellington and Laura Starkey, to our team. Both of them were at survival camp with me this past summer. It has been wonderful to renew our acquaintance, to show them the Village and the city of Mzuzu, and to now labor side-by-side in this place.

The graduation of our sixth-semester girls:

On March 24, 2006, the Rafiki Girls' Center graduated its second class. These young ladies have been an inspiration to me since I first met them. The graduation was beautiful; each girl made a speech that was a credit to them and glorified our Father. All five of them are now employed. Monica is finishing an attachment as a chef at the Mzuzu Hotel and the other four are going to be working for us. Nolit will be Mr. Chris' secretary, Angella will be my teaching assistant, Maggie will be an assistant mother or auntie, and Etta will work in the RCC as a laundry assistant with other duties as assigned. God is fulfilling His purpose for them and it will be a joy to see what He has in store for them.



HERE I AM LIKE A PROUD MAMA WITH NOLIT AND ANGELLA.

The beginning of a new semester at the Rafiki Girls' Center

When the new semester at the girls' center begins, we will only have two semesters remaining, sixteen girls in all. With the exception of English which is taught every semester and skill training which is where they learn woodcarving, there will be new classes: music, cooking and nutrition, entrepreneurship, and applied studies which includes tailoring, catering, and administrative skills. You will be interested or amused to know that the one class I will teach this semester is the applied studies because of tailoring. Although two MiniMissionaries spelled me for a while, I did finish the sewing class. God gave me a little bit of my mother after all, and I began to see and figure things out in the world of sewing.



MY PUPILS IN THEIR DRESSES THEY MADE IN SEWING.

Our first children

After much prayer and what seemed like endless delays, God is now beginning to add a very key piece to the puzzle of the Rafiki Village in Malawi. We have our first children here at the Village. Rafiki Mother Mercy is the proud mother of Alinafe, a lovely four-year-old little girl and fraternal twins, a little boy, Uchizi and his sister, Memory. Rafiki Mother Veronica proudly welcomed two handsome little boys, Spencer, age three, and Fiskani, age four. Both mothers and children are doing well. Each of the children is growing in confidence daily. They love their new toys, their homes, and having plenty to eat for probably the first time in their lives. Alinafe is already asking when she can go to school. I am wondering who will learn more, them or me.



ANGELLA AND THE LITTLE PUPILS ARE ALREADY FRIENDS.

New Rafiki Mothers and our own social worker

God has blessed us with three wonderful women who are training to be our next three mothers. Gloria, Roncy, and Alice are at the Village training during the week. They are fortunate as they have our new little ones with whom to learn. Soon they, too, will be able to have their first children. That is where Mr. Humphrey Banda comes in. His primary job is to help us locate and procure children. He is retired from the government and has already proved his worth helping us with this first set of children. Memory took to Mr. Banda right away and that in itself says a lot.

God has only just begun to work here. The plans are for a medical clinic to be built and a pediatrician to come and staff it. More MiniMissionaries will visit and serve with us. More girls will come to study and learn at the Rafiki Girls' Center. Eventually, we will add boys and a Rafiki Boys' Center. Of course, there will be more children to love and teach.

As we celebrate our Lord's faithfulness, let us give thanks and praise for:

- God's perfect timing in all things.
- God's place and purpose for the recent graduates.
- A great team with a heart for God's purpose here in Malawi.

Graciously lift up these requests to our great and mighty God:

- That our team would mesh together for God's purpose and glory.
- That God will bring the next children He has chosen for this place in His time.
- That God's hand of protection would be on Rafiki Village Malawi and on His people here.

In His love,

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