



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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Dear Family and Friends,

"God is up to something!" These words were spoken by a young woman in Kenya as we talked about her strong faith amid her trials. Everything about her life in the slums is difficult. Her home consists of one room and is made of mud and twigs; she does not have electricity; her only source of water is contaminated by raw sewage; she is raising children from her extended family who have been orphaned by the HIV/AIDS epidemic; and she is a widow herself. However, she finds joy in knowing her future is secure with the Lord. Yes, indeed; and the amazing thing is that He allows us to be a part of it!

Often we do not have a clue as to what God is "up to." Yet, these are the times that build our faith. Such was the case in 2002 when He led me to enroll in seminary. But now that I have graduated, He is granting me the privilege of serving in Africa with The Rafiki Foundation. Rafiki's mission is to glorify God by helping children in Africa become godly contributors in the world. This is done by providing living facilities for orphans, accredited Christian schools, health care, Christian vocational training for teenagers, and community services. The Rafiki Foundation listens to God and listens to the African people. They teach the Bible and establish ministries of mercy. I encourage you to visit their website at www.rafiki-foundation.org.

My area of focus will be serving with the Rafiki Girls' Centers, where underprivileged teenagers are provided an education and taught vocational and life skills. The goal is to prepare the girls for their future, both on the earth and for eternity. The centers offer a free, three-year program that is built upon a biblical foundation. After an initial period of training, I will assist in establishing new girls' centers in the new African countries where Rafiki has been asked to go. My first term of service will be for six years.

The need for this outreach is tremendous. The numbers are staggering: In Africa, there are over eleven million orphans due to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Over half of these orphans are between the ages of ten and fifteen. Their childhoods are stolen as they struggle to survive. Young girls are especially vulnerable. This is evident in the startling fact that 75% of all those infected between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four are female. The reasons for their vulnerability are numerous: they are powerless as "second-class" citizens, they are not allowed to inherit property, they have no rights to demand protection from violent acts against them, and they are often used for sex from extended family with whom they are living. Many girls turn to prostitution to survive or are given in marriage at a very early age. The Rafiki Girls' Centers are providing young girls the opportunity to become godly contributors, not fatal statistics.

Would you prayerfully consider being a part of what God is up to in Africa? Would you be willing to pray for this ministry? Specifically, pray that the support will come in quickly so that I can be on the field by January, that loving homes will be found for my pets, and that the logistics of moving will go smoothly. Since Rafiki is supported 100% by charitable donations, prior to leaving for the field I need to have raised my support for two years, either in donations and/or pledges. Enclosed is a donor card with my account number. If you would like to partner with us, please indicate your level of support on the card and return it to Rafiki. 100% of the donations you give for my work go directly into my account; no administration fees are withdrawn. If you would be a part of my prayer support, write me at the address below.

Thank you and may God richly bless you!

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