



A Christian Children's Home in Kenya for Vulnerable School-aged Boys

<http://ahadifamilykenya.org>

## NOVEMBER 2017 UPDATE

**THANKSGIVING** is not a holiday in Kenya, nor is turkey a food that Kenyans would think to eat (goat is the meat for celebration), but we certainly have much to be thankful for at Ahadi where we have plenty to eat, clothes to wear, education, and spiritual food as well. Our boys are growing tall and are mostly healthy; in fact, I could hardly recognize some of the boys in recent photos sent by our social worker. When school got out, the boys had opportunity to practice some farming skills since this time of year is equivalent to the US summer, so it is time to plant crops. We raise a lot of the vegetables we consume at Ahadi and have some to sell in the market as well.



I am looking forward to seeing the boys and staff again in January, Lord willing. I am still monitoring the political situation following the repeated election which took place recently. The opposition party boycotted the re-election because they felt that necessary precautions had not been made to ensure that the vote would be accurately tabulated, so voter turn-out was poor, and the current president was therefore re-elected in a land-slide 98% "victory" since his supporters were nearly the only ones to vote.

**I had requested prayer last month for the boys taking the end of primary school exam. The results have already come out, and sadly most of the boys did not perform well.** Five of these boys live at Ahadi, and three others are boys we know of who are able to live with a relative (big brother, aunt, uncle) and we cater for their school fees. (Whenever possible, we like for boys to stay in a family situation if feasible.) In Kenya, classes are taught in English, but some of them have just never learned it well enough to understand the subjects being taught, and they don't come from educated families

where English and Swahili were used at home. Keep in mind that they all speak 3 languages (English, Swahili, and their mother-tongue which for most of them is Kikamba), and that the vocabulary used in school is not related to what they speak amongst each other. We would like to get tutoring over the holidays, but that needs to fit in with visits to relatives, vacation days for our staff, and a week at a Christian camp. They also are still dealing with grief because of death of parents, grandparents, or other caregivers while simultaneously maneuvering their way through the teen years and all that that entails. **Pray for these boys and also that we will be wise in choosing the way forward.** We also have 2 boys and a sister to one of our boys, who are under the care of a relative when not in school but whose school fees we are paying, and they are taking the end of high school exam.

**GIVING OPPORTUNITIES** Many of you, like me, have found that shopping at Amazon.com is very handy and often has better pricing and less hassle than driving to a store and battling the long lines, especially during holidays. Did you know that if you shop using **smile.amazon.com**, a small percentage of your purchase will be donated by Amazon to a charity of your choice? **SCREAM USA is one of the charities you can choose.** It doesn't cost you anything, but SCREAM USA will get a check once per quarter for the total amount that Amazon will donate from the percentage they will have collected from all of those who select their percentage to go to SCREAM USA! It doesn't sound like much, but if enough of us do it, it will make a difference. **Just choose smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com and select SCREAM USA as the charity you'd like to support.**

**Also, many of you like to give a special gift to a charity in honor of the birthday of Jesus, who himself was born to a poor family, and whose baby bed was a manger in a barn! Jesus and his apostles often admonished His followers to remember the poor and needy and said that our "religion" would be reflected in our care of them. Ahadi Family Kenya is one of many worthy Christian organizations that could benefit from your year-end giving.** See details at the end of this e-mail if you wish to celebrate the birth and life of Jesus in that way.



**CASE IN POINT** The boy on the left came to us a couple of years ago at the request of his classroom teacher who repeatedly reported his case to the principal and then to the area chief. He seldom attended school because he didn't have shoes or uniform and had no energy to walk for 1 ½ hours to get there because he hadn't eaten. His elderly grandmother, living in a tiny hand-made house, could barely manage to feed herself. His father had been abusive, and his mother ran away. He came to Ahadi sickly and mal-nourished with very little education and now is healthy, smiling, and finished third grade last month at the age of twelve. He is here pictured cutting a birthday cake at Ahadi. During

school breaks, he will go to stay with his grandmother, and we will send food for them to eat while he is there.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS THAT MAKE THIS MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

**Phyllis Masso for Ahadi Family Kenya.**

***IN THE US, to make tax-exempt contributions: SEND CHECKS TO: SCREAM USA, 31 Benson Rd., Northbridge, MA 01534***

***Or, USE A DEBIT CARD TO MAKE A TAX-EXEMPT DONATION THROUGH ORPHAN'S JOY <http://orphansjoy.revtrak.net>  
Select "Ahadi Family Kenya Orphanage" and choose "running expenses"***

***IN KENYA: Send to our m-pesa account: 0706-344024 (Humphrey Chegome Olindo's name--our social worker/manager--will appear in your confirmation message.) OR, DEPOSIT AT NIC BANK, NIC HOUSE BRANCH Ahadi Family Kenya account***