



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

<https://ahadifamilykenya.org>

## UPDATE JANUARY 2019



This month, I am writing from Ahadi Family Kenya where I have been staying since January 1. I am sitting in the breezy office, enjoying 75 (F) degree weather, listening to the nearby goats and sheep bleating, and watching the neighbor's cows walk down the hill. The Junior Staff and groundskeeper are trimming the flowering hedge outside. Before the boys went back to school, they assisted in cleaning up the compound. Now, they keep to a rigorous schedule of getting up at 5:00 AM so they can leave for school shortly after 6:00 AM and arrive a half hour later for "preps."



I arrived in time to celebrate New Year's Day with a soda and see the boys who would be heading off to their boarding high schools. I met with several of them individually and most of them in groups. There are nine in boarding schools from Ahadi, and several others for whom we pay school fees, but who are staying with relatives who can't afford fees. We just added three others in the last few days who are starting their first year of high school. Buying the mattress, bedding, dictionaries, uniform, toiletries, etc., and a box to keep all of these things in, in addition to first term school fees, transport to get

them and their guardians to their boarding schools, comes to over \$500 each! Thanks to several of you, end of year giving made this possible. Another answered prayer is that the Ahadi boy who is now living with relatives in the western part of Kenya, was called to a good high school due to his excellent score on the end of primary school exam (KCPE).



I have been meeting individually with several of our alumni, some of whom just graduated from university, and others are now attending. In the photo is Maurice, on the left, who is an Assistant Registrar at Daystar University, now pursuing a master's degree in Project Management, and Mathew (in the middle) who is finishing a PhD in Community Development in South Korea (with a private sponsor). He was checking up on his grandma in Kenya over the holidays. I am looking forward to the Alumni Reunion which will take place on 16 Feb. and hope to see some Ahadi "daughters-in-law" and "grand-children" as well.

**Sadly, Gilbert, our Jr. Staff who I mentioned last month, did not manage to get a sponsor to begin university, but as others graduate in the coming months, my hope is that a sponsor will become available for him to study criminology at Kenyatta University, beginning next term.**



Recently, at a staff meeting, we agreed to try to encourage the musical skills of our boys. Julius, one of our Ahadi university students, who is on the worship team at Daystar U, is willing to come on week-ends to teach skills in singing, dance, rhythms, guitar and keyboard. **Our manager recently priced a good quality Yamaha PSRS670 for about \$800 including a stand, sustain pedal, and bag. Would someone like to send a donation for this purchase?** Our excellent former keyboard is of studio quality and is being used by one of our alumni, David (aka DWave), in his 6 studios. He also has trained 10 people to start their own studios, thereby giving them an income, and he recently started a local TV station! **That keyboard has been "instrumental" and served the community well.** David came for a surprise visit just as I was writing this paragraph!

**As I watch our boys grow up, I am filled with gratitude that God enabled Ahadi Family to rescue them from scary environments and give them hope. David (DWave), himself a former street boy, hopes to help me make a new "documentary" so you, too, can delight in what many of you have made possible with your giving.**

**In the coming weeks, there will be many official meetings with the auditor, the Board, and the Trustees. We have triple checked our books and already submitted them to the auditor. I appreciate your prayers since there are many difficult decisions to be made, including the handing over of some of my responsibilities. Pray, too, that two new Board members will quickly learn what we are all about and be ready to take on official roles. At our recent meeting, Rama Kitsao, an Ahadi alumnus, became Board Chairman! Our Chairman and Secretary of the Trustees are also Ahadi alumni, so we are a maturing organization. Thank you for the part you played.**

*Phyllis Masso for Ahadi Family Kenya.*

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