



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

<https://ahadifamilykenya.org>

UPDATE AUGUST 2019



The big event for Ahadi this month was the visit by Lilian Nganga, 1st lady of Machakos, the wife of the Governor of Machakos, Alfred Mutua, who came (dressed in white) with several people accompanying her, personally served the boys a beautiful lunch and ate with them. On each side of her in the first photo are two of our Trustees, Vincent Ouma and Christine Karimi. She also came, bearing gifts of staples such as rice, beans, maize meal and cooking oil. All of our trustees were able to attend (except me—but the photo of my husband Jon and me showed up in the photo taken in the office where she stands next to Christine

who is also our Executive Director); all of our staff; and almost all of our boys, because they were on school break. She was very impressed with our facilities and that we are catering to the “boy child.” The boys danced for her, and there were many speeches, so it was a big occasion for us. We thank God for the opportunity to “show off” our Ahadi boys, and are grateful for the generosity and concern for orphans and vulnerable children that the governor and his wife have shown. The primary school-aged boys (who mainly benefit from the food) are shown with the 1st Lady and our trustees.



Since the last update, most of the boys have gone to visit a relative for a short visit and are back at Ahadi ready to begin their third term, which is the last term of the year. This is a busy time for us since the boys in high school are attending many different schools. (It's almost like college in the US in that you must get an invitation to join the high school, or apply and wait for admission, so the boys are scattered all over.) Keeping track of the accounting is challenging. In the midst of all the hustle and bustle, the little laptop which we use for accounting and which had our accounting software on it, died. It had been "ill" for a while, but we had been nursing it along because the Quick Books software was too old to upgrade. Thankfully, our Ahadi alum, Maurice, came to the rescue, finding a good deal (relatively speaking) on a refurbished laptop and found someone with an old unused/license Quick Books that wasn't too old so could receive our backed-up files (but newer than what we had been using). Whew! We thank God for our alumni who pitch in to help us out in a pinch. (Maurice has a B.S. in Computer Science and is working on a Master's at Daystar University. We frequently call on him.)

One of our other alums had been attending university, but was out of touch for sometime, complaining of "neurological problems." After we sent him for a couple of doctor visits and some brain scans, he finally admitted he was an alcoholic and needed help. **He agreed to go to a Christian rehab center this month, so we pray that he will respond well to counseling and recover. Please join us in praying for him.**

Another alum who was nearly ready to graduate from university and had been living positively, became depressed, stopped taking his necessary medications and stopped communicating anybody everybody. Finally, after months of us trying to get through to him, we sent a fellow alum who knew where he lived, and he agreed to come get counseling, see a doctor for his poor health, and go back on his meds. We thank God that he has begun eating again, too. **He needs our prayers to regain weight, health, and strength as well as needing to lean on God more completely.** It is concerning to us Trustees that as our boys reach young adulthood, they really flounder, and their condition is complicated by the fact that they know there isn't family out there to turn to since Ahadi's energies are focused on the current school-aged boys at Ahadi Family. **We would like to do a better job of preparing them for this season of their life, so we too need prayers.**

On a more positive note, Gilbert now has booked a room near Kenyatta University where he will be attending soon and is busy buying a bed, a small gas cylinder for cooking with one burner, etc. to set up housekeeping and learn to function on his own. We thank God for the 5-month Discipleship Training he completed last week at Youth With a Mission and his deeper commitment to follow Christ. He will be studying Criminology. His brother, Julius, is studying at Daystar University and just sent us a copy of grades with all A's last term! We are grateful for the sponsors who make this possible. Several of our boys are finishing high school this term and will hope to attend university. **We need more sponsors willing to commit to around \$5-6,000 per year (depending on which university they attend). Please pray about this. Our current sponsors are reaching retirement (and thus, lowered income), and we need replacements. Consider co-sponsoring with a friend, or let us know if you can co-sponsor, and we will see if we can match you up with someone.**

We are grateful for those who came through for us for September school fees for primary and secondary schools, but now our coffers are once again nearly empty for regular expenses like salaries, utilities, etc., which may be not as fun to donate for but are very necessary in maintaining our homey environment. **A big thank you to those who faithfully give monthly (but we need more of you).**

"God bless you and keep you and make his face to shine upon you and give you peace." **The Ahadi boys love you, salute you, and appreciate you.**