



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

<https://ahadifamilykenya.org>

UPDATE FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2020



My 2-week stay at Ahadi in February was too short! I need to remember not to ever schedule such a short stay again, especially during the audit process! A lot was accomplished in that we finalized the audit (which showed we spent more than we took in, but thankfully had a "cushion" set aside; had a good Trustees meeting in which we clarified our roles; and had an alumni reunion with 20 alum attending (others couldn't attend that day because of work or other commitments but came to meet me at other times). I also got to see all the current boys who were home for mid-term break. Other things had to be left half-done or finished too quickly, on the run.



Ahadi Family Kenya Trustees

coming back to Ahadi, due to the school closure. Ahadi takes care of the medical needs of the boys, of course, and we have an account at a hospital that's just about 10 miles away, so they can get treatment immediately (without asking if we have money first). The other boy in the background of the photo, has gotten so tall. I had to look twice to remember who he was. He is an orphan who came to us when he was around 8 years old. His grandmother and he were living in a metal storage shed, living on someone else's land to just make sure nobody "grabbed the land" since there were no permanent structures on it. A nearby pastor alerted us to the boy's need, and the grandmother was so relieved that we could give him good care. He still visits her regularly.

Ahadi boys barely got back to school after mid-term break, before the effects of COVID-19 were being felt in Kenya, schools were closed, and the students were sent back to their homes. So, it's a full a full house at Ahadi with 23 grade 1-12 boys back plus 5 college boys who had lived on campus so had to leave when colleges were closed. The college boys are helping to keep their Ahadi brothers busy with homework and other activities while also keeping up with college courses. Moses (in photo on the right), one of the high school boys, fell and broke his arm just before



His before and after photos can be seen in this You Tube video <https://youtu.be/VWcfDxntmRo>. There's also a short clip in there of the Ahadi boys dancing. (I am trying to set up an Ahadi You Tube Channel, so don't expect anything too professional. Maybe one of you will help us take that step in the future after you see my weak attempt.)

We are assuming (and hoping) that schools will reconvene in a few weeks, as we await news of how the school year will be affected, **but we need to be ready to pay school fees again sometime soon. Normally the fund-raiser we do in coordination with the Boston Marathon, brings in enough money to pay these fees as well as some operational expenses. Even though the Boston Marathon has been postponed until September, we are going ahead with the fund-raiser now because those school fees will still need to be paid after school resumes.** Please check out this link <https://youtu.be/VWcfDxntmRo> for You Tube slides/video explaining our need, or click the following link to donate from our website <https://ahadifamilykenya.org/donate>. We now can offer online giving within the US, using your check number and routing number on a secure site that Unibank, our bank in the US, set up. Check out this link <https://ahadifamilykenya.org/donate> to either make a one-time donation for the Marathon runners and/or set up recurring payments. Thank you in advance.

May God grant you peace in this season of unrest and social distancing, and may we all remind ourselves of the things to be grateful for, even as we pray for this time to end. God bless you.

Phyllis Masso