



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

<https://ahadifamilykenya.org>

AHADI FAMILY UPDATE AUGUST 2020



Greetings from Kenya where we continue to adjust to the “new normal” of COVID-19 restrictions. Thankfully, there has been some loosening so that Nairobi is no longer cut off from traffic going in and out except for essentials, and the curfew is not as long. People are still struggling because of more unemployment, though, which leads to hunger, family violence, depression, etc. especially among those who were already challenged by poverty.

Ahadi boys continue studying at Ahadi due to there not being any school until January 2021. We do not want them to forget what they have learned, so the college boys living there help them review and even give them exams, but there are no “virtual classes.” The whole school year will need to be repeated since they only had 2 months of school (Jan. and Feb.) in 2020. That is of course, a big disappointment especially for those who would have finished high school and college this year. **The staff has been working many extra hours, since the boys are no longer in school for most of the day. In fact, they totaled 2,100 extra hours from end of April to end of August!**

Most houses in Kenya do not have heating and cooling due to temperate weather, but July and August get chilly, and the sun is usually hidden behind cloud cover. Boys have participated in harvesting crops of maize which we dry like we do our beans, and some of it is taken to the mill to grind into flour for making the staple of ugali (ooh-golly’). **We harvested 530 lb. (287 kg.) in August**, and in our greenhouse grow Sukuma wiki (kale), which is another food used almost daily in the Kenyan diet.



Sadly, we have not yet gotten a sponsor to make it possible for Jannes to continue for his bachelor's degree, so he hopes to stay with a friend in Nairobi for a while and look for work. **He is praying that by January, a sponsor will become available. Anyone want this privilege?** Continued prayers are needed for

Ahadi boys who are trying to finish their higher education careers with the added challenges of virtual classrooms. Most of them are in their final year of studies, and have met with roadblocks preventing them from finishing, as the colleges are struggling to provide educational services, and students struggle with virtual learning--sometimes sporadic and with poor communication from the colleges' administration.

The Trustees just met on 29 and 30 August for their semi-annual meeting. The first day, there were so many technological challenges with our devices using Zoom, so we concluded after struggling for several hours with poor connections and reconvened the next day when connections were much clearer and steadier. **A major topic of discussion was regarding the decision by Christine Karimi, our Executive Director (representing the Trustees), to pursue her career in clinical psychology which will result in her decreased availability to oversee Ahadi's operations.** She has been posted to a referral hospital in Nairobi, and I am sure will be a blessing to the many patients she will help to serve and will continue to do as much as possible for Ahadi. We are blessed enormously by her availability, Godly spirit, commitment, and love for Ahadi Family. **We covet your prayers as we all adjust to this big change and streamline our operations so that she will not need to come as frequently.** Now that COVID-19 restrictions are loosening a bit, we are hoping to convene sub-committees headed by individual Trustees to spread the work around and get additional people involved. God will use this challenge for His glory. I thank God for a devotional about not worrying that came my way just after I learned of Christine's decision. He knew I needed it just then.

The Trustees wanted me to be sure to pass on their gratitude to each one who contributes to the ongoing expenses of running Ahadi. We have spent most of the \$20,000 raised by the Boston Marathon in April and need your continued support through the end of the year. Our monthly expenses (not counting school fees which did not exist for terms 2 and 3 anyway) average \$5,500, so we need your continued support through the end of the year. In fact, we thought we would have enough to get a keyboard but decided we had better not at this time. This was a huge disappointment to me because I know how much many of the boys had wanted to learn to play (and I know how much enjoyment I get from playing piano which I learned as a child). God will supply it when the time is right.

GOD BLESS YOU FOR ALL THE PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT YOU SEND OUR WAY.

WE NEED YOU AND APPRECIATE YOU!