

AHADI FAMILY KENYA

A CHRISTIAN CHARITY FOR SCHOOL-AGED BOYS AT RISK

<https://ahadifamilykenya.org/donate>

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023 UPDATE

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU FROM THE AHADI FAMILY. I had hoped to have written this update much earlier, but God had other plans, and I ended up in the hospital with vertigo again and took a much-needed break at my daughter's house for the holidays, being careful not to move too quickly. I am now back at my apartment and catching up, feeling fine again. **I thank God for the time of rest and enjoying being with family for an extended time.**

Ten of our Ahadi boys were able to go to a week of Christian camp, thanks to a generous donor. The two youngest ones, who are brothers, ended up going to a funeral of a grandfather instead, so couldn't attend. I am sure that was an opportunity to meet relatives that they had never met before as well. Since our manager wasn't at the camp, except to deliver them and pick them up again, the only photos I have are of them getting in and out of a van. **It was a good time for them to reconnect with their Ahadi brothers as well as to meet new kids and get Christian teaching and have fun times.**

Of the three boys who finished 8th grade, **the manager managed to get two of them in the same high school where two others of our Ahadi boys are attending. That will cut down on the hassle of checking up on so many different schools.** It is a good school, and the reconnection for them with their Ahadi brothers will be appreciated when they begin in January. The third boy was able to get into another school that the manager felt was a better fit than the one that the government had selected for him to attend. Whew! **Next week, they will report to their new schools and begin high school, so shopping must be done, including buying a mattress, a storage container for their belongings, sugar, hot chocolate mix, toilet paper, soap, etc.** They are all in boarding schools due to the crowded situations with the relatives who took them in. (Boarding is not just done for rich people and is very affordable when you consider the cost of feeding them at home. Many towns do not even have local high schools, and there isn't busing like in the US to get to regional schools. Towns that do have schools are typically of a lower quality, have worse supplies, are overcrowded, and teachers typically aren't as well-trained.)



Two others finished high school and are waiting for their national scores to determine eligibility for college or university. They will then also need either sponsorship or depend on the new College Fund, so will hopefully begin in May term if funding allows.

Gilbert graduated from university in December, and now is looking for work in Gender and Development studies (or anything else he can find). Pray for him. He is pictured here with his brother, Julius (another Ahadi boy), who is doing a master's degree at Daystar University on scholarship (though he works a 40-hour week at Daystar to earn it).

Patrick graduated with a Diploma (Associates equivalent in the US) and is hoping to go on for a bachelor's degree when he finishes his attachment with USAID in a few months. His sponsor has agreed to continue with him.

Kelly finished his medical internship and we thank God that he managed to get employment at a hospital! This has been a long journey for him to finally get to this place of being a Senior Medical Officer. CONGRATULATIONS, KELLY.

Several of the boys finished the entry level of their trade colleges and are continuing on to the Certificate level in January. The manager has had a busy schedule keeping up with all of these “next levels” for high schools and colleges.

I thank God for generous donations for the College Fund in the last few months that enables us to pay everyone’s fees in January. The exchange rate is in our favor, too, so that a dollar is worth 20% more than it was at this time last year. (The cost of living in Kenya has gone up by about that much, too, so it evens out.) **One of our donors gave a donation to the College Fund as their year-end donation in honor of their siblings, whom I then notified. If any others of you would like to do the same, I would be happy to notify the person whom you would like to honor in that way.**



December 12 is a holiday in Kenya, and about a dozen alumni were able to come together for a mini reunion. Some couldn’t get away because it was the middle of exam week, and they needed to study. Others had family obligations or lived too far away. Those who could manage enjoyed a few hours together. It’s like a family reunion for them. Older ones got to see ones they knew as little boys who have grown up now and

are in college!

Thank you for your prayers and donations throughout the year, and we need them to continue as we still have 27 boys and one girl under our care. Checks can be made payable to SCREAM USA and mailed to 31 Benson Rd., Northbridge, MA 01534, or follow the link below for other ways to make a contribution. Remember that we are a registered tax-exempt 501 (c) 3 organization and one of the best such organizations in Kenya. Receipts for you giving for the year will be mailed in the coming weeks.

GOD BLESS YOU. I WISH YOU COULD MEET THESE GUYS AND REALIZE YOUR IMPACT. I AM HOPING IN THE COMING YEAR THAT SOMEONE WILL MAKE VIDEOS OF THEM SO YOU CAN MEET THEM VIRTUALLY.

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In Christ,

Phyllis Masso, Founder and Ahadi Mom