

AHADI FAMILY KENYA

A CHRISTIAN CHARITY FOR SCHOOL-AGED BOYS AT RISK

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023 UPDATE



Schools have already closed in Kenya for 2023, except for those finishing 6th grade, 8th grade, and senior year of high school who take exams to qualify for the next step (Junior Secondary, High School, and College). This was the first year that the schools had the designation of Junior Secondary. In the past, Primary School went through 8th grade, and then High School was the next step. Our social worker/manager was kept busy making the rounds of the schools and praying with those who were facing exams. Three of our boys finish 8th grade this year, so will go to various high schools in January. Sadly, our boys don't all go

to the same high school due to the system in Kenya of trying to integrate the various tribes. (Also, many towns don't have their own local high schools.) **Two of our boys will be eligible for college next year**, depending on how they do on exams (roughly equivalent to SAT exams in the US). **Jaba (see photo), one of our grade 8 boys, scored the highest grades in the region!**

Four of our college boys who were studying trades at the beginning level, called Artisan, plan to continue to the next level called Certificate, in January. A university boy named **Patrick, finished the Diploma level and will graduate this December**. He already has been working as an intern with USAID and hopes it will turn into a job opportunity. **Kelly finished his internship in medicine at a Referral, Level 5 hospital in September and is now looking for work**. Please pray for him to get employment. He is a Senior Medical Officer, and with all the experience he has had, will make a good employee. **Gilbert also graduates in December with a bachelor's degree in Gender and Development and needs work. Ian had hoped to graduate with a master's degree in Monitoring and Evaluation**, but his supervisor is overworked and hasn't had time to keep up with the checking of his thesis. That is very frustrating for them both. **Benard is finishing a diploma in Primary Education** and hopes to qualify to begin a bachelor's degree in January. Our boys are growing up. **In January, we will still have 15 still in college/university, 10 of whom will be dependent on the College Fund.**

*We thank God for bringing us to this point! I don't know of any other children's home in Kenya that can match this, so we have a lot to be grateful for. **BUT MY HUGE CONCERN IS FOR CONTINUED FUNDING FOR THE COLLEGE FUND. WE ARE LOSING OUR MAJOR DONOR FOR THAT FUND. PLEASE PRAY FOR US AND CONSIDER IF YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP US TO MAKE UP***

FOR THIS LOSS OF ABOUT \$10,000 PER YEAR. Actually, I know God will provide, and I will be happy to celebrate when I see His provision.

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Evans Mungai, our social worker/manager, went to visit most of our 30 boys in the last month. (He is 2nd from the left in the photo.) The three high school boys next to him are staying with relatives in the general vicinity within a few miles of each other, so got together with Julius, in the foreground who is doing a master's degree on academic scholarship at Daystar University, also nearby. The high school boys attend 3 different high schools, nowhere near each other, so it was a mini-reunion for them to connect with Mungai.

We are excited that a donor has happily agreed to pay for all of the school-aged boys to attend a Christian camp during this longer end-of-school-year break (equivalent to our summer break, but occurring in late October through December which is the Kenyan end of school year). Camp hasn't happened since before COVID and will be like a family reunion for our boys who have lived far away from each other since COVID when all children's homes in Kenya were forced to close. I am so glad for this opportunity for them since we aren't sure of how much Christian support they are getting in their relatives' homes. (The schools have religious education classes though.) **Camp is often a time of recommitment to the Lord for kids, so please pray that that will be the case for these boys.** There are around 15 of them going for the camp, coming from all directions.

One of our alumni, Nelson Salagano, was a speaker at an international event in Lisbon, Portugal, 16-17 October, organized by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, representing his organization, RUSEP (See <http://www.rusep.org>). The event that is held annually was given the theme "Human Rights, Environment and Economic Crimes: Youth at the Forefront." Nelson and his brothers were Ahadi boys. He is a graduate of Daystar University, thanks to his Ahadi sponsor. Congratulations to Nelson!

Moses Gone, mentioned in the last update, is making progress with his newly registered company; now has a demonstration site at the largest industry in Kenya; and plans to come to the US in early 2024 for training in the US branch of the company. I will share a website link when it is up and running and give more details then. **We thank God for opening up the opportunities for these alumni and giving them the drive and ability to pursue them.**

Thank you for your prayers and continued financial support that not only educate our boys but also make a positive difference in Kenya and beyond. May God bless you.

Phyllis Masso, Founder and Ahadi Mom

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