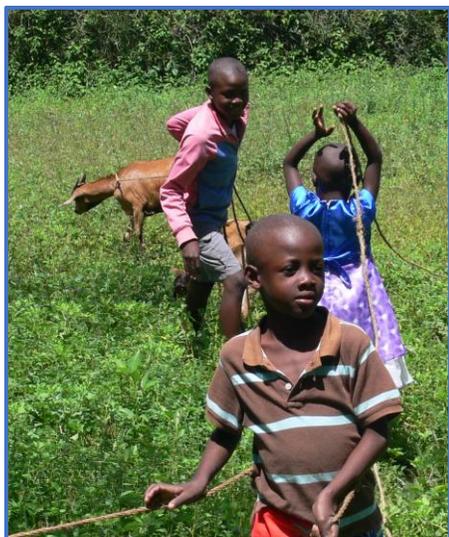




Everything is GREEN in April, the only month of long rains which can produce a crop. After 3 years of drought, we believe there will be a great maize crop in June. Above, the kids enjoy having their photos made, then gathering around the phone to see themselves.

## April on Rusinga Island, Kenya

April in Kenya is really GREEN. It's a wonderful time of plenty for most animals, and a time of planting and weeding for all the people – the only time of the year on this Island when their staple, maize, can be grown.



**Left: Goats everywhere!** Goats normally wander everywhere but must be kept out of gardens at this time of the year. Our kids help to pull them back home.

**Right: Gifts of clothing!** Children are so happy to receive gifts of clothing from Unity Church of Raleigh, NC.



## From 3 Stones to a Kitchen with Stove

This was our major task in April, and we are so grateful to the **CanAssist Africa Relief Fund** for the new EnviroFit Stove Project. We have gone from cooking on 3 stones, as most people do on Rusinga Island, to cooking on a stove in a kitchen, which greatly reduces the amount of fuel needed and eliminates the black cloud of smoke normally inhaled by the cooks and the children. **The women's group of the Westwood Baptist Church in Cary, NC**, donated the "local" funds required for the kitchen project, permitting us to have a suitable sized kitchen for the stove. Thank you!



Huge pot fits inside the stove, with venting of smoke. We can cook rain or shine now, and save money as well!

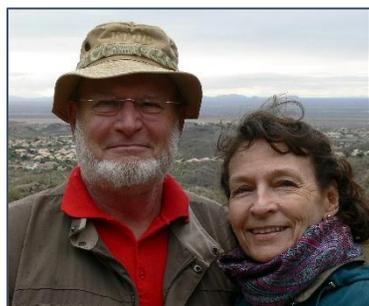
## Creating Safe Haven **Sustainability** for the Children

The Safe Haven year-round feeding program began in February, 2015, and currently serves 30 children with FOOD, medical care, and education. Sustaining this level of care is never easy, and the children we serve have great needs. Some are medically challenged, with sickle cell anemia or HIV, for example, and children have malaria and typhoid fever often on Rusinga Island. Our medical costs have been greatly reduced now that we use a new clinic run by our friend Dr Soti. We can go much further toward creating a sustainable program for the needy children!

### **A well ("borehole") can solve problems and save many lives:**

- Clean water is needed for drinking and washing to prevent frequent water borne diseases such as typhoid fever, giardia, schistosomiasis, and cholera.
- Year-round gardening is possible on Rusinga Island, which is near the Equator, if water is available at Safe Haven, located on Rusinga Island but far above Lake Victoria. Vegetables will help to feed the children and provide additional revenue needed for medical care and school fees.
- A well means clean water is always available for the children. HIV positive and sickle cell children need this most.
- Clean water at Safe Haven saves money, since our water is currently transported to us. It can also be sold at a small price to families on Rusinga Island who would normally have to travel to Mbita town, on the mainland, to buy it.
- The well will serve a large number of people in this way, and it will go far in sustaining the programs -- for food, medical care, and education -- for the children into the future.

*Thank you for all you do for the children we serve in Kenya!*



*Dave & Rebecca*

**Facebook:** Rebecca Rowson    **Email:** [Rebecca.Rowson@outlook.com](mailto:Rebecca.Rowson@outlook.com)

**Donate:** [RusingaIslandChildrensFund.org/contact.html](http://RusingaIslandChildrensFund.org/contact.html)    501(c)(3) charity

**Home Address:** 6050 San Marcos Way, Raleigh, NC 27616