



Summer Swahili Camp reconnects African children to their roots by affirming their cultural identity and reinforcing use of the Swahili language. We host this camp every year for children 6-17 years. More than just Swahili lessons, this fun, fast-paced camp includes activities from community partners, exciting field trips to locations across Kentucky, and connects kids to new opportunities, building a sense of belonging.



MAKE A DONATION

Your contribution helps us uplift communities, amplify voices, and sustain our impact. Every dollar brings us closer to our goals. Donate today online.

SCAN ME



PARTNER WITH US

We are seeking partners across Kentucky to ensure our African community gains equal access to resources and opportunities.

VOLUNTEER

Dedicate your time towards a more inclusive future for all Kentuckians. Let's build bridges of cross-cultural connection together!

CONTACT US

859-303-4990
info@marafikicenter.org
www.marafikicenter.org



**CREATING
CROSS-CULTURAL
CONNECTIONS**

OUR MISSION

Marafiki Center was founded in 2019 to create opportunities for cross-cultural connection. We build a bridge of mutual understanding through education, events, and advocating for improved representation of the African communities in Kentucky.

OUR PROGRAMS

Shule Fest is an annual back-to-school resource fair where we distribute backpacks stocked with school supplies and connect African families to community resources. Shule means “school” in Swahili.

Adult Swahili Classes

These classes will teach you everyday greetings and phrases to help the busy, adult learner feel more confident to engage with their Swahili-speaking neighbors. Taught by a native Swahili speaker and features cultural insights along the way.

Language Access

We are now offering interpretation and translation services, cultural awareness trainings for groups, and technical support for service providers seeking to better connect with the African community.

Jambo means “hello.”



Swahili Day is an annual cultural festival celebrating the vibrant African communities in Kentucky. This event showcases African dance, music, art, crafts, food, activities for kids, and a vendor market with a variety of African-owned businesses. Swahili Day celebrates **Swahili as the 3rd most spoken language in Lexington**. This family-fun event is free and welcomes everyone to build cross-cultural connections and experience the diversity of Lexington, Kentucky.

Marafiki means “friends” in Swahili.



@MarafikiCenter

OUR PROGRAMS

Parent Engagement offers educational workshops and 1-on-1 support for families to connect with their child's educational journey and break down barriers to participation.

AfroLex Clubs build a sense of belonging for African students at local schools through social, cultural, and academic support for refugee and immigrant youth navigating their new lives in the U.S.

AfroLex Connect Youth Mentorship connects refugee youth ages 15-24 with adult mentors to build a professional network, explore career pathways, and build a sustainable future.

AfroLex Conference is an annual professional networking and civic engagement event for African youth and young adults ages 18-30+.

