

# Rising Star

*News of some of the Lord's work in Northern Peru*



Marco arrived at Morning Star in December of 2020. It quickly became evident that he was on the autism spectrum and his developmental needs had been totally neglected. Treated by his dysfunctional family as simply being handicapped, we found he had never been taught to speak, (his father said he was mute), he had no vocabulary and had not been taught the most basic things. Throughout the year with the outstanding efforts of two long term volunteers, Marco now converses, reads, counts to 100 and interacts socially with the other children. On January 8<sup>th</sup> he celebrated his 8<sup>th</sup> birthday. He loves to put puzzles together....only he chooses to do them with the picture side down so that he's only using the shapes as a reference.....and boy is he fast!



Having completed the renovations for House #3, on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, we moved 5 girls from House #1 into it. They were all very excited to be the ones to try out the new accommodations. In only a couple of weeks the Lord has begun to bring us our new charges. Yanina is 8 years old from a little spot in the desolate countryside south of Chiclayo. Her story is one we are unfortunately very familiar with.....a mother on her second or third partner, who then begins to molest her daughters. Eventually the authorities will be alerted by health care workers or educators, very rarely will it be the mother reporting the abuse as she is dependent on the aggressors financial or emotional support.



It is a story repeated a week later when Leysa arrives. In her case, her mother not only refused to report her partner, but in fact got jealous of her 12 year old daughter accusing her of trying to "steal her man", and once he had confessed his actions to the mother, as far as she was concerned, since he promised not to do it again, she was fine with that. We are blessed to be a part of God's plan to intervene in the lives of these victims and provide them with a safe and loving environment where they can learn of His love for them and come to know Him as their Heavenly Father.

As we move forward in this new year we value your prayers for wisdom and guidance as the ministry continues to grow and new challenges arise. It is still uncertain at this point what the educational system will look like for the new school year beginning in March due to confusion regarding COVID-19 protocols, but we trust the Lord to show us His will a day at a time.

Thank you so much for your prayers!!

***The Staff at Morningstar***

