

Rising Star

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

Born and raised in Iquitos, deep in the Amazon jungle, Elvia was 12 years old when her 29-year-old mother brought her and her younger siblings to northern Peru along with their 22-year-old stepfather. They lived in minimal subsistence conditions on the outskirts of a small town an hour north of Morning Star. There Elvia met a boy and got pregnant, and Mom left her with the boy's family and moved to Lima for medical treatment. Being a high-risk pregnancy, the local health facility sent her to the hospital in Chiclayo and she gave birth to a healthy little girl on April 2nd. The staff at the hospital noticed that the father was 18 and notified the authorities since their ages automatically placed it in the "statutory rape" category activating an immediate investigation.



Having no direct relatives in town, Child Protective Services were notified and the day after she gave birth Elvia was brought to Morning Star. Her newborn baby Zoe was taken to another facility close to Morning Star where she has been able to visit regularly. Elvia's mother came from Lima to visit on April 18th, reporting that her health was improving. On the 23rd we got a call to inform us that she had suddenly passed away. Monday the 28th Elvia and Zoe were moved to the southern city of Tacna to a facility which specializes in housing teen mothers and their children. Throughout what can only be described as a "rollercoaster month" of emotions for her, during her time with us we appreciated her sweet resilient spirit as she soaked up God's love and care through our staff. She asked for a Bible to take with her and our prayers and yours will be that the seed sown in her tender heart will spring up to life eternal.



Fran (8) arrived April 4th to take the last bed we had available in the boys' house. Neglected and malnourished by his mother in a mountain village to the northeast of Morning Star, his father brought him to live on the coast only to physically mistreat him. Fran's schoolteacher reported the abuse and CPS brought him to us. Small for his age and starved for affection he has fit in seamlessly with the other children and specifically requests several hugs a day! He'll turn 9 on May 18th and this will be the first time his birthday will be celebrated. Very bright and happy we expect it won't take long for Fran to catch up on his educational deficit as well as some long overdue dental care.

We are grateful we can continue to serve these delightful children and direct their attention towards a heavenly Father who loves and cares for them.

The Staff at Morningstar