

# STREETCHILD

## Sunday, 2009

*Mother's Day, May 10*

In many ways Miriam is a typical child of the streets. Her childhood was one of conflict, neglect, and abuse. Understandably, the memories of her early years are unhappy and often confused.

Miriam was born in Guerrero—Mexico's poorest state. Her parents separated early in her life and she does not even remember her mother's name. She was given to the custody of her grandparents. For a time, life was normal enough for her to attend primary school. However, by the time she was 7 years old abuse began. Miriam says that she was beaten and mistreated at home, and by age 12 she left to live on the streets of Acapulco.

For a child the streets are a cruel and dangerous place, and Miriam fell into a destructive and exploited life.

Eventually she found her way to a place of refuge—the Sobre el Puente (Over the Bridge) drop-in center. The staff ministered to Miriam and shared the love of Christ with her. But despite the genuine love and concern Miriam experienced at the center she was still the victim of exploitation on the streets.

Miriam is now 17 years old and by Mother's Day she will be a very young mother. The Sobre el Puente staff continues to love Miriam in a special way, working with her as she looks toward a new life.

*Mission to the World's StreetChild International seeks to minister to abandoned, abused, homeless, and at-risk children. Through God's grace we especially seek to break the seemingly endless cycle of generational sin and dysfunction that inflicts children like Miriam, and their children.*

**Thank you for prayerfully remembering the needs of at-risk children and the ministry of StreetChild.**



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