

Connecting the world's street children with the family of Christ



Speaking for Oneida

A new voice on the streets in La Ceiba, Honduras



MISSION
to the
WORLD

STREETCHILD

The Newsletter of StreetChild Mission International

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La Ceiba, Honduras

Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come...Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. — Isaiah 35:3-6



Oneida with a craft creation.

Speaking for Oneida in Armenia Bonito

Oneida lived as an outcast on the streets of the poor community of Armenia Bonito, near La Ceiba, Honduras. Her clothes were filthy and ragged and she almost never had enough to eat. She was born to a family with an alcoholic father, and her mother died shortly after her birth. She came into life with a major social handicap—an inability to speak. Many in the community ridiculed and abused her. Even in her desperate condition she tried to care for her young siblings as best she could. A Mission to the World team working in Armenia



Dos Amigas: Oneida with missionary daughter Abigail Clow.

La Ceiba, Honduras

Bonito found Oneida. At first, perhaps out of shame and fear, she avoided them. Slowly, the team members gained her trust. A breakthrough came on a "girls' day" when team members treated girls in the community to shampoos in a local river, haircuts with ribbons, and fingernail painting. Oneida had never before experienced such loving attention. She is now loved by many and attends the kids programs where she hears about the ultimate love of all—that of Jesus Christ. The team members feel privileged to have been a part of sharing God's love with Oneida and welcoming her into the family of Christ.



Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them.

— Matthew 15:30

Share Oneida's story with your congregation on

STREETCHILD Sunday

Our annual StreetChild Sunday will be observed in churches on Mother's Day, May 8, 2011. This is an opportunity for churches to prayerfully remember the spiritual and physical needs of at-risk children and the ministry of MTW's StreetChild to them. Encourage your church to participate.

Visit streetchildinternational.org and click on "StreetChild Sunday" to download the bulletin inserts.

StreetChild Sunday is Mother's Day, May 8, 2011



Jacky Elizalde, one of the children under the care of Ang Bahay Parola (the Lighthouse), recently suffered an episode of dengue fever and typhoid requiring hospitalization. She is now fully recovered thanks to the prayers of many and medical care provided with the financial assistance of StreetChild supporters.

Jacky, recovered and back home at Ang Bahay Parola (the Lighthouse).

Salamat Po! (Thank you!)

Dear Sponsor,

I have been sick and confined in the hospital because of having a high fever. I was afraid and I cried every time they tried to get my complete blood count because it was really painful and I wanted to go home.

I want to thank you for praying for me. I prayed to Jesus and I asked Him to heal me. Praise God! I am getting well and I am now back at Ang Bahay Parola for my recovery.

Thank you so for paying for my healing.

I love you.
Jacqueline A. Elizalde



Jacky receiving treatment.



A new voice in the streets

God first called me to minister to street children in the summer of 2008, when I had the privilege of interacting with precious children in Peru. I wasn't sure how to respond to His call until I met Mike Pettengill, MTW team leader in La Ceiba, Honduras, who told me about the team's desire to begin a ministry to street children. After a visit to La Ceiba in March 2010, I accepted an invitation to join the team. One of my jobs will be to operate a drop-in center in downtown La Ceiba. The center will be a place where children living on the streets can receive a nutritious meal, a shower, Bible teaching, special classes, recreation, and opportunities for healthy relationships. This center will serve Honduran children, it will be built by Hondurans, and will eventually be staffed by Hondurans. Our prayer is that the center will be a tool in the Lord's hand to raise up godly young men and women who will, in turn, impact other street children.

— Kate deFuniak



Kate in Honduras with a new friend.



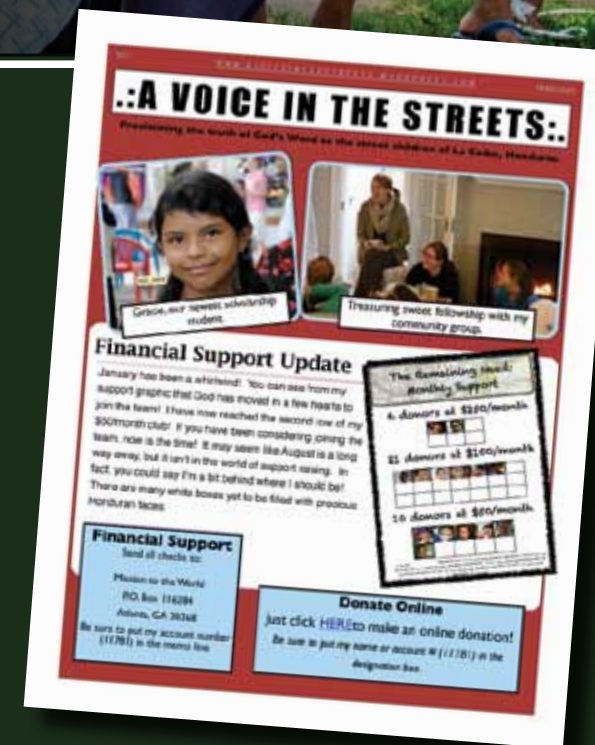
Kate deFuniak is currently raising support and hopes to join the MTW La Ceiba team this fall. Visit voiceinthestreets.wordpress.com to read Kate's blog and monthly newsletters.



Kate having a fun moment with Honduran children.

Kate named her newsletter **A Voice in the Streets.**

"I chose the name," she writes, "not only because I want to be a voice proclaiming God's truth to [the street children], but also because I want to be their voice to you. You see, these children are voiceless. They have no way of telling their stories, of letting the world know who they are. I will be their voice for you."



Children ready for classes with new backpacks at the Christian Academy of Dociné.



OneChild

sponsorships available in Haiti

The **Eglise Presbytérienne La Trinité** (Trinity Presbyterian Church) of Gonaïves has established a Christian school in the nearby community of Dociné, about two hours north of Port-au-Prince. **OneChild** sponsorships at \$33 per month are used to fund the educational needs of these children from very poor families. Contact us at streetchild@mtw.org or **(678) 823-0004 ext. 2452** for more information or to sponsor a child. *Thank you!*



Become a sponsor and change a life...

STREETCHILD

Special Gifts

Together, we're building a future for street children worldwide.

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Connie & Jim Burgin
by Linda & Conrad Quanstrom

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Lia BURGUEÑO
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In memory of
Estell CLIER
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Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. — 2 Corinthians 12: 8-9 (NIV)

I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. — Zephaniah 3:18. 19 (ESV)



In this newsletter is the compelling story of Oneida, the outcast mute child of the poor community of Armenia Bonito, near La Ceiba, Honduras.

Oneida is the face of our 2011 StreetChild Sunday which will be observed in many churches on Mother's Day, May 8.

Throughout the scriptures we see God's compassion for people whom society rejects and ridicules. In Oneida's tragic family life and her physical disability, God prepared a perfect vessel for the outpouring of his grace. I am thankful for the MTW La Ceiba team that has been an effective instrument of that grace. We can only wait with anticipation to see how God will use Oneida in the lives of others in the years to come.

I encourage you to share Oneida's story with your congregation through participation in StreetChild Sunday. Visit streetchildinternational.org and click on "StreetChild Sunday" to download the bulletin inserts.

Thank you for helping us speak for children like Oneida in Honduras and around the world.

God bless,

Tom

Tom Stewart, Director

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