

JANUARY 2010

# CHILD OF THE MONTH

**Krisdelkis de la Rosa Capellán, 6**



***Krisdelkis***

After her mother's tragic murder, Krisdelkis was brought to an all-girls orphanage supported by Food For The Poor in the Dominican Republic. The traumatized girl cried for days, not fully comprehending that her worst days were behind her.

Krisdelkis was raised in a tumultuous environment where drug abuse was prevalent and she was severely neglected. Her disturbed mother never offered her the love and protection that every child deserves. Instead, she often left Krisdelkis to fend for herself on unforgiving city streets. There, the little girl encountered abuse, hunger and abandonment.

Often, children like Krisdelkis appear emotionally numb when they arrive at their new orphanages. "They [the orphans] have been exposed to so much," said Sister Julia, the nun in charge of Krisdelki's care. "These girls have been really mistreated. They come with all that pain inside. Sometimes they don't even [know how to] run when they first come here."

When describing the overall needs of an orphan like Krisdelkis, Sister Julia repeated Krisdelkis' regular prayer: "Take care of me...take care of me."

"Safety is on their mind a lot," Sister Julia told us. "They feel threatened. They realize that the only one who can take care of them is God."



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