

That they may have life...in all its fullness



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# STREET VOICE

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

## EDITORIAL NOTE

### ON THE WINGS OF A DREAM!

Sir Isaac Newton in a letter he wrote to fellow scientist Robert Hooke in 1675 stated, "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." BOSCO Bengaluru celebrated the 41st anniversary of its inception on June 15. The organization that began as the result of a think tank among few friends has grown to be a large movement of people reaching out to hundreds of young at risk. Their sublime dream of providing care and protection to children and youth, has fired the imagination of a host of others who have carried the baton down the years.

After having served the organization as Executive Director for six years, Fr. Mathew Thomas has laid down the office and Fr. Varghese Pallipuram has taken over the reins. At this juncture, Street Voice places on record immense gratitude for having steered BOSCO in a commendable fashion during his tenure. Fr. Varghese, who has vast experience in working with the young at risk has led organization as the Executive Director from the year 1991 to 1999.

Fr. Binny Kumpukal, yet another stalwart who has been a mentor and guide to hundreds of children and young people has moved on to continue his services at Don Bosco Palluruthy. The organization wholeheartedly welcomes Fr. Johnson Kanjirakattu, Fr. Joshy Puthur, clerics Ratnakar Singh, Naveen and Manuel. Standing on the shoulders of the great let us strive each day to materialize the lofty ideals they held so close to their hearts!

Fr. Prasad SDB

## BOSCO DIARY

### APRIL TO JUNE

- Awareness Campaigns
- Health Camps
- Value Education Classes
- Life Skills
- Meetings
- Youth Parliament
- Trainings
- Celebrations – World Environment Day  
BOSCO Anniversary,  
International Yoga Day
- Campaign- World Day Against Child Labour
- Group Counseling Organized
- Drawing Competition
- Talent Show Organized
- Webinar Organized
- Adios Amigos!
- Welcome to the New Fathers and Brothers

## CAMPAIGNS

### WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR



World Day Against Child Labour with the theme, 'Act Now: end child labour', was observed at BOSCO Mane, Vikas, Yuvodaya, Yuvakendra, Vatsalya Bhavan, Rainbow Home, Sumanahalli, and Annamma Colony, on June 12, 2021. On the occasion, BOSCO centres conducted drawing competitions, drama, skits, and dances on the theme. Awareness was given on the theme. A signature campaign was organized by BOSCO Mane and Vikas.

CHILDLINE Collab, BOSCO Bengaluru, in collaboration with Bembala-Outreach Programme, St. Joseph's College, Bengaluru, conducted an online session on CHILDLINE 1098 and child labour. Speaking on the theme, 'Act Now: end child labour', Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane and CHILDLINE said, "The pandemic has

aggravated the existing woes of the economically poor and the marginalized. Everyone should join hands to eradicate child labour.” Over hundred and ninety students and staff of the college participated in the programme.

BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE observed the day by conducting outreach activities. The team gave one to one awareness on the theme to the public and stakeholders in Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station, Bengaluru. A hundred and twenty people benefited from the programme.

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. CV George, Salesian In-Charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, Fr. John MA, Director, SJPU and Rainbow Home, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane and Vikas, Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, staff, children, and youth of the centres and areas were present for the programme.



## CELEBRATIONS

### WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION



BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, BOSCO Vikas, and BOSCO Yuvakendra celebrated World Environment Day with the theme, 'Reimagine, Recreate, Restore', at their centres on June 5, 2021. Fr. Prasad SDB,

Director, BOSCO Mane and Vikas, Fr. John MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. CV George, Salesian In-Charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, and Sr. Sheeba, Director In-Charge, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, inaugurated the programme at their respective centres and spoke about the importance of the day. It was told that the day is celebrated to create awareness about environmental protection and to highlight the crucial role we play in protecting the planet on which we depend.

Cultural programmes and party games were organized. Children staged programmes showcasing the importance of the theme – to prevent, halt, and reverse the damage, and to go from exploiting nature to healing it. Posters and slogans were created and saplings were planted to help children realize the areas that need to be considered in order to be part of the restoration process.

Sixty girls from Vatsalya Bhavan, thirty-eight children from Vikas and Mane, and twenty youths from Yuvakendra along with the staff participated in the programme.

### BOSCO ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, Bengaluru, organized a programme to commemorate the 41st anniversary of BOSCO on June 15, 2021. Speaking on the occasion Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Vikas and Mane, remembered the pioneers of the organization. There was cake cutting on the occasion and chocolates were distributed to all the youth and staff of the centre. Twenty youth and staff were present on the occasion.

BOSCO Mane and Vikas celebrated the occasion by cutting cake in the presence of Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director,

BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. John MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Vikas and Mane, Br. Manuel, and Br. Lijo. Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, briefed everyone about the history of BOSCO. Around fifty children and staff members were present.

BOSCO Yuvakendra celebrated the day by garlanding the statue of Don Bosco. Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, spoke about the founders, the journey of BOSCO, and about the scores of children and youth who have been rescued and rehabilitated during these 41 years. To

mark the celebration, food kits were distributed to underprivileged families from the surrounding communities. Twenty-two youths participated in the celebrations.

BOSCO Rainbow Home screened a short film, sang songs, and performed dances on the occasion. Around twenty girls and staff members were present during the programme.

## INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY



BOSCO Yuvakendra organized International Yoga Day for the youth at the centre, on June 21, 2021. Bro. Naveen, BOSCO Yuvakendra, explained about the importance, benefits and advantages of practicing yoga on a daily basis, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. The youth were told that yoga could be considered as a disciplined method of attaining a goal, and a method for mastering body and mind. They were taught a few simple yet effective asanas. The youth learnt about the physical and mental benefits of yoga such as increased flexibility, strength, stamina, and improved body alignment, also stress reduction, body awareness, better sleep balance, relaxation, and improved self-confidence. Twenty-two youths attended the session.

## MEETINGS

### ADOLESCENT GIRLS' MEETINGS

BOSCO Nilaya organized a meeting for adolescent girls, at the centre, on April 6, 2021. Bhagyalakshmi, Social Activist, BOSCO Nilaya, started the session by explaining the importance of reading and personal hygiene. She gave awareness about COVID-19. The girls were motivated to maintain personal hygiene, and were asked to take advice from their parents. Goal setting was explained. The girls were asked to set an aim and work towards it. Ms. Bindu, Social Activist, BOSCO Nilaya, showing a motivational video explained about developing mental strength. Nine girls participated in the meeting.



BOSCO Nivas conducted the Adolescent Girls' Meeting at Ambedkar Huts on April 23, 2021. The main objective of the programme was to create awareness among girls about Good touch and Bad touch. Priya, Team Member, BOSCO Nivas, conducted the session and explained to the children about the difference between good touch and bad touch and how to take care of themselves. Ten girls attended the session.



### CARING COMMUNITY MEETING



BOSCO Nivas organized Caring Community Meeting for the stakeholders, at the centre, on April 10, 2021. The main objective of the meeting was to discuss the problem of child labour in the Beef market, Russell Market, Fish market areas, and road side shops near the church, and ask the support of the Labour Union Leaders of markets under Shivajinagar and place before them the issue of child labour in the vicinity. The members were invited to play an active role and join BOSCO in fighting the menace of child labour. Mr. Parwez, Caring Community Member, said that it would be appreciated if they could get an identity card so that it would be easy to carry out the operations. Four members participated in the meeting.



## STATE LEVEL MONITORING MEETING



BOSCO Foster Care Programme organized the State Level Monitoring Meeting of the Foster Care Project at BOSCO Yuvodaya on April 9 and 10, 2021. During the inauguration, Sr. Juliet, Member, CWC - 3, appreciated the organizers and said that this was a unique programme of providing alternative family care for children without families. Fr. Rubin Mathew, Director, BREADS, Bengaluru, stressed the need for measuring the impact of the programme so that it could be taken to all the districts of the state. Speaking on the occasion, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, thanked all the NGO partners for taking the

Foster Care Programme forward and joining hands with BOSCO in its endeavour to provide alternative family care for needy children. Ms. Shobha, Superintendent, Integrated Child Protection Scheme, Karnataka, shared the statistics of children placed in foster care in the state. She also briefed everyone about the challenges faced in identifying foster parents and placing the children in foster care as it is a temporary arrangement for the children. Fr. Joy, Executive Director, BREADS, Bengaluru, suggested a few points to take the programme forward.

Foster Care posters were released on the occasion. Dr. Usha Kiran, Ph.D. Scholar and Psychiatric Social Worker, presented the roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders in Foster Care. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Director, Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru, spoke about how to 'Monitor and Maintain Records' in Foster Care. Mr. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, Foster Care Programme, presented the statistical data and budget report of Districts for 9 months. Social Mobilizers presented the report of their respective districts.

Ramaswamy, Outreach Officer, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, welcomed the gathering, and Nandini, Asst. Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, proposed the vote of thanks. Twenty participants from ten districts of Karnataka along with BOSCO staff were present in the meeting.

## AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

### PUBLIC AWARENESS AT AVENUE ROAD



Awareness Campaign was organized by the BOSCO Nilaya team for the public and shopkeepers at Avenue Road, Bengaluru, on April 8, 2021. Members of the public and shopkeepers were given awareness on Child Rights, Child Rights Violation, CHILDLINE, and Vocational Skill Training courses at BOSCO. Shopkeepers and vendors took the initiative of passing on the information to the public. Two youths expressed interest in joining skill training. One child needed hostel facility. Follow-up is being done. Around 300 members of the public were given awareness.

### AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS ORGANIZED



BOSCO Nivas organized awareness campaigns in the communities and public areas of Nehrupuram and Ambedkar Huts of Shivajinagar, Bengaluru, on April 16 and 21, 2021. The team went around public places, shops, streets, and households, distributing handbills containing information about the vocational training





courses in BOSCO, child related information, CHILDLINE, and the dangers faced by children on the streets of Bengaluru. The team sought the support of the public and stakeholders in identifying and rescuing children in difficult situations. Information on COVID-19 protocol and the precautions to be taken was also disseminated. Three hundred members of the public, auto drivers, street vendors, shopkeepers, and households were reached through these campaigns.

## AWARENESS ON SOCIAL ENTITLEMENTS

BOSCO Nilaya organized a programme to create awareness about the existing Government schemes for the welfare of people, at JC Road, Bengaluru, on April 21, 2021. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya, briefed everyone about BOSCO and its activities. Devaraju, Coordinator, BOSCO Nilaya, explained about the various Government schemes meant for women, small entrepreneurs, and street vendors. He also explained the procedures for applying for loans. Thirteen women participated in the programme.



## AWARENESS PROGRAMMES FOR STAKEHOLDERS



BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE organized awareness programmes for Auto and Taxi drivers and shopkeepers at Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station, on June 25 and 26, 2021 respectively. Railway CHILDLINE team members spoke about the functions of Railway CHILDLINE and CHILDLINE, other procedures of informing the CWC, GRP and Open shelter. They also explained about the follow-up process once the children are handed over to the parents. The support required during the rescue process was also briefed. Around forty drivers and thirty-seven shopkeepers benefited from the awareness programmes.

## TRAINING PROGRAMMES

### ORIENTATION FOR NEW STAFF



An Orientation Programme was organized by the BOSCO Human Resource Department for the newly recruited staff, at BOSCO Nilaya, on April 5, 2021. During the interactive session, Fr. Regi Jacob, Director BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, explained about team work, interpersonal relationships, youth guidance, art of listening, and how to be an animator, through various activities. He also explained in detail about the JJ Act. Ms. Vimala, team member,

Railway CHILDLINE, explained about the rescue process, CWC, and home placement of children. Mr. Anjaneya, Coordinator, Bus Stand Team, explained about accompanied and unaccompanied children. Mr. Prashanth Murthy, HR Manager, BOSCO Bengaluru, explained about the Child Protection Policy and HR Policy. Eight new staff members attended the orientation programme.

### FOSTER CARE TRAINING PROGRAMMES



BOSCO Foster Care Project organized online training sessions for Anganwadi teachers of Deepanjali Nagar and Anekal Circle, Primary School Teachers of Aralepete, Chamarajpet, and Asha Workers of Chandapura, during the last week of April 2021 and first week of May 2021. Obalesh, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Foster Care Project, briefed

everyone about BOSCO services, CHILDLINE toll free number-1098, adoption process, foster care concept, role of DCPU, and Child Welfare Committee. Fifty-five Anganwadi teachers, twelve Primary school teachers, and four Asha workers attended the online training.



## INDUCTION TRAINING ORGANIZED

Human Resource Department, BOSCO Bengaluru, conducted an online induction training programme for the newly recruited employees. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, welcomed the trainees and spoke a few words of introduction. Fr. John. MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru, facilitated a session on Programs and Services at BOSCO. The session provided a clearer understanding of the services rendered by BOSCO.

Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, briefed the new staff members about the preventive system of Don Bosco, and the values and accepted behaviour at BOSCO. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram spoke about the Child Welfare Committee and the procedures to be followed, and about the Juvenile Justice Act. Mr. Prashanth Murthy, HR Manager, BOSCO Bengaluru, briefed everyone about the HR Policy. Twenty-four new staff members participated in the training

## TRAINING PROGRAM ON FIRST AID

Health Care Department, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized a training programme on First Aid for Bro. Naveen, at BOSCO Yuvakendra, on June 25, 2021. Sr. Susan, Coordinator, Health Care Department, spoke about medication and first aid. She said that first aid is an immediate treatment that is given to a person during an emergency. She also explained about minor illnesses and the general medicines for them. Clinical thermometer, tablets, and ointments and their names were explained. Usage of cotton, bandage, and surgical scissors were shown, and methods to use them were also demonstrated.



## ORIENTATION SESSION FOR SSLC STUDENTS



Orientation session for the SSLC students of BOSCO Vikas who are preparing for the upcoming SSLC exams was done on June 16, 2021. Fr. Prasad, Director, BOSCO Mane and Vikas, facilitated the session. He spoke about the importance of education and maintaining discipline. He also spoke about the necessity of having the right attitude, confidence, courage, and hope to face the exams, thereby overcoming the fear of exams. He also gave tips on the new exam pattern, study timings, and how to balance study and play. Nine students attended the session.

## LIFE SKILLS

### LIFE SKILL SESSION ON TEAM BUILDING



Life skill session on 'Team building' was conducted for the youths of BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, on April 03, 2021. The session conducted by Ms. Charlene D' Souza, Centre Coordinator, included games and activities to learn about the meaning and importance of team building, and to help the participants focus on the importance of communication and coordination in team building. In order to make the group aware that communication and coordination are important in a group, 'minefield' game was introduced where the group worked together to get through the obstacles on the floor. Fifteen youths participated in the session.

### LIFE SKILL SESSION ON TEAM WORK

BOSCO Rainbow Home organized a life skill session on 'Team Work', for the residents of the centre on April 21, 2021. Sr. Mary Shamala, Counselor, BOSCO Rainbow Home, showed short video clippings on team work. She also conducted various games and activities which helped the girls hone social skills such as patience, empathy, communication, respect for others, compromise, and tolerance. The session also helped them develop self-confidence, and trust in other people to work as a team. Nineteen girls participated in the session.



### LIFE SKILL SESSION



A one-day life skill session was organized for the youth of BOSCO Yuvakendra, at the centre, on April 14, 2021. The Facilitator, Vinod Kumar, started the session by sharing the life story of APJ Abdul Kalam, Cristiano Ronaldo, football player, and Usain Bolt, athlete. Activities like Wheel of Life, Self-care, and Beautiful You were conducted. Later, party games like Tom and Jerry, Onion with Nose, Train Game, and Newspaper Fashion Show and Dance were organized. These activities served as an opportunity for the young people to reflect on their positive qualities, develop self-esteem, work in a team, share and listen, try new things, manage time, etc. Twenty youths participated in the life skill session.



## LIFE SKILL TRAINING

BOSCO Rainbow Home conducted a life skill training session on the 'Importance of Making Connections', for the children of the centre, on June 25, 2021. The purpose of the session was to make them understand that connections help them describe how things are related to each other, how the physical world works, and to guide them to expand their thinking by making connections, which is a core component of creativity. Sr. Mary Shamala, Counselor, BOSCO Rainbow Home, divided the children into groups of three and asked them to speak about any object and its flow of connections. Every group came up with various topics like television, parts of the body, electricity, tree, sickness, human feelings, telephone, nature, etc. The activity helped the children to sort out and categorize objects and the way they are connected. Eighteen girls participated in the session.



## VALUE EDUCATION

### VALUE EDUCATION ON GENEROSITY



Value education session on 'Generosity', was organized for the children at the centre, by BOSCO Rainbow Home, on April 20, 2021. Sr. Mary Shamala, Counselor, BOSCO Rainbow Home, conducted the session with the purpose of empowering the girls to be generous in their attitude to others, to think of others, to listen to others, share with others, value others, and to give to others. A short film on generosity was screened. The session inspired the girls to practise good qualities like patience, love, kindness, and compassion towards others. Twenty-six children attended the session.

## VALUE EDUCATION SESSION



Value Education session on 'Respecting People and Things', was organized by BOSCO Rainbow Home, for the children of the centre, on June 26, 2021. The session was facilitated by Sr. Mary Shamala, Counselor, BOSCO Rainbow Home. She explained to the children the importance of respecting people and things around them and knowing their value. She said that everyone in the world has the right to live with respect and dignity, including self. She also emphasized on knowing one's worth and honoring the worth of others. An inspirational movie was shown to make the children understand the difficulties that parents face in educating their children. Eighteen girls attended the session.

## HEALTH CAMPS

### GENERAL HEALTH CHECK-UP



BOSCO Yuvakendra conducted a general health check-up for the youths at the centre in coordination with the BOSCO Health Department, on April 29, 2021, and BOSCO Mane, Vikas, and Yuvodaya, conducted health check-ups on June 24 and 26, 2021, in their respective centres. A team from St. Martha's Hospital headed by Dr. Abraham conducted the camp. They did eye, ear, nose, throat, height, weight, and general health check of the children present in the centres. Medicines were given as per prescriptions. The team

advised all the children to keep themselves hydrated, do regular exercises, and have nutritious food. Dr. Abraham spoke about health and hygiene. He also stressed the need for maintaining personal hygiene. He gave awareness on COVID-19 and asked the youth/children not to panic unnecessarily. Two youths from Yuvakendra who are under NIMHANS treatment were prescribed medicines. Twenty-one youths from Yuvakendra, seventy-four children from BOSCO Mane, Vikas, and Yuvodaya, and nine staff members benefited from the health check-up.



## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### TALENT SHOW ORGANIZED

BOSCO Yuvodaya organized a Talent Show for the children of Annamma Colony, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru, to mark the celebrations of Ambedkar Jayanthi, on April 17, 2021. Children showcased their talents through various performances including a skit on the life struggles of Dr. BR Ambedkar. Addressing the children, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, exhorted the older children of the community to take the responsibility of educating the smaller children during the trying times of the COVID-19 pandemic. He distributed prizes to the winners. Eighty children and their parents were present in the talent show programme.



### BOSCO YUVAKENDRA ORGANIZES YOUTH PARLIAMENT



BOSCO Yuvakendra organized Youth Parliament for the youth residing at the centre, on May 27 and June 23, 2021. The purpose of the programme was to develop participative behaviour, independence, and leadership qualities in the youth at the centre so that they may take ownership of the centre activities. It is a platform for the youth to share their views and to be well informed about the current state of affairs. The youth representative greeted the staff and fellow mates, and presented the month's report. Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, said, 'God has helped us in so many ways. We should be thankful. We can express our gratitude to God by helping others who are in need.' She also expressed her happiness about the active participation of every individual in the group. She exhorted the youth to continue with the same spirit and to make use of the available opportunities. Veeresh KM, Coordinator, Open Shelter, BOSCO Yuvakendra, facilitated the programme. Twenty-two youths participated in the Youth Parliament.

### DRAWING COMPETITION AT BOSCO VIKAS

BOSCO Vikas organized a drawing competition to mark the World Day against Child Labour, with the theme, 'Act now: end child labour', on June 11, 2021. Mrs Lalitha, Teacher, BOSCO Mane, Sr. Susan, Coordinator, Health Department, BOSCO Bengaluru, Mr. Tippeswamy, Social Worker, SJPU Project, BOSCO Bengaluru, were the judges for the competition. Master Manjunath won the first prize, Master Imran secured the second place, and Master Murali came in third. Fr. Prasad, SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane and Vikas, was present on the occasion.



## GROUP COUNSELING ORGANIZED



BOSCO Yuvakendra organized a group counseling session on the importance of behaviour, for the boys of the centre, on June 18, 2021. Geethamala, Counselor, BOSCO Yuvakendra, started the session with two fun games – Tiger hunting the deer, and Pick and act. Based on these games she explained about the value and importance of good behaviour and the impact of negative behaviour. The boys were exhorted to make optimum use of the opportunities at the centre in order to reach their goal. The session helped the youths to analyze their behaviour and to adopt positive mannerisms and attitudes. Twenty-two youths participated in the counseling session.

## BOSCO YUVAKENDRA ORGANIZES WEBINAR

BOSCO Yuvakendra organized a webinar on COVID Care for the Past Pupils of BOSCO, on June 15, 2021. The past pupils shared about the difficulties they faced due to the lockdown. Fr. CV George, Salesian In-charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, and Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, exhorted the youths to be brave and to follow COVID protocols. They also asked the youth to inform about those who needed support from BOSCO. The youth were happy to be a part of the webinar and requested to be regularly connected through virtual discussions and meetings. Fourteen past pupils were a part of the webinar.



“  
*“Let us sacrifice  
our today so  
that our children  
can have a better  
tomorrow!”*  
**APJ Abdul Kalam.**  
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### Editorial Board

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