

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



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STREET VOICE

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

EDITORIAL NOTE

Accompanying Netizens Young

In line with the theme of the National YaR (Young at Risk) campaign for the year, 'Every Child Safe Online', BOSCO Bengaluru observed Child Rights Week from November 14 to 20, 2021. Several awareness and sensitization programmes were carried out during the time with various stakeholders and groups including children. The interactions brought to light a few disturbing glimpses of reality.

"Kindly help my children, they are being targeted by miscreants online. At the same time, my children are glued to the mobile and are not ready to part with it. I feel helpless," lamented an anguished mother, while baring her heart with a social worker. "Several children are not attentive in the class," shared a teacher in one of the schools in the city.

'Online Classes: 70% kids addicted to mobiles,' said the front-page headline of one of the leading newspapers recently. The article highlighted the findings of a state-wide study conducted by the Karnataka Child Rights Trust Observatory (KCRO) on children during the pandemic which found that children are addicted to mobile phones for gaming, songs, films, and social media as a result of increased screen time. Experts suggest that children who are addicted to the internet and mobiles should be given counselling and assistance. The clarion call of the hour is a non-judgmental, vigilant, yet compassionate accompaniment of the young. Prevention is better than cure!

Fr. Prasad SDB

BOSCO DIARY

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2021

- Awareness Campaigns
- Value Education Classes
- Life Skills
- Meetings
- Youth Parliament
- Training and workshops
- Celebrations- Anniversary Celebrations at BOSCO Sumanahalli, International day of the Girl Child, World Food Day, Kannada Rajyotsava, Children's Day, Christmas
- Campaigns- Child Rights Week, International Human Rights Day, International Day of the Migrants
- Camps: Dasara Camp, Ragazzi Rilalssatevi Camp
- Outings and Picnics
- Formation of Child Protection Committees
- Survey and Food Kit Distribution

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Awareness for Stakeholders



Adjacent Railway Street Presence (ARSP) Project, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized awareness programmes for shopkeepers and coolie porters at the Kengeri Railway Station and Cantonment Railway



Station, Bengaluru, in October and December 2021. Nitya V, Team Member, BOSCO ARSP, spoke about BOSCO and its activities, the CHILDLINE program, missing children, problems faced by children,

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and the process of child rescue. Eight shopkeepers and fifteen coolie porters benefited from this programme.

BOSCO team working in the BMTC Bus Stand conducted an awareness programme for the sweepers in the bus stand on November 17, 2021. Kiran, Team Member, briefed everyone about BOSCO, its services, and the presence of the Child Assistance Centre at the bus stand. Anjaneya, Coordinator, BOSCO Bus Stand Team, spoke about child rights, CHILDLINE, and child helpline -1098. He also requested the stakeholders to support BOSCO in its endeavours by referring needy children to BOSCO. Nineteen

BMTC sweepers were given awareness.

BOSCO Nilaya conducted an awareness programme for the shopkeepers and vegetable vendors at Akkipete, Bengaluru, on December 14, 2021. The team gave awareness on child rights, child rights violation, CHILDLINE, tuition centres, vocational skill training courses, karate classes, and remedial classes at BOSCO Nilaya. Three youths showed interest in joining the skill-training courses. Around two hundred and fifty shopkeepers and vegetable vendors were given awareness.

Public Awareness Campaigns



The outreach team working in the Bus Stand area conducted four awareness programmes for the public and commuters, in BMTC and KSRTC Bus Stands, during October and December 2021. The team disseminated information regarding BOSCO and its activities, child rights, child care, and protection, child laws, child-related issues, and the Child Assistance Centre in the bus stands, by distributing pamphlets to more than a thousand members of the public and commuters. They requested the public to call the child helpline when they found any child in distress.

BOSCO Nivasa conducted public awareness programmes in Church Street and the Bus Stand in Shivaji Nagar, Bengaluru, on October 11 and December 6, 2021, to create awareness among people about the tailoring training and the other vocational trades at BOSCO, child rights, and child helpline 1098, and the free tuition classes from LKG to 10th std conducted at the centre. The public was given awareness about the issues and dangers faced by children when on the street and was helped to understand that they as active citizens could assist BOSCO in identifying and rescuing such children. The team advised the public and the shopkeepers to send their



children back to schools as schools had re-opened. Handbills were distributed to two hundred and fifty people.

BOSCO Nilaya team conducted shop-to-shop and public awareness programmes at KR Market, Bengaluru, on October 25, 2021. Information regarding child rights, child rights violation, CHILDLINE, tuition centres, vocational skill training courses, and karate classes at BOSCO Nilaya, was given. Around 55 people were given awareness. Three youths showed interest in joining the skill training courses. Two child labour cases were identified.

The team working in the Gandhinagar area conducted an awareness campaign on October 27, 2021. The team consists of Mr. Ramaswamy, Bro. Rathnakar Singh, Ravindra KD, Divya G, and Chandrashekar created awareness about child protection mechanisms, CHILDLINE 1098, child-related issues such as children found begging, child marriage, child abuse and child labour, and the Child Assistance Centres at Ananda Rao Signal, Mourya signal, S C Road signal, YR Road signal, and Annamma temple signal in the Gandhinagar area. Around a hundred members of the public and shopkeepers were given awareness.



Public awareness programmes were conducted by the BOSCO Adjacent Railway Street Presence (ARSP) team at the Yelahanka Railway Station, Cantonment Railway Station, Satellite Bus Stand, Kengeri, at the entrance and platforms of the Kengeri Railway Station, Bengaluru, and in moving trains, during the quarter. The main aim of the awareness programmes was to sensitize the public

towards runaway children and missing children. Information was given on BOSCO and its activities, CHILDLINE, missing children, runaway children, child rights, child protection mechanisms, and the child welfare committee. Around seven hundred and fifty members of the public and passengers were given pamphlets.

Foster Care Awareness Programmes

Foster Care awareness programmes were organized by the BOSCO Foster Care Project at the PHC, Anganwadi Centre, and Gram Panchayat Office, for ASHA workers, SHG members, Anganwadi Mothers, and PRI members of Bengaluru Urban and Rural, during October, November, and December 2021. Mr. Obalesh K, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Foster Care Project, spoke about the activities of BOSCO, foster care concept, adoption process, child laws, and child protection mechanisms. He requested the participants to disseminate the information regarding foster care so that more prospective foster parents and children could be identified. Thirty-two ASHA workers, forty-six SHG members, fifty-three Anganwadi Mothers, and thirty-two PRI members attended the awareness programmes.

Foster Care Project, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized an awareness programme for the children, trainees, and staff at BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, on October 8, 2021. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Project, spoke about the importance of children being brought up in a family rather than being institutionalized. He explained in detail the foster care concept and the procedures followed in fostering a child. A video regarding foster care was screened. A radio clipping of Balraj, Foster Parent, sharing his experience of fostering children was also played during the programme. Sr. Sheeba, Director, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, was present in the programme. Sixty children, trainees, and staff members attended the programme.



Awareness Session for Police Personnel

BOSCO team working in Kempegowda Bus Station, Bengaluru, conducted an awareness session for the police officials at Upparpet Police Station on November 23, 2021. The programme was organized to create awareness among the police officials about BOSCO's work and its services. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, briefed everyone about BOSCO and its programmes. Tippeswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU Project, shared about the current issues faced by children and how BOSCO is supporting needy children on the street. He also explained about

child rights, the role of BOSCO in the protection of child rights, and mentioned about the BOSCO Assistance Centre in the Bus stand and its services, CHILDLINE, and the child helpline number. Mr. Parameshwaraiah, ASI, Upparpet Police Station, asked the officers to be vigilant in identifying needy children in the area. He also assured full support from their end for the care and protection of the young at risk. Anjaneya, Coordinator, BOSCO Bus stand team, welcomed the gathering and also proposed the vote of thanks. Twenty-five police officials attended the session.



Awareness Programmes by CSN Team

BOSCO Child Safety Net (CSN) team conducted a school awareness programme at the Govt. Model Higher Primary School, Farooquia Nagar, Padarayanapura, Bengaluru, on December 7, 2021. The team gave information about child rights, CHILDLINE, and child protection mechanisms. Around 250 children participated in the programme.



CSN team conducted an awareness programme for the community members at JJR Nagar, Padarayanapura, Bengaluru, on December 7, 2021. Information regarding the importance of education, RTE, CHILDLINE, child rights, and child-related issues was given. The team motivated the parents to send their children to school and briefed them about the vocational skill training courses in BOSCO. Around thirty-five community members attended the programme.



Health Awareness Programme



A health awareness programme was conducted for the BOSCO Rainbow Home children by Dr. Uma Roy and her team, St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru, on December 20, 2021. Dr. Uma Roy explained to the children about the various types of viruses - Covid-19, Omicron, Black fungus, Delta plus variant, etc. The typical symptoms of the virus include fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, muscle or body ache, headache, sore throat, pain in the throat, tiredness, loss of taste or smell, uncomfortable feeling, and clogged or runny nose.

She explained the precautionary steps to be taken to remain safe. She said that it is essential to wear a mask properly, regularly wash hands, gargle, sanitize, take both doses of the vaccine, maintain social distance, and maintain good ventilation. The resource team put up an awareness skit, dance, songs, and games to explain the concept. Forty children were a part of the awareness programme.

TRAINING

Workshop for Child Safety Enhancement



BOSCO Bengaluru organized a Workshop on Child Safety Enhancement for the members of the Child Protection Committees of the organization, at BOSCO Yuvodaya, on October 21, 2021. In his introductory words, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, said that the presence of the Child Protection Committee (CPC) in an organization ensures that child rights are restored and upheld.

Ms. Edwina Pereira, Child First Foundation, facilitated the session on understanding the Child

Safeguarding Policy of BOSCO and explained in detail about Recruitment, Induction, Training, Management systems, Behaviour protocols, Appropriate behaviours for staff and visitors, Relationship of children among themselves in the CCI, Communication protocols regarding children, Reporting and reaction protocols regarding allegations of abuse and partnerships, and Services and empowerment, through activities and presentation of various cases.

Ms. Santa Silvia, Child First Foundation explained about five types of abuse with special mention to child sexual abuse. The mantra that should be taught to children in times of abuse - 'Run, Yell and Tell' was shared. All the CCIs, Central Committee, and the General committee planned their activities for the year as CPC members. Twenty-nine CPC members of the CCIs, Central Committee, and the General committee attended the workshop.

Training of Child Rights Club Members



CREAM, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized two levels of training for the members of Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) in ten schools of Bengaluru Urban and Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural, during the quarter.

Staff members of the CREAM Project briefed everyone about BOSCO and CHILDLINE. Children gained knowledge about UNCRC, Child rights, Child related laws, and about Children in difficult situations. Children were motivated to call 1098, the Child helpline number, during difficult situations. Children expressed that the training programmes helped them become better individuals and empowered them to fight for their rights. Around 1500 CRC members attended the training programmes.

Training on Counselling



BOSCO Human Resource Department organized a one-day training programme for counsellors and coordinators at BOSCO Yuvodaya on November 4, 2021. The session began with an introduction by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru. Dr. Fr. Joe Kokkandathil, SDB, took sessions on emotional hygiene, psycho geometry, super brain yoga, and breathing techniques. Various types of therapies were taught to the staff. Therapist and



client sessions were conducted and the participants played the role of therapists and clients. Different cases were discussed and the participants were asked to identify the root cause of the problem and to find solutions. The facilitator conducted an exercise on 'sleep hypnosis'. All the sessions were interactive and involved different types of activities. Twenty-three coordinators and counsellors of BOSCO attended the training session.

Orientation Programmes



BOSCO Yuvodaya organized orientation programmes at the centre for the Brothers of Kristu Jyothi College, Bengaluru, and MSW students from the Department of Social Work, Don Bosco Arts and Science College, Kannur, Kerala, and Dr. M.V Shetty College of Social Work, Mangalore, on November 11, December 6 and 10, 2021, to learn the objectives, programs, structure, and staffing, under the social work perspective. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, explained the overall programmes of BOSCO Bengaluru. Brothers were made aware of all the projects, centres, and their activities. Videos - 'SHE' and 'This is me' were screened to help the Brothers understand the work culture of BOSCO and its efforts towards the welfare of children in difficult situations. In the

interactive session, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram narrated several cases and scenarios.

Fr. Kuriakose shared his experiences about the work at Davanagere and Devadurga. He felt that education is a powerful weapon to bring change in society. Brothers had an opportunity to interact with Ms. Nagaratna, Chairperson, CWC, members, and the children. Nineteen Brothers, thirty-four students from Don Bosco Arts and Science College, Kannur, Kerala, and nineteen students from Dr. M.V Shetty College of Social Work, Mangalore, participated in the programme.

Training Programme on Foster Care



BOSCO Foster Care Project organized a training programme for the officials of the Education Department, Doddaballapur, Bengaluru Rural, at the BRC Centre, on December 4, 2021. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Project, introduced BOSCO and its programmes like CHILDLINE, Child Safety Net, Special Juvenile Police Unit, rescue and rehabilitation of the children at the railway stations, bus stands and market places, remedial classes for the children in the communities where BOSCO is present, and the

vocational trades for the youth in BOSCO. He explained about the organizational structure of the Department of Women and Child Welfare, Government programmes like ICDS and ICPS, JJB and CWC, laws related to children such as the Child Marriage Act, Child Labour Act (Prohibition and Regulation) 1986, RTE Act, and POCSO Act, and Child Care Institutions (CCIs).

He spoke in detail about the foster care programme, the legal procedures involved in foster care, eligibility criteria, the guidelines of the state government, and the standard operating procedures. One of the participants – Cluster Resource Person (CRP) came forward to foster a child as a result of the programme. Ms. Shubhamangala, BEO, Doddaballapur, Mr. Hanumanthappa, BRP, Doddaballapur, and twenty department officials participated in the training.

MEETINGS

Adolescent Girls' Meetings



BOSCO Nilaya conducted adolescent girls' meetings at Vyayaam Shaale, Cement Huts, Vinobha Nagar, and Ramanna Garden, on October 9 and December 15, 2021. Ms. Rasha and Ms. Rohitha, Student Volunteers, explained about the importance of education



and maintaining personal hygiene. They also spoke about safe and unsafe touch. They emphasized the importance of maintaining personal hygiene. Around sixty girls attended the sessions.

BOSCO Nivas organized a meeting for adolescent girls, at the centre, on October 26 and December 9, 2021. They were given information about personal appearance, good manners, safety precautions, and self-defence. The girls were told to wear comfortable and decent clothes and to keep their tone and words positive and polite when communicating with people. Priya Malini, Coordinator,

BOSCO Nivas, explained the proper use of the internet and the safety measures to be taken while using social media by asking the children to share their experience of attending online classes. She cautioned the girls regarding the misuse of profile images and personal information. Ten girls participated in the meeting.

Monitoring Visit to Don Bosco Makkalalaya



BOSCO Foster Care Project organized a monitoring visit to Don Bosco Makkalalaya, Mysuru, on October 28, 2021. As per the schedule, the Foster Care team met the prospective parents and had a discussion with them regarding the procedures involved in fostering children. The DCPO appreciated the parents for coming forward to foster children.

Later during the day, DCPU, Mysuru, organized a meeting with the NGOs. Mr. Chandra Kumar, Legal, and PO, DCPU, briefed everyone about the JJ Act and Child Rights. Mr. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, explained, in brief, the foster care concept. Mr. Dhevaraj Bhute, Secretary, Legal Service Authority, Fr. Siju Thomas, Director, Don Bosco Mysuru, Mr. Abhi Kumar, DCPO, Mysuru, and Mr. Basavaraju, Deputy Director, DWCD, Mysuru, were present in the meeting.

The team also verified the foster care documents maintained by the district NGO. Instructions regarding the maintenance of separate files for different activities, keeping photo documentation, and conducting activities as per the timeline, were given. The staff was asked to focus more on the identification of potential children and parents and on placing them in foster families. Nandini, Documentation in charge, BOSCO Foster Care Project, and Mr. Tony Clifford, Social Mobilizer, Foster Care Programme, Mysuru district, were also present during the monitoring visit.

Parents' meetings



Parents' Meeting was organized at Vinobha Nagar and Ramanna Garden, Bengaluru, by BOSCO Nilaya, on October 13 and November 11, 2021. Devaraj, Coordinator, BOSCO CREAM Project, briefed everyone about BOSCO, its services, the skill training programmes available at Nilaya, the importance of education, remedial classes conducted at Nilaya, and the scholarship facilities provided by the Government of Karnataka. He explained about the different Government schemes, the COVID-19 pandemic, education, and maintaining hygiene and cleanliness. He briefed everyone about child rights and child-related issues. Bhagyalakshmi, Social Activist, BOSCO Nilaya, explained about the Pradana Mantri Mathru Vandana Yojana and proper mobile and social media usage. Thirty-

five parents, area leaders, and one tuition teacher participated in the meeting.

BOSCO team working in the Gandhinagar area organized a meeting for the parents of the children attending tuition classes at Annamma Temple Colony, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru, on October 28, 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to make the parents aware of the safety precautions to be taken for their school-going children and about following

COVID - 19 protocols. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, spoke about the responsibilities of parents towards educating their children. The parents were also informed about the vocational trades that could be pursued by the youths in BOSCO. The children were told about discipline, punctuality, maintaining social distance, and wearing masks in schools. Parents were happy that their children were attending regular tuition classes. Ramaswamy, Outreach Officer, Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru, Br. Rathnakar Singh, PMI, and Ms. Vijaya, Tuition Teacher, were present in the meeting. Twenty-two parents attended the meeting.

Advocacy Meeting with Stakeholders

BOSCO CREAM Project in collaboration with the BOSCO SJPU Project organized an advocacy meeting with the stakeholders at Chamarajpet Police Station, Bengaluru, on October 23, 2021. Mr. Lokapur, Inspector, Chamarajpet Police Station, welcomed the gathering. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nivas, and Nilaya gave an introduction about BOSCO and its services, and the CREAM Project. Mr. Lokapur explained about youths' addiction to drugs. Thirty-three stakeholders including area leaders, social workers, police officials, SHGs, and staff from the Child Welfare Department were present in the meeting.



Meeting with District Child Protection Officer



BOSCO Foster Care Programme organized a meeting with Ms. Bharathi, District Child Protection Officer (DCPO), at BOSCO Mane, on November 23, 2021. Mr. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, shared the BOSCO Foster Care experience. He briefed everyone about the programmes conducted in 10 districts in Karnataka involving the different stakeholders,

identification of prospective foster parents and children, and the application forms submitted by the prospective foster parents.

DCPO felt that it is necessary to select parents who are genuinely interested in fostering a child and that there should be a proper weaning period before placing a child into a family. She said that it is important to highlight the age limit of parents in the SOP and Guidelines of the Foster Care Programme. Parents should be made aware that they cannot get immediate guardianship of children once they have submitted their applications.

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, and Ms. Usha Kiran, Psychiatric Social Worker, NIMHANS, Bengaluru, stated that we need to request the ICPS Director to finalize and send the SOP to all DCPOs and CWC Members in Karnataka. The team requested permission to organize prospective parents' meeting, meetings with NGOs, as well as meetings during HSR and SIR for parents and children. The DCPO said that we should work together to create a family environment for children and also take the support of other NGOs that are interested or willing to work in foster care.

Advocacy Meeting



An advocacy meeting was organized in BOSCO Yuvodaya on November 27, 2021. In the keynote address, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, explained the agenda for the meeting which included experience sharing by the staff, types of issues encountered by the staff, present strategies used, legal support options, and action plan for the future.

Mr. Basavaraj PN, Rescue Coordinator, BOSCO Child Safety Net Project (CSN), highlighted the five major child rights issues dealt with by BOSCO on a day-to-day basis. Ms. Usha Nayak, Coordinator, City CHILDLINE, BOSCO Bengaluru, shared about the issues faced by the staff members while registering FIRs at the police stations. Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, Gandhinagar area, explained about the difficulties in rescuing and rehabilitating mothers begging on the streets along with infants. Mr. Balraj, Team Member, BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE, expressed his concern regarding the rescue and rehabilitation of elopement cases.



Biju Varghese, Advocate, spoke about the macro approach and the micro approach in addressing the various issues involved in making changes at the policy level, bringing about amendments in legislation on children, and resolving issues at the local level by getting the support of Government Departments, Police, and other like-minded organizations.

An action plan was formulated. It was decided to prepare the memorandum with the list of demands, schedule a meeting with the higher officials, establish a legal panel at BOSCO with staff having sound knowledge and experience in child welfare, and network with like-minded NGOs/ organizations.

The other lawyers who attended the meeting included Padmanabhan, Vivek, and Vaishnavi. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram welcomed the participants and proposed the vote of thanks. The meeting was attended by fourteen BOSCO staff members.

Meeting with NGOs

BOSCO Foster Care Project organized a meeting with the NGOs of Bengaluru Rural in collaboration with DCPU, Rural, at GASS NGO, Rosipura, Doddaballapur, on December 24, 2021. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Nagaraj, DD, Doddallapur, said, "Children are like

God. They should be treated with love and affection. We should provide them a safe and protective environment." Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Anitha Laxmi, DCPO, Bengaluru Rural, said that the meeting was organized to promote the foster care concept so that



children in need could be placed in families where they can get love, care, and protection. She exhorted everyone gathered to work towards the goal of providing a family environment to children.

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, introduced BOSCO and its programmes like CHILDLINE, Child Safety Net, Special Juvenile Police Unit, rescue and rehabilitation of children at railway stations, bus stands and market places, remedial classes for the children in the communities where BOSCO is present, and the vocational trades for the youth in BOSCO. He appealed to the NGOs to join hands with BOSCO in promoting foster care.

Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Project, spoke in detail about the foster care programme, the legal procedures involved in foster care, eligibility criteria, the guidelines of the state government, and the standard operating procedures. He requested the NGOs to give a list of prospective children who could be placed in foster care to the DCPO and CWC Rural. Mr. Ramu, Chairman, CWC, Bengaluru Rural, Mr. Basavaraju, Ms. Bharathi, CWC Members, Bengaluru Rural, and thirty-eight staff members from twenty-two NGOs participated in the meeting.

CELEBRATIONS AND CAMPS

Anniversary Celebrations at BOSCO Sumanahalli



The 16th anniversary of BOSCO Sumanahalli was celebrated on October 9, 2021. Fr. Irudaya, Asst. Director, Sumanahalli Society, exhorted the youth to follow in the footsteps of Don Bosco and become good citizens. Youths of the centre staged cultural programmes. Fr. Pradeep, Parish Priest, Moodalapalya, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, Fr. Prasad, Director, BOSCO Mane and Vikas, and sisters from the Sumanahalli Society, were present on the occasion. Fr. Dr. Joshy, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, shared about the achievements of the centre during the previous year. Hundred and five youths and children from the Devaraj Urs community attended the programme.

BOSCO Celebrates International Day of the Girl Child



BOSCO celebrated International Day of the Girl Child at the centres on October 11, 2021, on the theme, 'Digital Generation, Our Generation'. Speaking on the occasion, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, said that there is gender inequality still prevailing in society including the digital world. Drawing, games, essay competitions, and rallies were organized by the programmes and centres. Children of the centres performed songs and dances on the occasion. Prizes were given to the winners.



Ms. Bharathi Devi BS., DCPO, Bengaluru Urban, Ms. Shakila, Head constable, Wilson Garden Police Station, said that this day is mainly celebrated to create awareness about gender discrimination. Bharathi, Sub Inspector, GRP Cantonment, Bengaluru, Dr. Shobha, Roshni Nursing Home, Wilson Garden, Ms. Rashmi, CLA, Mr. Waseem, CI, RPF, Ms. Devasmitha, Senior Police Commissioner, Ms. Kusuma, ARDM, Ms. Anusha, SI, RPF, and other officials, and Sr. Jyothi, Mangalore, were present on the occasion in different centres. Centre children, trainees, Directors, and staff members attended the programmes in different centres.

World Food Day Celebrations



Food Festival was celebrated in BOSCO centres as part of the World Food Day on October 16, 2021, on the theme - "Our actions are our future- Better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life". Children at the centres prepared various dishes like vegetable salad, fruit salad, bhelpuri, bread cake, milkshake, vegetable sandwich, vegetable pulav, gobi, custard, etc. Stalls were arranged and a variety of dishes were served. It allowed them to learn cooking and understand the importance of food.

They learned to become Food Heroes for a better and more sustainable world. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Directors of the centres, and staff members appreciated the children for preparing delicious food. All the children and youths, and staff of the centres participated in the food festival.

Dasara Camps at BOSCO

Dasara camp was organized for the children of BOSCO centres from October 11 to October 22, 2021. The purpose of the camp was to engage the children in meaningful activities during the Dasara holidays and to help them understand themselves better. Sessions on health, leadership, family, society (social responsibility), environment, etc., were conducted. Craftwork, drawing, singing, story-telling, role-play, cooking, and sports - volleyball, cricket, indoor games, motivational games, etc., were organized. The input sessions included, 'Importance of Discipline in our life', Moral values by Ms. Thara T, Assistant Professor and Outreach Coordinator, Bembala, St. Joseph's College, Bengaluru, Music class by Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, Value of education by Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane, Time management by Sr. Leena, Holy Cross, and Anger management by Hope Work Foundation. Art

and craft classes like basic stitching, stage performances, paper garland making, cake making, drawing and painting, rangoli making, cooking without fire, dance, skit, singing, and sports activities such as throwball, leg cricket, kho-kho, kabaddi, picking of dog's bone, etc., were organized. The children went to the various centres - BOSCO Nilaya, Yuvakendra, and Mane to give awareness on environmental conservation and personal hygiene. The children had an opportunity to visit and spend time with the differently-abled children at Cottolengo Special School, Varthur, Whitefield. The girls also tried raising funds for needy children by keeping a charity box. Volleyball and basketball coaching were given to the youth. Points were given based on their performance, discipline, and behavior. Prizes were distributed to the winners. Children of all the centres benefited from the camp.



Ragazzi Rilalssatevi Camp



Three-day camp – Ragazzi Rilalssatevi was organized for the youth of BOSCO Yuvakendra at the centre and at St. Philomena High School, Railway Colony, Bengaluru, from October 30, 2021, to November 1, 2021.

Fr. C V George, Salesian In-charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, inaugurated the camp. Mr. Nagraj and Mr. Mahesh, Past Pupils, BOSCO, conducted the camp by involving the group in various activities, exercises, and games. Outdoor sessions were conducted at St.

Philomena's High School. The participants were asked to share their dreams and a discussion on how education helps to fulfill one's dream was taken up. Through a tableau, the youths showed how they could stay connected to each other. In the concluding programme, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane, and Vikas, exhorted the youths to bring their thoughts into action and fulfill their dreams. The participants shared their experiences and learnings from the camp. Sixteen youths participated in the camp.

Kannada Rajyotsava Celebrations

Kannada Rajyotsava was organized at the respective centres of BOSCO with several activities, on November 1, 2021. Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, Mane, and Vikas, said, "This is the 66th Kannada Raiyotsava. This is a month-long celebration. Let us contribute to the State by learning its culture and language." Mr. Shivakumar, ASI, VV Puram Police Station, was present on the occasion. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, spoke about the importance of the day to the children at BOSCO Yuvodaya. He motivated the children to spread the culture of Karnataka. A singing competition was conducted at the BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre in Sumanahalli. Fourteen youths took part in the competition and prizes were given to the winners. Students delivered a speech in Kannada about the celebration. Children staged cultural programmes. Around 200 children from the centres participated in the celebrations.



Children's Day Celebrations at BOSCO Bengaluru



Children's Day was celebrated at the BOSCO centres on November 14, 2021, on the theme, "Every Child Safe Online", to ensure the online safety of children. Various cultural programmes and chance games were organized for the youth and children at the centres, and for the children who attend remedial classes. Chance games were organized for the children at BOSCO Mane by the NCC students of St. Joseph's College and the members of the Rotaract Club of SSMRV College. Ms. Neela, Ms. Sonia, and Ms. Kavya, Past Pupils, shared their experiences and expressed gratitude to the organization for the education and training that they received at BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan. They exhorted the children at BVB to make good use of the opportunities provided to them. Sports, party games, and cultural programmes were organized. The boys of BOSCO Yuvakendra danced with "CHILD IS MEANT TO LEARN NOT TO EARN" on the occasion of Children's Day celebrations at

the GKMP School in Magadi Road.

Fr. Sivy Koroth, Professor, Kristu Jyothi College, Bengaluru, Dr. Fr. Johny Jose SDB, Registrar, Don Bosco University, Guwahati, Assam, Ms. Nagaratna, Chairperson, CWC 1, Bengaluru Urban, Mr. Bharamappa Mallur, Police Inspector, GRP, Ms. Rashmi, CLI, Dr. Prakash, Brindavan Areion Hospital, Ms. Kavya, Inspector, Cottonpet Police Station, Bengaluru,

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. CV George, Salesian In-charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, and Mr. Franklin, were present on the occasion. Centre children and youth, area children, and tuition children participated in the programmes.





Human Rights Day



BOSCO Yuvakendra and the team working in the Gandhinagar area organized Human Rights Day on the theme, 'Equality- Reducing inequalities, advancing human rights,' for the youth and tuition children in their centre and areas respectively, on December 10, 2021. The children and youth were given awareness about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations General Assembly which ensures rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being, regardless of their race, colour, religion, sex, language, political system, nationality, origin, and birth. Possible interventions in promoting Child Rights/Human Rights were discussed. A drawing competition was organized for the participants based on the theme. Thirty-eight tuition children from Annamma Colony and Sangam area, twenty-six youths, and eighteen tuition children from Yuvakendra participated in the event.

Christmas Celebrations at BOSCO

BOSCO Bengaluru celebrated Christmas with staff at BOSCO Sumanahalli, Bengaluru, on December 18, 2021. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, briefed everyone about the importance of Christmas. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, inaugurated the crib. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram thanked the staff for carrying out the task of rescuing and rehabilitating children at risk even in the most challenging situations. He exhorted everyone to continue with the same zeal and attitude towards children in need of care and protection because BOSCO's priority is the care and protection of children in difficult situations. The programme included carols, dances, sharing gifts, and exchanging season's greetings with each other. All the staff and management participated in the Christmas celebrations.



Christmas celebration at BOSCO centres



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International Migrants Day



BOSCO team working in Gandhinagar, Bengaluru, celebrated International Migrants Day in collaboration with KISMAT, Bengaluru, in two migrant communities, on December 19, 2021. These are migrants from Bihar, West Bengal, Yadgir, and Gulbarga districts of Karnataka, working at construction sites. Awareness was given on health and hygiene and also on the KISMAT helpline numbers and services. The team conducted activities for the children and distributed sweets.

LIFE SKILLS AND VALUE EDUCATION

Life Skill Sessions



BOSCO Rainbow Home organized a life skill session on Understanding Others, Stress Management, and Problem Solving, for the girls of the centre, during the quarter. The purpose of organizing the sessions was to prepare children to understand the emotions and feelings of others, be empathetic towards them, and train the children to have a spiritual approach towards others who

are in distress. Sr. Mary Shamala, Counselor, BOSCO Rainbow Home, conducted various activities to explain about empathy and stress. Children were asked to express the moments they felt stressed out, and their feelings of depression, nervousness, loneliness, mood swings, anger, etc. The group was taught a few steps in problem-solving like identifying the issue, finding the root cause of the problem, listing out possible solutions, taking appropriate actions, etc. Twenty-six girls participated in the life skill session.

Value Education Sessions



Value Education sessions on Uniqueness, Responsibility, and Patience, were conducted for the children of BOSCO Rainbow Home in October, November, and December 2021. Sr. Shamala Mary, Counselor, BOSCO Rainbow Home, helped the children understand that every individual is unique

and exhorted them to develop positive attitudes, through the screening of motivational movies. She asked them to listen to their heart and embrace their uniqueness to develop further, and to explore their true self. Through various activities, she explained to them what responsible behaviour is. The sessions helped the girls learn values such as cooperation, self-direction, discipline, and open-mindedness, to develop their skills on their own. She narrated a moral story on patience, showed a motivational movie, and gave some tips to reduce anger and handle things with kindness and patience. Twenty-four girls participated in the sessions.

PICNICS AND OUTINGS

Outing to Bannerghatta Biological Park



BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan organized a one-day outing to the Biological Park, Bannerghatta, Bengaluru, for the children of the centre, on October 20, 2021. Children strolled around the park enjoying the greenery, and watching different animals, birds, reptiles, and insects. They sang and danced to their heart's content. They enjoyed a sumptuous lunch. Later during the day, they visited the convent of the Holy Spirit Sisters. Kavya SA, Student, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, briefed everyone about the activities of the centre. Children enthralled the audience with their dance. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Sr. Sheeba Thomas, Director, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, and eight staff members joined the children for the outing. Fifty children were part of the outing.

Outing to Fun World



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, arranged an outing to Fun and Water Amusement Park, Bengaluru, for the youths of the centre, on October 29, 2021. The youths engaged themselves in amusement rides such as the roller coaster, Ferris wheel, bumper cars, and all types of water games. They enjoyed the games and the rides and felt relaxed and refreshed. Twenty-six youths benefited from the programme.

Other Activities

Survey and Ration Kit Distribution



CHILDLINE Collab, BOSCO Bengaluru, conducted a survey in the RR Nagar community, near Legacy Apartments, Bengaluru, and identified 79 children and 30 families, and 12 children and 5 families in the Bytarayanapura Community, on December 11, 2021. Thirty ration kits were distributed to 30 families in the RR Nagar Community

and 5 ration kits were distributed to 5 families in the Bytarayanapura Community. These families are basically from the Gulbarga, Raichur, and Yadgir districts of Karnataka. Most of the parents work in construction sites, and their children attend the Government School in Bangarappangudda, Shri Guru Shanthanada School in Nayandahalli, and the Government School in Bytarayanapura. All the families live in shacks made of tarpaulin and sheets.

Child Rights Week at BOSCO Bengaluru

BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE celebrated Children's Day on November 14, 2021, in the presence of primary and secondary stakeholders - Kalaivani, Santhosh, and Dhaneshwar, TTEs, Latha and Shwetha, GRP, Srikanth, Commercial Inspector, and Vijayalakshmi, Constable, RPF. Awareness was given to the public through distributing pamphlets. Three hundred children and six hundred members of the public were reached out to.

CHILDLINE Se Dosti Week was inaugurated in the presence of Mr. Shyam Singh, Divisional Railway Manager, Kusuma Hariprasad, ADRM, Saurab Jain, Joint General Manager, IRSDC, Krishna Reddy,

Sr DCM, Devasmitha Chatterjee, Sr. DSC, Siri Gowri, Superintendent of Police, Srikanth, CMI/SBC, Krishnamurthy, Station Manager, Prabhakaran, SMR, Ravi Shankar, PSMR, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Director, BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE, KSR, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, City CHILDLINE, BOSCO Bengaluru, Sheela Devaraj, City CHILDLINE, APSA, Bengaluru, and Nagamani, Nodal Coordinator, City CHILDLINE, CRT, Bengaluru, on November 15, 2021. The Directors and Coordinators briefed everyone about the roles and responsibilities as well as the statistics regarding the rescue and reintegration of children.





Multi Stakeholders Consultation Meeting on Prevention of Child Trafficking was organized on November 16, 2021. The team conducted a painting competition for the children on the theme. Staff gave awareness on the topic as well. The staff also disseminated information through the shop to shop awareness. CHIDLINe Se Dosti bands were tied for the stakeholders. Sruthi, RPF, and Hemakumari, GRP, were present on the occasion. Through the programme, the team was able to reach out to fifty children and thirty-five adults.

The staff gathered to take the pledge along with the stakeholders through photo frame awareness, on November 17, 2021, at the KSR Railway Station. They conducted games and activities for the children present within the premises of the Railway Station. A group of staff members started from the KSR Railway Station to Bangarpet to give awareness in moving trains. HC Yadav, Varalakshmi, Baghyalakshmi, RPF Officials, Sreenivas, SMR, and S.P Jayasham, TT, were present for the programme.

A special CHG Meeting was carried out for the dignitaries, on November 18, 2021. They discussed the points highlighted in the previous meetings. The progress in children's rescue and restoration

work from August to October 2021 was reviewed. The stakeholders were honored for their selfless efforts and work. M Krishnamurthy, SRM, Sourab Jain, IRSDC, JGM, Vaseem Ahammed, RPF Inspector, Tanuja, ASI, Vivek, RPF, Mr. Barmappa, Inspector, GRP, Jagdeesh, SI, Latha, CWPO/WPC, Manu, Dy SMR, Selvi and Kala, Secondary Stakeholders, Rashmi, CLA, Fr. Varghese Pallippuram, Director, BRCL, and the BRCL team attended the meeting.

A public awareness programme was organized for the commuters in the railway station along with the stakeholders, on November 19, 2021. The public and the stakeholders received awareness about the prevention of child trafficking, CHIDLINe, and the importance of conducting CHIDLINe Se Dosti week.

On the occasion of Universal Children's Day, BRCL conducted an awareness programme for the children of St. Philomena's School, Bengaluru. 'Komal' movie was screened during the session. The team gave awareness on the four basic rights of children, CHIDLINe and child helpline, and 1098. The team tied the CHIDLINe Se Dosti band for the teachers and children of the school. A hundred children participated in the awareness session.



On November 13, 2021, CHILDLINE Bengaluru, organized a live Talk Show on Akashvani FM Rainbow 101.3 on the occasion of CHILDLINE Se Dosti week. The aims and objectives of CHILDLINE and the issues related to children were discussed. Information regarding laws and Acts related to children was shared. Rescue and rehabilitation processes were clarified. The CWC and JJB System was explained. Ms. Nagamani N, Nodal Coordinator, CHILDLINE Bengaluru, Fr. Prasad, Director, CHILDLINE, BOSCO, and Lakshapathi, Director, APSA CHILDLINE, participated in the programme hosted by RJ Mamatha.

As part of the Campaign against Child Beggary, the BOSCO CHILDLINE team moved through the vulnerable areas and signals that come under the jurisdiction of Upparpet and Cottonpet Police Stations along with the Hoysala Police vehicles and gave awareness with the PA System and by distributing handbills, on November 16,

2021. Sanjay M Patil, IPS, Deputy Commissioner of Police, West Division, Bengaluru, flagged off the programme. The CHILDLINE Collab, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized an awareness programme and drawing competition for the children of Auxilium Navajeevana, Bengaluru, as part of the CHILDLINE Se Dosti Week, on November 17, 2021. Sixty children participated in the programme. The team also organized competitions for the visually challenged children of Sri Ramana Maharshi Academy for the Blind, JP Nagar, Bengaluru, on November 18, 2021. Winners were given prizes. Over a hundred and twenty children participated in the competitions.

BOSCO Nilaya organized Child Rights Week to create awareness for children on the theme, 'Every Child Safe Online. Mrs. Kavya, Sub-Inspector, Cottenpet Police station, Bengaluru, inaugurated the programme. Mr. Devaraj explained the purpose of celebrating Children's Day and the importance of Child Rights Week. Mrs. Kavya



said that today's children are today's citizens, and motivated the children. She explained how education plays a pivotal role in the life of an individual. She explained about 'Every Child Safe Online' by explaining, in brief, the term "SMART"- S-safe, M-meet, A-accept, R-reliable, and T-tell. Children and staff shared the success story of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, both in English and Kannada. 266 children from the respective tuition centres, six staff members, five tuition teachers, and one volunteer participated in the programme. Shop to Shop awareness about child rights, child rights violation, CHILDLINE, tuition centres, vocational skill training courses, karate classes, and the remedial classes at BOSCO Nilaya, was organized on November 15, 2021. Around two hundred and eighty people were given

awareness. 10 children were contacted during the public awareness programme. BOSCO Nilaya organized an essay writing competition for the tuition children as part of the Child Rights Week programme, on November 16, 2021. Speech Competition for tuition children was conducted at BOSCO Nilaya on the topics 'Every child safe Online' and 'No violence against Children, Raise your Voice', on November 17, 2021. Thirty-three tuition children from Nilaya and Ramanna Garden took part in the competition. An advocacy campaign was organized at Jolly Mohalla under the Cottonpet Police Station limits, on November 20, 2021, as part of 'Universal Children's Day. The programme was attended by Mrs. Mumtaz, Labour inspector, and Mr. Kariyanna, Police Sub-inspector.



A singing competition was conducted at the BOSCO Life Skills Training in Sumanahalli on the occasion of Child Rights Week, on November 17, 2021. A collage competition was conducted on November 18, 2021, at the BOSCO Life Skills Training Centre, Sumanahalli, for the centre youth. Quiz Competition was conducted. A movie on child rights was shown to the youth as part of Child Rights Week.

CSN team conducted an awareness programme on child protection and safety, and child abuse, for the children of DVV Gujarat School, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru, in coordination with Ramaswamy, Gandhinagar Area Coordinator, and Upparpet Police Station.

BOSCO Nivas inaugurated the Child Rights Week in the presence of Devendra Kumar and Mr. Manjunath, Inspectors, Shivajinagar, Mr. Prashant Murthy, H R Manager, BOSCO Bengaluru, Mr. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, and Amal Babu, Project Development Officer, BOSCO Bengaluru. Fr Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nivas, briefed everyone about the four child rights.

Devendra Kumar and Mr. Manjunath, Police Inspectors, explained to the children about traffic rules and the procedures for procuring a driving license. The week-long programme included a theme on Halloween, a Malnutrition survey, a Quiz competition, a Minute to win it game, and cultural programmes. Children enjoyed the whole week by participating in all the activities, especially the face painting activity conducted on the Halloween theme. The malnutrition survey in all the communities was impactful and got a good response from the community people. The quiz programme was organized by getting all the community children together at BOSCO Nivas. Children were happy to participate in the Minute to win it game, and the participation of parents in the dance programme was the highlight of the event. Tailoring students got certificates on the completion of their training.

BOSCO Rainbow Home organized a drawing competition at the centre, on November 16, 2021. Children drew pictures of online safety. Forty-eight children participated. On November 17, 2021, the BOSCO SJPU team together with BOSCO Rainbow Home,



visited V. V. Puram and Siddapura Police Stations and tied friendship bands on the hands of the police personnel. The Inspector explained to the children about the working system in the police stations. Children took part in the singing competition held on November 18, 2021. Ten girls participated in the competition. Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO CHILDLINE Programme, and Ms. Nagamani, Nodal Coordinator, CHILDLINE Collab, gave awareness on child safety and child helpline. They conducted games, skits, and gave away the prizes to the winners.

A group of BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan children took part in the Child Rights Week by giving awareness through a skit on the theme, 'Child Rights' and 'Every Child Safe Online', for the students of Sharada Stree Samaja School, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru, on November 18, 2021. Seventy students and ten teachers attended the programme. On the same day in the afternoon, the same group visited the Sangam construction area and Gandhinagar community and interacted with the construction workers, their children, and the children attending remedial classes, and distributed snacks and gifts to them. Group 2 visited Anjanappa Garden and G.K.M.P school and organized an awareness programme on the theme by performing a dance and skit, on November 19 and 20, 2021 respectively. Thirty children and 5 teachers were present in the programme.

Drawing competition was conducted for BOSCO Yuvakendra boys on 'Every Child Safe Online', on November 15, 2021. Geethamala, Counsellor, BOSCO Yuvakendra, conducted CPC awareness for the centre boys on November 16, 2021. The concluding programme of Child Rights Week was organized on November 20, 2021, by celebrating Universal Children's Day. Addressing the group, Mr. Surendra Gudde Hotel, Professor, State and National Resource Person, Sri Siddhalingeswara High School, Magadi Road, Bengaluru, said, "BOSCO is empowering you with all the life skills and vocational training for leading a successful life. The work of several NGOs including that of BOSCO has resulted in the formulation of the National Education Policy (NEP)." Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, extended her Children's Day wishes to the youth of the centre and the tuition children and exhorted the group to make maximum use of the opportunities given to them in BOSCO. The youth and children put up cultural activities based on the theme. Fr. CV George, Salesian In-charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, was present on the occasion. Twenty-six youths and thirty-five tuition children participated in the programme.

The 3rd episode of 'The Unspoken' was held through Zoom to understand the theme, on November 19, 2021, by the YaR forum. Children from the centres attended the programme.



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“The first happiness of a child is to know that he is loved”
 Don Bosco
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