



# E-Street Voice

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*Editorial Note...*

## Perennial Love for Shortcuts!

The digital universe is abuzz with topics such as, 'lifehacks', 'success-hacks', instant cure for illnesses, tips to succeed in exams, tricks to gain fast buck, etc. Life on the fast lane often demands quicker solutions and responses. In the given scenario, how justified would it be to look down upon or undermine sweat, blood and persistence on the road of life?

“Be true to the game, because the game will be true to you. If you try to shortcut the game, then the game will shortcut you. If you put forth the effort, good things will be

bestowed upon you. That's truly about the game, and in some ways that's about life too”, says Michael Jordan, the American Basketball legend.

In the month of March, number of cases were reported on the helpline requesting assistance in securing hall-ticket for students who were to appear for the SSLC examination. Some callers alleged that teachers and school authorities were unconcerned about the students as they had refused to provide hall-tickets while some others said that few students were found

copying. However, investigating the cases further, it was found that in every case, students did not have the required percentage of attendance prescribed by the Department of Education.

As we reach out to the young at risk, may we strive to place adequate emphasis on hard work and persistence than rely on shortcuts, instant remedies and quick-fixes!



*Fr. Prasad SDB*

## International Women's Day Celebration



CREAM, BOSCO Bengaluru organised International Women's Day for SHG members at Rayapu-

ram Anganwadi Center, Ranganatha Colony, J.J.R. Nagar, Bengaluru on March 8, 2019. Ms. Shashikala Gopal Krishna, Counsellor, Rayapuram, Ward 137, Mr. Chandrapa, Community Leader, Mr. Keshav Murthy, Social Worker, Mr. Prasad, Social Worker and Community Leader, Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, CREAM, Ms. Mary, Community Member,

Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, CREAM inaugurated the program by lighting the lamp.

Ms. Shashikala GopalKrishna appreciated BOSCO for its services. Mr. Keshav Murthy spoke about the women leaders of India and motivated the participants to reach great heights in life. Mr. Chandrapa explained the difference between status of woman in olden days and the present and spoke

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# Sensitization Programme Organized

BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE Team organised a sensitization programme for the Coolie Porters at Krantiveer Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station (KSR), Bengaluru, on March 20, 2019. Dr Anthony Sebastian, Chairperson, KSCPCR, Bengaluru inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp and addressed the stake holders reminding them about the importance of protecting the children found in the railway station. He also reminded them that earlier there used to be many children living on the platforms picking up rags and addicted to various substances. The breakthrough was possible only because of the continuous effort made by BOSCO.

Mr. Iqbal Ahmed, Deputy SMR, Bengaluru, spoke about BOSCO and the work done in Railway station and assured wholehearted support to BOSCO for the cause of the children. Mr. Arunmozi, Senior Coordinator cum Program Manager, CIF, spoke about the Importance of the stakeholders and their role in rescuing of children and also explained about the functions of Railway CHILDLINE. Mr. Pushpendar Ku-



mar, Sub Inspector, RPF spoke about the legal process to be followed once a child is rescued, and assured that the RPF will support in case of any critical situation.

The resource person, Mr. Lakshmi Prasanna, Member of CWC-2, spoke about child rights, the role of family in childrearing. He exhorted the stakeholders not to underestimate or undervalue their children. No child should be compared with other children. It is the duty of the parents to build the self-esteem in the child. He also spoke about the process of restoration once a child is produced before the CWC.

The stakeholders agreed and assured that every child who comes into the KSR station will be treated with respect and brought to the notice of the CHILDLINE staff. The programme also saw the presence of Mr. Shaheed Ahmed, Platform Inspector, Mr. Brahma Reddy, CMI/SD/O/SBC, Mr. Prakash, Station Level In-Charge and Fr. Rubin Mathew, Director, BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE. Eighty-two Coolie Porters attended the sensitization programme.

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## International Women's Day

about the importance of women in the development of family and society. Fr. Regi Jacob thanked women for their contributions and spoke about the importance of 'Mother' in a society. Ms. Vinnarasi, Social Mobilizer, CREAM, explained about child protection mechanisms, issues likely to be faced by children, child rights violations, role of a woman in the society and in child rights protection. Stories of few women leaders and their achievements were shared.

Ms. Gayathri, Ms. Mary and Ms. Kala, SHG members, expressed that they felt very happy to showcase their talents. The program helped to build a good rapport with the community members and leaders and the ICDS Department. Sixty-five SHG members participated in the programme along with Anganawadi teachers and helpers, BOSCO Nilaya staff and Tuition teachers.

## Election Awareness Programme

CREAM, BOSCO organized election awareness for the Self-Help Group (SHG) members at Venkatramnagar, Bengaluru, on March 28, 2019. Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, CREAM Project briefed on the importance of voting, right to vote and said that one's vote is not for sale. Oath was taken by all participants to vote democratically. Forty SHG members participated in the awareness programme.

# CHILDLINE Annual Review Meeting Organized



CHILDLINE annual review meeting was held at Don Bosco Yuvakara Grama, Ajjanahalli, Magadi, on March 28 and 29, 2019. Addressing the group, Mr. Vasudev Sharma, Nodal Director, CHILDLINE, Bengaluru said, “As we work towards creating a child-friendly society, it is of utmost importance to function as one unit with single-mindedness and determination.” Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, CHILDLINE,

BOSCO Bengaluru, said that the review meeting is an opportunity to reflect, learn and reorient ourselves for the care and protection of children in need. Sheela Devaraj, Director, CHILDLINE, Association for Promoting Social Action (APSA), Bengaluru appreciated the team for the volume and quality of care given to children.

Ice breaking session was conducted by Usha Nayak, Coordinator, CHILDLINE Collab, BOSCO, Bengaluru and Johnson, Coordinator, Railway CHILDLINE. Campfire was organized in the evening on March 28, 2019. Session on team-building was facilitated by Mr. Vasudeva Sharma and Ms. Lakhmi. Planning session was facilitated by Nagamani, Coordinator, CHILDLINE Nodal Centre, Bangalore. Staff members and Directors were individually felicitated with a memento as a token of gratitude and appreciation for the services they render. CHILDLINE Coordinators and staff members from BOSCO, APSA, CRT and SAATHI Organization participated in the Programme.

## Training for Government Officials



Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru organized training for Asha Workers, DCPO Staff, Hospital Staff, Taluk Health Officer at Government Health Center, Ramanagara and Shubhodaya Multi Speciality, Harohalli, CWC Members and Staff of 3 NGOs with the help of Mr. Ashok Yeragatti, CWC Chair Person, Hebballi, Dharwad, Chikkamagalur and Religious Leaders, Bengaluru during March, 2019.

Information about BOSCO and its services, CHILDLINE toll free number (1098), Child rights, Foster Care Programme, procedures involved in the foster care implementation, coordination with CWC and support of the stakeholders in implementing the foster care programme at the district levels was given. Ninety participants attended the trainings.

## Quarterly Evaluation



Third quarterly evaluation of BOSCO was held at BOSCO Yuvodaya, Bengaluru on March 12, 2019. In the introductory remarks, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO, Bengaluru, exhorted the staff to teach children to conserve the planet and become models for our children in maintaining harmony and balance in the nature.

The concerned coordinators presented reports of projects and programmes from the various areas and centres of BOSCO. A common birthday celebration was held for all the staff who celebrated their birthdays between December 2018 and February 2019. All the managing directors of BOSCO and staff were present during the evaluation.

## Non- Serious Cases Consultation

Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), BOSCO, Bengaluru, organized consultation with parents of children in conflict with law of South Division, Bengaluru at BOSCO Mane, Bengaluru, on March 24, 2019.

Fr. C V George, Director, SJPU, Bengaluru, inaugurated the program and exhorted parents to ensure that their children do not become habitual offenders. Basavaraju P N, Coordinator, SJPU, BOSCO, Bengaluru, explained in detail about child protection, child rights, POSCO Act, child marriage and child trafficking citing various examples. He spoke about the importance of children's follow-up and present situation of the non-serious offences.

The resource person asked the children to make use of the services of BOSCO for counseling and voca-



tional training. Some of the parents shared the difficulties they faced in dealing with the police and the legal advisors. They were assured that the matter would be looked into and taken up with the higher officials. Eighteen parents including their children participated in the discussion.

### Parents Meeting



BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, Bengaluru organized parents meeting at the centre on March 17, 2019. Dr. Abraham, St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru addressed the gathering and spoke about general health care and personal hygiene. He also insisted the parents to keep themselves healthy by way of taking healthy food, exercising, having proper sleep, etc. He spoke about the ill effects of smoking, excess use of mobile phones and other unhealthy habits. Later, a general health checkup for the parents and the guardians was organized.

The Coordinator interacted with the parents individually and discussed about their children's progress. Ms. Prathiba, Team Member, welcomed the gathering and proposed the vote of thanks. Thirty parents attended the meeting and availed the services of the health camp.

### Mothers' Meeting Organized



ECCE, BOSCO organized Mothers' meeting on the 'Importance of Voting' at Ramanna Garden-2 Anganwadi Center on March 25, 2019. Ms. Lingarajamma, Anganwadi Teacher welcomed the gathering. Ms. Vinnarasi spoke about the importance of child protection. Importance of monitoring children's activities, child abuse and child protection mechanisms were briefed. Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, ECCE, explained about the right to vote, process of voting, importance of voting democratically.

Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, ECCE Programme, briefed about BOSCO and its centres. He spoke on importance of child development. Mothers requested BOSCO to conduct vocational skill training classes at Ramanna Garden. With vote of thanks by Ms. Raji, Anganwadi teacher, the meeting drew to a close. Thirty-six mothers from Ramanna Garden 1 and 2 and N. S. Garden along with three Anganwadi Teachers participated in the meeting.

## Street Play Organized

CREAM and CRY Projects, BOSCO, Bengaluru organized street plays on elections and the importance of voting at K.R. Market and Vinobhanagar, Bengaluru on March 26 and 30, 2019 respectively. Street play on importance of voting democratically was performed by BOSCO Nilaya children.

Badges on voting democratically such as 'my vote not for sale' were distributed to the public. Placards with sayings on importance of voting were displayed by children. On request children performed the street play at 10 different places in K.R. Market and Vinobhanagar.

Public, Shopkeepers, community members and Police officials appreciated the initiative by children and thanked BOSCO for organizing such program. The awareness was reached out to around 1000 public and



community members. Eighty BOSCO Nilaya children, Staff, Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and one Anganwadi Teacher participated in the event. Three Police constables and Traffic police of K.R. Market were present and assisted in organizing the street play.

## Picnic for Open Shelter Children



BOSCO Yuvodaya Bengaluru, organized picnic for the children at the Open Shelter, to BOSCO Ajjanahalli, Magadi, Bengaluru, on March 6, 2019. Throughout the journey to Ajjanahalli, the children sang and danced to their hearts' content.

Children explored the Centre and they had nice time with the pet animals. They had an experience of trekking on the mountain. They played in-door games during the afternoon hours. In the evening, the children ventured out to Siddeshwara Betta to visit the temple. The children had a wonderful time and they enjoyed the trip. Around twenty-five children along with the staff of BOSCO Yuvodaya joined the picnic.

## Health Camp



BOSCO Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Programme organized health checkup camp at Hub Center, Ramanna Garden, Bengaluru on March 30, 2019. Dr. Harsh, Pediatrician and Ms. Pushpa, Nurse carried out the checkup.

Eye, nose, ears, throat, height, weight and general checkup was carried out to all the children. Parents and Anganwadi teachers were informed. Mothers with children below 3 years of age were enlightened about the importance of breast feeding. Ill effects of milk substitutes and nutritional benefits of vegetables were briefed to the parents. Forty-four children attending Anganwadi from N.S. Garden, Ramanna Garden 1 and 2 availed the benefits of the camp.

## Life skills and Spoken English Classes

BOSCO Computer Training Project, BOSCO Mane, Bengaluru, organized life skill sessions and spoken English sessions for the computer trainees at BOSCO Mane from February 2019 to March 2019. The sessions were facilitated by the faculty from Creating Future, Bengaluru. The life skills such as self-awareness, communication, problem solving, decision making and interpersonal skills were taught through various activities like 'car and driver', 'balloon tower', 'question framing', 'answering questions', 'story building', 'making maximum squares using minimum match sticks', 'bing, bang, bong and rabbit, arrow, wall' and moral stories like 'thirsty crow', 'monkey and the crocodile', etc.



Spoken English classes included basics of English, grammar, making sentences and basic communication in English through activities like playing word puzzle, word building and anthakshari. Thirty-three computer trainees attended the classes.

### Success Story

## Of Love, Care and Transformation!



Varun (Name Changed), aged 11 years, hails from Bengaluru. He lost his father-Shankar five years ago. His mother-Ashwini is a domestic worker. He has a younger brother-Kishore, studying in LKG. Varun is in 5<sup>th</sup> standard studying in a Government School in Bengaluru.

The mother has no time for the children due to the work schedule. Varun and his mother hardly spend time together. This resulted in Varun becoming aggressive, behaving rudely and also falling into the trap of anti-social elements in his locality. He developed

the habit of smoking beedis. He dropped out of school. His mother had no control over him.

It was during the routine follow up of the Child Rights Clubs formed by BOSCO CREAM Programme, that one of the club members and teacher in-charge informed about Varun to BOSCO team. The team visited the child's home. The neighbors informed that the child was not in good terms with the mother, did not listen to the mother and was stubborn and obstinate. When the

mother was contacted, she revealed the hostile behavior of the child.

She told that he was placed in a De-addiction centre as part of rehabilitation. The Director of CREAM Project and team visited the De-addiction Centre and after convincing the Centre In-Charge and the mother, Varun was released and re-enrolled into the school. With continuous counseling and follow up, the child is now regular to school. He has also become a regular visitor to BOSCO Nilaya Centre. His teachers are happy and appreciated the efforts made by BOSCO to re-enroll the child.

# BOSCO: Homelink Child MISS MONTHLY REPORT



March- 2019



	Male	Female	Total
Children rescued	205	33	238
Service provided	129	26	155
Grand Total	334	59	393

## Service Provided

Center/Area	Male	Female	Total
Bangalore Railway Station	23	00	23
Bangalore Bus stand	21	02	23
BOSCO Yuvodaya	04	00	04
BOSCO Vatslyabhavan	00	10	10
CSN	31	01	32
BOSCO Nivas	06	02	08
<b>BOSCO Nilaya</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>
BOSCO Child line	05	11	16
ARSP	39	00	39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>155</b>

## Final Action Taken

Placement	Boys	Girls	Total
Referred to BOSCO Centers	07	08	15
Home Placement	72	10	82
Produced before CWC	123	15	138
<b>Shishumandir</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>
Referred to OH	01	00	01
<b>Referred back to Hostels</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>
<b>Referred back to school</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>
<b>Recommended to Gurukula</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>
Recommended to Hostel	01	00	01
<b>Referred back to police</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>
Counselled and Sent/ Went off	01	00	01
<b>Data is not available</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>238</b>

## Classification Report

Classification	Boys	Girls	Total
Accompanied	10	20	30
Unaccompanied	195	13	208
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>238</b>