



E- Street Voice

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Editorial Note...

Looking up to mothers!

International Mother's Day was celebrated on May 12, 2019. Now, what more can be written about that angel in human form called mother? The ocean of literature doesn't seem to suffice in aptly articulating the phenomenal persona of a mother.

"A mother's arms are more comforting than anyone else's," says Princess Diana. Once, after counseling a twelve-year old boy who had run away from home several times, the mother of the child was contacted from the shelter home. The father of the child was no more and the mother was a daily wager. The instant reaction on

learning about her son was, "Leave him anywhere you want, I don't want him anymore. I am fed up." However, the staff accompanied the child for a home visit and the same mother came running out of the house and hugged her child. The mother takes pride in the efforts of the child even as the toddler falls repeatedly!

Children studying or working away from home while setting out on the journey would invariably be greeted by the mother with food for the journey and even medicines! Its care, foresight, and anticipation. An extra dose of motherly patience and tenderness, the right measure of

preventive care and unfailing accompaniment can bring out the best from the ones who are in need of care and protection. The current issue of E-Street Voice appreciates the students from BOSCO who appeared for their PUC examinations. The issue features the tales of Maruthi and Dinesh Kumar, students from the organization who completed their SSLC and Under Graduation, overcoming odds and defying pessimistic predictions!



Fr. Prasad SDB

International Child Helpline Day Celebrated



CHILDLINE Bengaluru organized International Child Helpline Day on May 17, 2019. The programme commenced with a rally from Freedom Park, Bengaluru to KSR Bengaluru. Students from the University of Bengaluru and Acharya College, Bengaluru performed skits on child related issues at KSR Railway Station and Yeshwanthpur Railway Station. Addressing the gathering, Ms. Usha B, District Child Protection Officer (DCPO), Bengaluru Urban, said "It is the duty of each citizen to provide care and protection to

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Induction Training on Digital Center

CRY, BOSCO, Bengaluru organized Induction Training on Digital Center at BOSCO Nilaya on May 11, 2019. Ms. Nandita Venkatesh, Trainer, Next Education shared information about Next Education and its working areas. Hardware devices were introduced and their functions were explained. The process of logging into next education digital class was explained. Methods to update the content were explained. Icons in each page, functions of each icon and class-wise contents were briefed. The participants were allowed to practice the sessions individually. An activity to draw using the content was taught.

Refresher training would be conducted in the next eight weeks' time. Staff expressed that the digital class would help the children learn better. Bharath Nataraj, Assistant Manager, Development Support, CRY and Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO CRY Project, eight CRY Staff, one Nilaya Tuition Teacher and six Nilaya staff participated in the training.



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International Child Helpline Day



children by joining hands with CHILDLINE.”

Mr. Vasudev Sharma recalled the struggles of Eglantyne Jebb, the British Social Reformer and exhorted everyone to boldly stand up for the rights of children. Fr. Prasad, Director, CHILDLINE, BOSCO Bengaluru appealed to the public to report violations of the rights of children through the helpline. He added that help for a child in need is just a call away. The Directors, Coordinators and staff members of BOSCO, APSA, Child Rights Trust, BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE and SATHI were present at the rally.

Talk Show on Akashvani FM Rainbow

In connection with the event, interview and discussion on CHILDLINE was broadcasted live on Akashvani FM Rainbow radio talk show, 'lunch box'. Ms. Nagamani N, Nodal Coordinator, CHILDLINE Bengaluru and Fr. Prasad, Director, CHILDLINE, BOSCO participated in the programme hosted by RJ Vidya. The aims and objectives of the project and issues related to children were discussed.

Capacity Building for ICDS Staff



Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), BOSCO Bengaluru, organized Capacity Building Program for ICDS Staff on May 15, 2019 at the Anganwadi Centre, S.R. Nagar, Bengaluru. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, ECCE, introduced the activities of BOSCO, ECCE Project, working areas of ECCE and its functions. Child rights, child protection mechanisms were also briefed.

Ms. Surekha, AWC Cluster Supervisor, appreciated BOSCO for providing Teaching Learning Materials and shoes for children. She suggested organizing such training programs during the ICDS Circle Meeting of other clusters. Twenty-three Anganwadi teachers participated in the training. Ms. Vinnarasi, Cluster Coordinator, ECCE, welcomed the gathering and proposed the vote of thanks.



Summer Gala Masala (summer camp) was organized for the inmates of BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan and BOSCO Rainbow Home at Don Bosco, Ajjanahalli from May 2 to 16, 2019. The fifteen-day camp included sessions on effective communication, self-confidence, problem solving, and activities such as 'My Dream House', basket making, jewellery making, nail art, mehndi drawing, face painting, hair style competition, rangoli competition, learning language creatively, visits to the village and staging mime shows on general hygiene, importance of saving the girl child, interacting with the people, cooking, trekking, yoga meditation, etc. The camp also included recreation for the girls, screening of motivational videos, formation of gratitude circle, parliament, group activities and campfire.

On the last day the girls put up a programme expressing gratitude to the community of Don Bosco Ajjanahalli - Rev. Fr. Maria Julian, Rector, Fr. Siju, Administrator, Fr. John Peter, clerics Roshan and Yesuraj. The children were given prizes during the programme. Some of the paintings of the children were presented to the Fathers and Brothers as a token of memory. The activities and sessions were conducted by Ms. Ajantha, Ms. Saroja, Ms. Mary Shamala, Sr. Malika and Ms. Shruthi. Seventy four girls were part of this programme.



Summer Camp for Area Children



BOSCO Yuvakendra conducted seven day summer camp for area children from May 14 to May 24, 2019 at the centre. The weeklong programme included activities such as songs, dance, drawing, painting, crafts, drama, quiz, screening of motivational videos and awareness on child rights, child related issues, child helpline, foster care, etc.

Inaugurating the Valedictory program, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO, Bengaluru, spoke about gender equality and equity. Mr. Ravi Chandra and Mr. Umesh, Sub Inspectors of Police, KP Agrahara Police Station, and Mr. Sundar Satya Moorthi, Head Master, Govt. Primary School, Magadi, spoke about the importance of education. Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO CREAM Project and Silvy, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra interacted with children. Cultural programs were conducted by area children and BOSCO youth. Thirty area children attended the camp.

Summer Camp for BOSCO Vikas

BOSCO Vikas organized summer camp for its inmates from May 2 to May 22, 2019 at Don Bosco Vidyakshetra, Prakashpalya. Fr. KD Varghese, Rector, Don Bosco Prakashpalaya and Fr. Michael, Administrator, were present for the inaugural function. Fr. John Paul, Dean of studies, spoke about the importance of the camp and the rules to be followed during the camp.

Children enjoyed playing treasure hunt. On Sundays children were taken to nearby temples, Gaganachukki, Talakdu, Malai Mahadeshwara Hill and Hogenikkal Falls for outing. Competitions were held regularly for dance, singing, football, cricket and volley ball.

During the camp Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO, Bengaluru and Fr. John MA, Administrator, BOSCO, Bengaluru visited the children and cheered them up with their inspiring thoughts and words. The sessions were taken by the teachers of the centre with the support of Pappiah, Coordinator, BOSCO Vikas, Babu, Asst. Coordinator, BOSCO Vikas, Br. Albin, Br. Subin and Br. Vimal. Fifty-two children participated in the camp.

Join Hands to Trace Missing Children!

BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE organized International Missing Child Day in collaboration with RPF and International Justice Mission (IJM) at KSR Railway Station, Bengaluru on May 25, 2019. The programme was inaugurated by Ms. Deba Smitha DSC, RPF, Mr. Shridhar Murthy Sr/DCM, Mr. A.K Varma, DRM, Mr. Santhosh Hegde, Station Director, KSR Railway Station and Mr. Purushotham Nair, Deputy SMR.

The introductory remarks were given by Ms. Deba Smitha regarding missing children and the role of RPF in the rescue process. *Nemmadi Kala Thanda* sang songs on child rights and importance of childhood. The RPF organized signature campaign during the program. The staff from IJM organization explained about child trafficking and the ways to prevent child



trafficking. Press conference was conducted and the media was briefed about the information and numbers of missing children in Karnataka. Sixty RPF officials, IJM staff and Railway CHILDLINE team participated in the programme.

Orientation Class on Career Options



An Orientation Class for students who had passed the SSLC exams was conducted at BOSCO Nilaya on May 1, 2019. The students were given information about Pre-University courses and Diploma courses available. They were asked to choose a course by keeping various aspects such as interest, scope, etc., in mind.

It was said that the course that they choose will reflect on their further education. Screening procedure for seat allotment was also explained. Students were guided on procedures, documents and fees required for applying for colleges. Ms. Priya, Program Manager, CRY was the resource person. Ms. Akila, Tuition Teacher was also present. Five students benefitted from the orientation.

Networking Meeting



Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized a meeting with CWC members, DCPU staff and Government Home officials at Tumkur on May 10, 2019. Ms. Lakshmi, CWC Member, Tumkur, welcomed the participants.

Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, Foster Care Programme, started with introduction about Bosco, its services, explained about CHILDLINE toll free number (1098), foster care, selection criteria of potential parents & children, to whom the awareness can be given, age group of children, time frame of placement, follow up of children, legal procedures, roles and responsibilities of CWC. CWC members informed that the foster care programme was already being implemented and that they had placed some children in foster care families. Mr. Shivanna, P.O, proposed vote of thanks. Nine members participated in the meeting.



‘Namma Palli Father’ is Back...

Yes. Indeed! When the news about his transfer was first received, ‘*Namma Palli Father vaapas bartha iddare*’ (our Palli Father is coming back) was the initial reaction of people who had known him and his service for the less privileged, for a long time.

Fr. Vargese Pallipuram SDB, fondly known as ‘Palli Father’, is a Salesian of Don Bosco, belonging to the Salesian province of Bangalore. His first spell in BOSCO Bengaluru was from 1990-1999. He still continued to be part of BOSCO (at Don Bosco Yuvakaragrama, Ajjanahalli, Magadi) from 1999-2009. He has two books, ‘Street Presence’ and ‘Glow in the Horizon’ to his credit. After a gap of twenty years, he has returned to BOSCO, Bengaluru. At this juncture, he bares his heart about changing social scenario, the plight of children and the challenges ahead, in an exclusive interview with E-Street Voice.



What are the thoughts uppermost in your mind as you return to BOSCO?

The issue has to be explored further. Though these children are at times with their families, they still belong to the vulnerable category. A research study could be undertaken, regarding the plight of children and families who are migrant laborers coming search of work to Bengaluru.

I am happy to return to BOSCO after a gap of twenty years. I always had a special love for the needy children. But I sense that I have to work in a different ambient and a social scenario. Those days, a larger number of children were landing on the streets. At present, thanks to the various structures like CWC, DCPU, CHILDLINE etc., working in every district and state, the inflow of children to the city has come down considerably. However, the number of children/ adolescents coming from other states of India, especially Northern parts of the state and country for work are on the rise.

Do you envisage any innovative way in which the scenario can be effectively addressed?

Your views about the considerable number of cases of elopement of minors?

The increasing number of such cases is a grave concern. Parents, guardians and teachers need to spend time with the children and educate them about the need to nurture healthy relationships.

Are there apparent connections between the irresponsible use of new media/social media and increasing instances of elopement of minors?

The issue needs to be explored further. A research could be undertaken about the impact of media and increasing number of cases of elopement of minors.

Adios Amigos!



Sincere thanks to Fr. Edward time.

Thomas and Fr. Rubin who rendered their valuable service at the organization. Fr. Edward Thomas has handled various portfolios during the years and has steered the organization from the helm as the Executive Director for a term. Though he has moved from BOSCO, he would continue to assist in the implementation of the Missing Child Bureau (MCB), for a specified period of



After having been in BOSCO as the Director of Railway CHILDLINE, BOSCO Yuvodaya and other projects for two years, Fr. Panthackal Rubin has been appointed as the Assistant Director of Bangalore Rural Education and Development Society (BREADS) and Director of BEST Academy, Bengaluru. We wish them all the best!



Shaale Kade Nanna Nade Campaign

Inauguration of the week long enrolment and re-enrolment awareness campaign of school drop outs, and out of school children into mainstream schools - Shaale Kade Nanna Nade was flagged off in the working areas of BOSCO Bengaluru on May 20, 2019. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, briefed about the importance of education and enrolment. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Prasad, Director, CHILDLINE, BOSCO Bengaluru spoke about the purpose of organizing the programme to bring back drop outs into schools from the different areas of Bengaluru. Fr. George CV, Director, Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), other staff participated in the inauguration held in various areas.

CREAM Project, BOSCO Bengaluru with the support of BOSCO Yuvakendra, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, BOSCO Nilaya, BOSCO Nivas, Child Safety Net (CSN) and CHILDLINE organized the campaign at various vulnerable areas of the city. People from various communities appreciated BOSCO and its work. They ensured that they will enroll children into



schools. RMSA, BRC, CRP, SDMC, H.Ms, teachers from Education department, Ward Counsellors, officials from ICDS Department, Police Department, Child Welfare Committee, Bala Vikas Samithi, Youth, Community leaders, SHG, CRC were involved in the campaign. The week long campaign was conducted under the guidance and presence of Fr. Regi and Fr. Prasad.

Health Screening Camp



CRY, BOSCO organized Health Screening Camp for Badminton aspirants on May 17, 2019 at Brindavan Aerion Hospital, Bengaluru. Prashanth Jain, Orthopaedic Surgeon and Dr. Sharanu, Physician, examined the children. All the children aspiring to take up badminton were examined thoroughly by the physician and certified with a fitness certificate.

Mr. Ravindran, General Manager, Mr. Munni Raj and Mr. Rakesh, Consultants Brindavan Aerion Hospital assisted to carry out the health camp. Medicines and Protein powder were distributed to the children. Ten children aspiring to take up Badminton availed the services of the screening camp.

Exposure Visits

BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli organized an exposure visit for the youth undergoing bakery training to Vinayaka Bakery, Koramangala, Bengaluru on May 15, 2019. Youth received tips on hours of working, educational qualification/training required to take up the work, and how to start a bakery. The youth went around the bakery and observed the working style of the bakers.

Another exposure visit for the youth undergoing training in welding, to a welding and fabrication centre at Kamakshipalya Industrial Area, Bengaluru on May 27, 2019. Youth were introduced to the welding process, different types of welding, their purpose and the use of oxygen cylinders. They came to know about the working hours and the educational qualification required for taking up the trade. Five Trainees benefitted from the exposure visit. Mr. Antony Swamy, Instructor, Life Skill Training Centre, accompanied the youth.

You cared To touch!

Success Story



The greatest achievement in life are the ones that are most difficult to overcome. The challenges that require you to give it your all, and leave everything out there. In life failure has a negative connotation, but what most people don't know is that failures are actually the stepping stones that lead us to success.

I am Dinesh Kumar hailing from Bengaluru, lost my Parents at the age of three, became an orphan and I lost hope at that young age but didn't give up. After a few days, the family of a doctor adopted me. While I grew up, I couldn't bear the ill-treatment at home and I ran away so many times and finally I decided to leave my home for good.

When I left home, I had nothing except the clothes I was wearing. Left home and settled down on the street at Hosur Road, did odd jobs until a fine day when I heard that at Tirupati there is a place where I could get free food and shelter. So, I went to Tirupati. As I didn't feel like staying there, I returned to Bengaluru. A police man found me and referred to BOSCO.

I have been in BOSCO for more than twelve years. I received education, care, shelter and love. I feel that I am really blessed by Almighty God. Things that happen to us in the beginning of our lives, during the childhood, very often have a great impact on our entire existence in this world. The best thing that can happen to a man in his early years is some kind of revelation that would show him what he is supposed to do in his life.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that one of the most important aspects of our lives is our work, something to which we dedicate most of our time – and to choose the right option from the very beginning is an exceptional blessing. In my opinion, one of the most difficult steps in every

beginning is to actually choose what to do, and choose it correctly.

Sometimes I have failed in my own rights, but I think, that is normal. All of us at one point or another have faced challenges and difficulties. I am grateful to my mentors, Sheeba aunty, Manavi aunty, Silvy aunty and Bharathi aunty who tried to change my behaviour through counselling, motivation etc. I really thank you for your hard work and moulding me to the person I am.

I am really thankful Fr. George PS who believed in me, gave a second chance to study at BOSCO Vikas and supported with various learning activities. I am grateful to another mentor, MD. Shafi who motivated me and made me identify and nurture my talents.

Joji Uncle is another significant person in my life. He supported me to pursue higher studies, PUC at St. Joseph college and Degree at Christ University. Fr. Mathew, Fr. John and Fr. Rubin who have accompanied me throughout as I pursued my studies through guidance and motivation. Currently, I just finished my Bachelors Degree in Hotel management at Christ University (A four-year course). The course which I specialised in is kitchen and bakery. Additional course is in marketing. Once again, I thank BOSCO for making me who I am!

The Journey of Maruthi!

Maruthi Prakash Mavarkar hails from Bagalkot, Mudhol Taluk. He is an orphan. He was survived by his maternal uncle. He dropped out of school after 9th STD. He left home and reached Bengaluru in November 2017. After trying his hand at various odd jobs for almost three months he came away and landed in Majestic Bus Stand, Bengaluru and was rescued by BOSCO.

He spent few days at BOSCO Yuvodaya and was later transferred to BOSCO Yuvakendra. On completion of two months' stay at the centre, as he expressed his desire to undergo Skill Training (Two-Wheeler Mechanic), he was sent to BOSCO Sumanahalli (Life Skill Training Centre).

Maruthi showed keen interest in learning the trade and completed six months course in two-wheeler mechanic. While undergoing the skill training, he persistently informed the counselors and authorities at the centre that he wants to pursue his studies. Considering his sustained

interest, he was referred to Don Bosco Yuvakara-grama, Ajjanahalli, Magadi. He was directly enrolled to 10th Standard at Rural Residential High School, Ajjanahalli.

He continued his studies, staying at the centre. Maruthi says, "Had it not been for the care, understanding and support that I received at BOSCO institutions, I would have reached nowhere in life."

Maruthi appeared for SSLC exam and scored 64.16 %. Now he wishes to go back to stay with his maternal uncle and sister. He wishes to continue his higher education staying with his family. His dream is to have his own two-wheeler showroom and run business.





**EXAM
RESULTS**

PUC Results



Shridevi

Shridevi, a native from Belgaum, was rescued by BOSCO CHILDLINE and brought to BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan. She continued her studies from Vatsalya Bhavan and completed her PUC II during 2018-19. She secured 83% marks and taken admission for LLB course. She aspires to become an advocate.



Nagrathna

Nagrathna hails from Mandya. She has no father. Her mother works as a sweeper in the bus stand. She passed her PUC II scoring 78% marks and has taken admission in BA.

Pooja

Hailing from Gulbarga, she was rescued 2016. She appeared for PUC exams and passed with 43% marks. She aspires to pursue BA.



Sanju Raj

Sanju is a native of Mysore, Karnataka. Sanju was admitted to BOSCO Vikas in 2006 and enrolled in Model High School, Chamarajpete, Bangalore. He studied up to SSLC in this school. However, he could not clear the exams at the first attempt. So, he was sent to Sumanahalli to undergo skill training. Simultaneously he prepared for his exams and appeared for the exams in 2017. He went on to complete PUC from Don Bosco College Prakashpalaya, Kollegal with 68.3%. He wants to pursue ITI.

BOSCO: Homelink Child MISS MONTHLY REPORT



May- 2019



--	Male	Female	Total
Children rescued	169	34	203
Service provided	123	28	151
Grand Total	292	62	354

Service Provided

Center/Area	Male	Female	Total
Railway Childline	22	02	24
Bangalore Bus stand	05	02	07
BOSCO Yuvodaya	00	00	00
BOSCO Vatslyabhavan	00	11	11
CSN	38	01	39
BOSCO Nivas	08	02	10
BOSCO Nilaya	12	02	14
BOSCO Mane Child line	09	07	16
ARSP	29	01	30
TOTAL	123	28	151

Final Action Taken:

Placement	Boys	Girls	Total
Referred to BOSCO Centers	08	06	14
Home Placement	68	09	77
Produced before CWC	88	17	105
Shishumandir	00	01	01
Referred to OH	00	00	00
Referred back to Hostels	02	00	02
Referred back to school	00	00	00
Recommended to Gurukula	00	00	00
Recommended to Hostel	00	00	00
Referred back to police	03	01	04
Counselled and Sent/ Went off	00	00	00
Data is not available	00	00	00
TOTAL	169	34	203

Classification Report

Classification	Boys	Girls	Total
Accompanied	16	02	18
Unaccompanied	153	32	185
TOTAL	169	34	203