

June 01– August 31 2020

*Monthly Newsletter from BOSCO Bengaluru**Editorial Note...***Spirit of Ubuntu**

Archbishop Desmond Tutu once said, “We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world.” Ubuntu, a word of South African origin broadly means that ‘I am because we are.’ According to the concept, the sense of self is shaped by one’s relationship with the other, including everything that is in the universe.

At the beginning of the year 2020, no one would have possibly thought that a virus (Novel Coronavirus) that originated in one country would ever have such far

reaching consequences. From economic status to social relationships to environment, to the fear in the collective psyche of people, the pandemic arguably has had a tangible impact.

As we venture to make a difference in the lives of the underprivileged children and youth, may we become aware of the impact we would be able to make in their lives and conduct ourselves accordingly.

*Fr. Prasad SDB***Independence Day Celebrations**

Independence Day was celebrated at the Centres of BOSCO on August 15, 2020. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru inaugurated the programme by hoisting the National Flag. Sweets were distributed to the children. BOSCO Mane and Vikas celebrated Independence Day in the

presence of Fr. Binny, Director, BOSCO Vikas and Fr. John MA, Director and Administrator, BOSCO Mane. Fr. John hoisted the flag and gave a message. Papaiah, Coordinator, BOSCO Vikas, briefed about freedom struggle and freedom fighters. Later party games were conducted and prizes were distributed to the winners. Forty-three children and residential staff participated in the celebrations.

At the Rainbow Home, celebrations began with the hoisting of the flag by children and staff. In the evening, cultural programme was

organized. The programme included speech, dance, tableau. Fr. John MA, Director, BOSCO Rainbow Home, gave message on Independence Day to the children. Sr. Leena, HMC, Sr. Suganya, Ms. Basamma and fifty-five children were present during the celebration.

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan celebrated Independence Day on the theme “Atmanirbharbharath”. Sr. Sheeba, Director-in-Charge, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan gave an inspirational speech on the importance of Independence Day. Children performed dance and skit. Sweets were distributed to the children.

BOSCO Observes World Day Against Child Labour

BOSCO Child Safety Net (CSN), Bus stand and Railway Station teams observed 'World Day against Child Labour' on the theme "Watch out" and protect children, on June 12, 2020. CSN Team went to different areas in order to make general public aware of child labour and its effects on children. Team met different families and gave awareness on child labour. Team visited Kengeri, Jnanabharathi, Raja Rajeshwari Nagar police station and met Police Inspector and sought permission to stick Anti Child Labour Day stickers on the notice board. The team along with Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru went to Mahalaxmi layout APMC area and met Lorry association leader and with his permission gave awareness to lorry drivers and cleaners. Team also visited different areas and stuck posters in public places, bus stops and auto stands.

BOSCO Bus stand team under the guidance of Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, observed Anti Child labour Day on June 12, 2020 by pasting stickers on various tea shops, platforms, auto rickshaws, and buses and distributed pamphlets to bus drivers, conductors, security guards, police, traffic controllers and general public creating awareness about child labor and its impact on children in BMTC & KSRTC Bus Stand Areas.



Railway CHILDLINE team conducted awareness about child labour to the railway officials, different stakeholders, general public and migrant passengers in the Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station, Bengaluru on June 12, 2020. With the permission of railway authorities, pamphlets were distributed to the general public. Masks were distributed to the stakeholders and snacks were given to the migrant passengers with the support of BREADS, Bengaluru. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Director, BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE and Fr. Rubin Mathew, Director, BREADS, Bengaluru were present in the programme along with the team. Around thousand five hundred people were benefitted from this programme.

Induction Training Programme



Human Resource Department, BOSCO Bengaluru organized Induction Training Program for the newly appointed staff, at BOSCO Yuvodaya on June 20, 2020. Fr. John MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru briefed about programs and services of BOSCO. Mr.

Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme and Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO CREAM and ECCE programmes, oriented the staff on child rights and child laws. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas engaged the staff in an activity-based session and explained about Don Bosco's Preventive System of Education and Values. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya took session on Child Welfare Committee (CWC), procedures and Juvenile Justice Act. Mr. Prashantha Murthy, HR Manager, briefed about the HR policy of BOSCO. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram welcomed the newly appointed staff and proposed the vote of thanks. Thirteen participants attended the training.

World Environment Day Celebrations



BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan organized World Environment Day for the inmates of the centre on June 5, 2020. Addressing the group, Ms. Sheeba Thomas, Director In-charge, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, exhorted the staff and children to be more nature friendly and play an active role in saving the nature. She spoke about the significance of knowing our environment and ways to protect natural resources from deterioration. Possible ways of saving electricity, water and maintaining greenery around the centre were discussed. Children were assigned to draw and paint on the theme 'environment day.'

Children were told that small steps taken towards preserving nature and greenery would make a big differ-

ence in the years to come. Children promised to take care of nature in their daily life. Thirty-five children and eight staff were a part of this programme.

Youth of BOSCO Sumanahalli celebrated World Environment Day by planting saplings and cleaning the garden in the premises of the centre on June 5, 2020. Shruthi, Coordinator, BOSCO Sumanahalli gave a brief introduction on the importance and purpose of celebrating the day. She spoke about the importance of conserving and protecting nature and reducing pollution. Eighteen youth and seven staff were a part of this activity.

BOSCO Nilaya organized World Environment Day for the staff at the centre on June 6, 2020. The purpose of the programme was to enlighten the staff on conserving the earth and contributing to its wellbeing. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, CREAM and ECCE Projects, introduced medicinal plants and briefed about their qualities. Staff were encouraged to grow such plants in their homes and teach children about the need to cultivate them. Staff planted the plants in flower pots, placed in the office and pledged to take care of these plants. They also promised to cultivate these habits in children. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and BOSCO Nivas and eleven staff participated.

Online Consultation Programme

The Concerned for Working Children (CWC) organized Consultation with Youths, Children and Adolescents on Gender empowerment and age of marriage for young girls on July 10, 2020 through Zoom app. The meet was held in the context of the efforts made by Task Force, Ministry of Women and Child Development to consult with various experts in the grassroots level and common people to increase the age of marriage for girls from 18 to 21 years.

Ms. Nishita Khajane, The CWC, welcomed the gathering and shared the instructions for the webinar. Ms. Kavitha, Director, CWC, facilitated the program. Ms. Tanisha and Ms. Ranjana, Nehru Makkala Sangha



Image courtesy : crowdwisdom.live

Child Rights Club, CREAM, BOSCO participated along with Ms. Priya, Social Activist, CREAM, BOSCO, Bengaluru. Forty children from 14 districts of Karnataka participated in the Consultation.

Online Training for Foster Care Project Partners



BOSCO Foster Care Programme organized online training via Google Duo Meet for the Directors and Social Mobilizers of the project across ten districts of Karnataka, from BOSCO Mane on July 13, 2020. Addressing the participants, Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, briefed about child Rights, foster care, types of foster care, rights of child in foster family, roles & responsibilities of parents, identification of foster parents, weaning period, docu-

ments to be collected from potential parents, difference between adoption and foster care.

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Director, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, briefed about the new project and the activities to be taken up during the year. The activities included Public Awareness programmes to various target groups like Self Help Group Members, Panchayat Raj Institutions, Anganawadi Mothers, Anganawadi Teachers, Asha Workers, Religious leaders, School Primary Teachers; Advocacy Meetings, networking with Government and non-government agencies, identifying potential foster parents and children, etc. He explained about the budget for each program and responsibilities of Social Mobilizers. Ms. Nandini, Asst. Coordinator, Foster Care Programme, briefed about the documents to be maintained for the implementation of the Foster Care project.

International Youth Day Celebrations



International Youth Day was celebrated at BOSCO Yuvakendra on August 12, 2020. The day meant to signify and highlight the importance of young people, not just as a future generation, but as the current driving force of change in the world. Brother Lijo facilitated the programme with a group activity by introducing a 'Youth Tree' where youth were explained that a dry tree represents the society and youths are leaves. In order to make the tree green, youths were motivated to write their goals and feelings on the leaves and stick them on the tree.

The youths took part in the activities with enthusiasm. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra addressed the youths with motivational words, followed by group song and skit by youths on COVID-19. Twelve youth of the centre participated in the celebration.

Stakeholders' Awareness Programmes



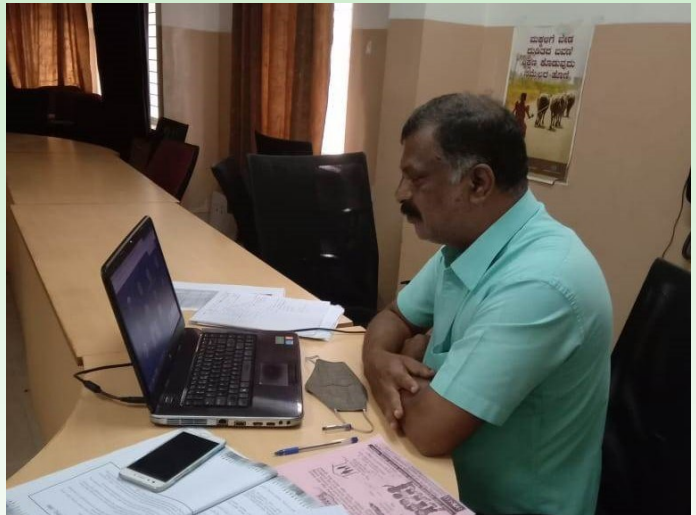
BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE (BRCL) organized awareness programmes for the Coolie Porters, Mechanical Staff, Housekeeping Staff and Platform Sweepers of Kranthiveera Sangolli Rayanna (KSR) Railway Station, Bengaluru on August 11, 12 and 13, 2020. The team briefed about the procedure for child rescue and intervention due to COVID-19 pandemic, the medical and quarantine facilities for the children rescued and the support of the stakeholders in ensuring the safety of the children in need of care and support.

The stakeholders requested for facemasks and hand sanitizers to be provided from BOSCO. Nine Coolie Porters, ten Mechanical Staff, fourteen Housekeeping Staff and seventeen Platform Sweepers attended the awareness programmes.

Foster Care Online Training

Online training for Government officials, CHILDLINE Staff and NGO Staff of Bengaluru Rural District was organized by BOSCO Foster Care with the help of Mr. Manjunath, Rural CHILDLINE Coordinator on August 13, 2020. Ms. Hemalatha, DCPO, Bengaluru Rural, said that Foster Care was not promoted in Bengaluru Rural. She felt that more awareness is to be created and all the CCIs are to be informed about foster care concept, adoption process and placements so as to create a family environment for the children.

Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care briefed about BOSCO, its centers, services and projects, some important acts such as Child Labour Prohibition Act, Juvenile Justice Act, Right to Education Act, Child Marriage Prevention Act and POCSO Act. Adoption, Foster care concept and procedures were discussed. He mentioned about the pilot study conducted by BOSCO.



Mr. Ramu, Chairperson, Member, CWC, Bengaluru Rural said that there are many orphan children who need a family. He exhorted everyone to create a family environment. Mr. Shivappa, DCPU, said that they had published Foster Care application for placement and shared about his visit to Group Foster Care house under BOSCO's supervision. Around twenty-five Government officials and NGO staff participated in the online training.

Health Camps Organized



BOSCO Health Care Department in collaboration with Community Medium Department, St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru organized health camps for the children of Mane, Vikas, Vatsalya Bhavan, Yuvakendra and Yuvodaya at the respective centres on August 1, 8 and 11, 2020 respectively. The camps were organized for early detection and prevention of sickness in children. Most of the children had returned from their homes to the centres after lockdown and were placed

in quarantine. The camp offered eye check-up, dental check-up, and general health check-up. Health issues of children like cold, cough, congestion and other related problems were also attended to by Dr. Selvaraj Abraham and his team.

All children were administered iron pills, vitamin tablets and albendazole tablets for de-worming. Fifteen boys each from Vikas and Mane, four boys from Yuvakendra, forty girls of Vatsalya Bhavan and thirty-four children from Yuvodaya and surrounding areas availed the services of the camp.

Mental Wellness during COVID 19 Pandemic

BOSCO Yuvakendra organized an online workshop on mental wellness for the youth residing at the centre on June 13, 2020. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Shana, Trainer, MPower, Bengaluru. The organization works with various non-governmental organizations providing services for holistic mental wellbeing through workshops and trainings.



EXAM RESULTS

SSLC Results



63.52%

Sushmitha E

Sushmitha E, hails from an economically poor background. She was admitted in BOSCO Rainbow Home in 2018. Sushmitha scored 63.52% in SSLC exam. She wants to pursue her higher studies.

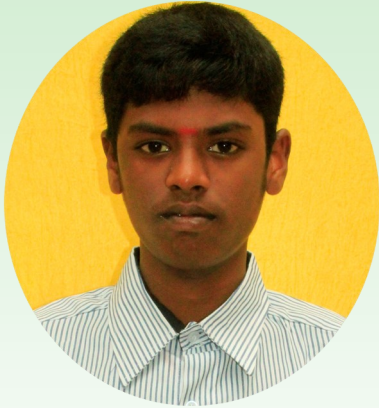
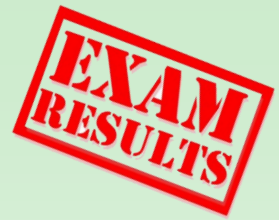
Gagana

Gagana, hails from an economically poor family at Hosakote. She has both parents. Father is a wood cutter and mother, house wife. She was placed to BOSCO Rainbow Home by CWC, Bengaluru Rural. She is very enthusiastic and hard-working. She scored 66.08%.

66.08%



SSLC Results



62.66%

Vinay

Vinay is a native of Bengaluru. His parents could not afford his education. He was brought by his mother to BOSCO Mane in 2016. He underwent bridge course for one week and was shifted to BOSCO Vikas. He has scored 62.66% marks in SSLC exams.

Vishnu

Vishnu is a native of Kolar District. He was regular to the school. With the help of some of the neighbors, Vishnu was admitted to BOSCO Mane in June 2016. After being there for a week was sent to BOSCO Vikas. He completed SSLC in 2020 by scoring 56.5% marks.

56.5%



Mohammed Waseem

Mohammed Waseem resident of Mackan Compound community and student of BOSCO Nivas tuition centre has secured 59.16% in SSLC. The child is an active participant of all BOSCO activities. The child aspires to become a doctor and hence he wants to take up PCMB combination in 11th and 12th grades. Waseem and his family are thankful to BOSCO for motivating and extending constant support.



59.16%

Ms. Maria A,

Ms. Maria A, resident of Ambedkar Huts community, Frazer Town, Bengaluru is a regular student in Nivas Tuition Centre. She has secured 51.33% in her SSLC exams. The child aspires to become a Teacher.

59.16%



PUC Results



**EXAM
RESULTS**

Gayathri

Gayathri hails from Bengaluru. She was enrolled in BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan in 2018. Gayathri, being a bright student, always aims high. She has scored 85% in PUC. Presently she is planning to take up BBA.

85%



Anitha,

Anitha, native of Davangere, was admitted in Vatsalya Bhavan in 2018. She is very much interested in studying further and make a life of her own. She scored 75% for the PUC exams. She wants to do BA course.

75%



Nagaratna

Nagaratna hails from Bengaluru. She joined Vatsalya Bhavan in 2017. She wants to pursue her higher studies. She has scored 72% in her PUC II year.

72%



Abhirami

Abhirami hails from Bengaluru, Karnataka. Abhirami was given admission in BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan in October, 2017. She has completed her PUC II year by securing 45% of marks. She wants to become a teacher.

45%



Vinod Kumar B.

Vinod Kumar B. hails from Banni Mantapa, Mysore. When he was studying his 9th standard in December 2016, Vinod Kumar came across BOSCO Nilaya and became a resident at BOSCO Nilaya. He completed his PUC II year with 83% of marks.

83%

