



# E-Street Voice

*Monthly Newsletter from BOSCO Bengaluru*

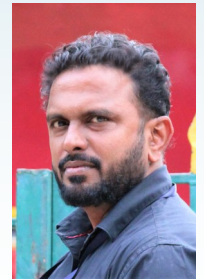
## *Editorial Note...*

### Of 'Equality' and 'Privilege'

"All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal," goes the quote from the famous novel, 'Animal Farm', by George Orwell. International Human Rights Day was celebrated with the theme, 'Equality- Reducing inequalities, advancing human rights,' on December 10, 2021. Ensuring equality to all human beings might at the very outset look like a daunting task. Unless efforts to guarantee equality to all in all realms of human experience become a relentless process, it would most certainly remain a mirage.

It is rather unfortunate and ironic that even those who speak volumes about equality make efforts to secure special privileges when required. The commoner is forced to wait in line in public places and even at places of worship and pilgrimage centers because of the visit of VIPs or the so called 'public servants.'

Hapless commuters are often held up for hours in the scorching Sun and dense traffic conditions because of the movement of 'people of importance.' The progenies of the rich and the powerful are granted effortless entry to prestigious academic institutions while the meritorious ones are conveniently overlooked; suitable candidates are often shown the door while the ones with wealth and influence get into coveted offices and positions. And the list goes on. Working with the poor and marginalized let us strive to make efforts to provide that extra portion to the less privileged than to the affluent that the former may have an equal footing in the journey called life.



*Fr. Prasad SDB*

## Reduce Inequalities, Advance Human Rights



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 center 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, color, religion, sex, language, political, 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 and twenty-six youth and eighteen tuition children from Yuvakendra participated in the event.

## 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, the Government programmes like ICDS and ICPS, JJB and CWC, laws related to children such as 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 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.

## Training for Child Rights Club Members



CREAM, BOSCO Bengaluru organized the first and second levels of training for the members of Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) at eighteen schools in Bengaluru Urban and Rural, during December 2021. CREAM staff briefed about BOSCO, CREAM, and CHILDLINE. Children gained knowledge about UNCRC, child rights, child-related laws, and children in difficult situations. Children were motivated to call 1098, the child helpline number during difficult situations. Children expressed that this training helped them to become better individuals and empower them to fight for their rights. Three hundred and twenty children attended the training.

## 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. They are working at construction sites. Awareness was given on health and hygiene and also on KISMAT Helpline numbers and services. The team conducted activities for the children and distributed sweets.

# Christmas Celebrations



BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, Yuvakendra, Yuvodaya, Nilaya, Nivas, Rainbow Home, Mane, Vikas, and Sumanahalli organized Christmas Celebrations with children and youth from December 21 to 24, 2021 at their respective centres.

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan organized Christmas celebrations on December 22, 2021. The Programme began with the inauguration of the crib by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru. He gave a message on selfless love and helping the needy. The children danced and sang songs. Two hundred and fifty children, parents, and Guardians were a part of the celebrations.

BOSCO Yuvodaya celebrated Christmas along with the children at the open shelter and migrants from the Gandhinagar Area on December 24, 2021. The pro-

gram was inaugurated by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru. He shared the importance and value of Christmas. Few games were conducted for the children and surprise gifts were given. Sixty-four children participated in the programme.

CSN Team, BOSCO Bengaluru distributed Christmas cake and sweets to Namma Shaale tuition children. More than two hundred and fifty children received sweets and cakes.

BOSCO Yuvakendra celebrated Christmas at the centre on December 23, 2021, along with the inmates, past pupils, and their families. Fr. Pradeep, Rector, Amalodbhava Maate Church, Magadi Road, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. CV George, Salesian In-charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, Fr. John MA, Director, BOSCO Rainbow Home, and Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra inaugurated the crib. Fr. Pradeep spoke about sharing love with everyone. Youths at the centre distributed cake and new year calendars to KP Agrahara Police Officials. Twenty-six youth



## Christmas Celebrations



from the centre, sixteen past pupils and their families were part of the celebrations.

Christmas celebration for the children of the four working areas of Shivajinagar was held on December 21, 2021, by BOSCO Nivas at the centre.

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya and Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nivas presided over the gathering. Children staged cultural programmes. A hundred children were part of the celebrations.

BOSCO Nilaya organized a Christmas celebration at the centre on December 22, 2021. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, narrated the story of the birth of Jesus. Dignitaries inaugurated the crib. Staff performed carols. Children performed various programs including dances and skits. Hundred and seventy children and tuition teachers from ten tuition centres and thirty neighbours and sponsors participated in the program.

Celebrations at BOSCO Sumanahalli started with the inauguration of the crib on December 22, 2021. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, Fr. Jerome, Director, Anugraha, Fr. Regi, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, and Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane, Fr. Joshi, Director, BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli graced the occasion. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive director, said that the celebration of Christmas should help everyone to reach out to the poor with love and concern. Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, spoke on the occasion

and encouraged everyone to imbibe the spirit of Christmas. Children from BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, and children from the Devaraj Urs area participated in the Christmas celebration. Sixty youth and children participated in the celebration.

BOSCO Mane, Vikas, and Rainbow Home celebrated Christmas at the centres on December 23, 2021. The celebrations included cultural programmes, from the children, messages from the Directors, and sweet distribution and cake cutting from Santa.

### Christmas Celebrations with Staff



BOSCO Bengaluru celebrated Christmas with staff at BOSCO Sumanahalli, Bengaluru, on December 18, 2021. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, briefed 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 the children at risk even in the most challenging situations. He exhorted everyone to continue with the same zeal and attitude towards the 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.

## Public Awareness at Railway Stations and Bus Stands

Public awareness programs were conducted by BOSCO Adjacent Railway Street Presence (ARSP) team at the Satellite Bus Stand, Kengeri, and at the entrance and platforms of Kengeri Railway Station, Bengaluru on December 6 and 7, 2021. 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 child welfare committee. Around two hundred and twenty public and passengers were given pamphlets.

Public Awareness was organized at Shivajinagar Bus Stand by BOSCO Nivas on December 6, 2021, to create awareness among people about child rights violations, child helpline, vocational training, and remedial classes available at the centre. Hand bills with information about CHILDLINE and BOSCO services were distributed to the public, bus drivers and conductors, auto drivers, and shop keepers.

BMTC officials at Shivajinagar appreciated the work of BOSCO. The public and stakeholders were requested to take note of the child helpline number and support BOSCO to rescue and protect the children at risk. The team reached out to around a hundred people through the awareness programme.



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 December 2021. The team disseminated information regarding BOSCO and its activities, child rights, child care, and protection, child laws, child-related issues, and child assistance centre in the busstands by way of distributing pamphlets to more than a thousand public and commuters. They requested the public to call the child helpline when they find any child in distress.

## Foster Care Programmes

BOSCO Foster Care Programme organized awareness sessions for the Self-Help Group (SHG) members at Hosakote, Bengaluru Rural, and Anganwadi mothers, Anganwadi Center, Yelahanka, Bengaluru on December 1 and 2, 2021 respectively. The primary aim of the programmes was to enable the SHG members and Anganwadi mothers to understand the concept of foster care and alternative family care for those children who are deprived of a family and involve them in disseminating the information in their communities to identify prospective foster parents and children.

Mr. Obalesh. K, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Foster Care Programme briefed about BOSCO activities,



legal procedures involved in adoption and foster care, and CHILDLINE toll-free number. He clarified the queries put forth by target groups. Twenty-one SHG members and twenty-two Anganwadi mothers attended the awareness sessions.

## Adolescent Girls' Meetings



BOSCO Nivas organized a session on safety precautions and self-defense for the adolescent girls of Shivajinagar at the center on December 9, 2021. The team spoke about the precautions to be taken while using the internet and social media and the advantages and disadvantages of chatting over the phone. Priya Malini, Coordinator, BOSCO Nivas explained to the girls about the proper usage of the internet and safety measures to be taken while using social media by ask-

ing 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 attended the meeting.

A meeting was organized for the adolescent girls at Vyayaam Shaale, Cement Huts, Vinobha Nagar, and Ramanna Garden by BOSCO Nilaya on December 15, 2021. Ms. Bhagyalakshmi, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Nilaya explained the importance of reading. She explained about safe and unsafe touch. Ms. Brunda, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Nilaya explained about girl's safety and menstrual hygiene. Ms. Kalai-vani, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Nilaya gave awareness about COVID and precautions to be taken against the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave. Ms. Archana, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Nilaya screened Komal video for the children. Goal setting was explained. Forty-seven adolescent girls attended the meeting.

## Awareness Programmes Organized



BOSCO Child Safety Net (CSN) team conducted a school awareness programme at Govt. Model Higher Primary School, Farooquia Nagar, Padarayanpura, Bengaluru on December 7, 2021. The team gave information on 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, Padarayanpura, 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 at BOSCO. Around thirty-five community members attended the programme.

## Stakeholders Awareness



BOSCO Nilaya conducted awareness 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 centers, vocational skill training courses, karate classes, and remedial classes at BOSCO Nilaya. Around two hundred and fifty shopkeepers and vegetable vendors were given awareness.

BOSCO Adjacent Railway Street Presence (ARSP) team conducted awareness to the coolie porters at Cantonment Railway Station, Bengaluru on December 15, 2021. Shekhar and Rangaswamy, Team Members, BOSCO ARSP spoke about BOSCO and its activities, children in distress, child protection mechanisms, child helpline, etc. They requested the stakeholders to support the team by referring the needy children found in the railway station. Fifteen coolie porters attended the session.

## 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 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 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 standard operating procedures. He requested the NGOs to give the 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, and Ms. Bharathi, CWC Members, Bengaluru Rural, and thirty-eight staff from twenty-two NGOs participated in the meeting.

### Survey and Ration Kit distribution



CHILDLINE Collab, BOSCO Bengaluru conducted a survey at the RR Nagar community, near Legacy Apartments, Bengaluru, and identified 79 children, 30 families, and 12 children, and 5 families at Bytarayanapura Community, on December 11, 2021. Thirty ration kits were distributed to 30 families at RR Nagar Community and 5 Ration kits were distributed to 5 families at Bytarayanapura Community. These families are basically from the Gulbarga, Raichur, and Yadgir districts of Karnataka. Most of the parents are working at construction sites. The children attend Government School at Bangarappangudda, Shri Guru Shanthanada School, Nayandahalli, and Government School Bytarayanapura. All families live in shacks made of tarpaulin and sheets.

[WWW.BOSCOBAN.ORG](http://WWW.BOSCOBAN.ORG)

### Value Education on Patience



BOSCO Rainbow Home organized a value education session on ‘Patience’ to the resident girls of the centre on December 28, 2021, to enable children to analyze things and situations beyond their face value and also to help them have inner peace and the ability to keep smiling despite challenges. Sr. Mary Shamala, Counselor, BOSCO Rainbow Home facilitated the session by narrating a moral story on patience, showing a motivational movie, and giving some tips to reduce their anger and handle things with kindness and patience. Twenty-four girls took part in the session.

**E— STREET VOICE**

## Health Awareness Programme

A health awareness program 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 Virus-Covid-19, Omicron, Black fungus, Delta plus variant. 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 nose 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, regular hand wash, gargle, sanitize, take both



dozes of vaccines, maintain social distancing and maintain good ventilation. The resource team put up awareness skit, dance, songs, and games to explain the concept. Forty children were part of the awareness programme.

## Orientation to MSW Students



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 visited BOSCO Bengaluru on December 6 and 10, 2021, to learn the objectives, programs, structure, and staffing under social work perspectives. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, oriented the students on the history of BOSCO, its vision, and mission, programs, projects, activities, etc.

The interactive session helped the students to get clarity on the nature of the work of social workers. Students had an opportunity to interact with Ms. Nagaratna, Chairperson, CWC, and the members. They came to know about the CWC procedures and processes. 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.

## Life Skill Session on Problem Solving



Life Skill session on 'Problem Solving' was organized by BOSCO Rainbow Home for the girls of the centre on December 29, 2021. The session aimed to have self-awareness, identify the issues/difficulties/problems, and tackle them with patience and courage. Sr. Mary Shamala, Counsellor, BOSCO Rainbow Home began the session by asking the girls to join the puzzle dots and remove the knots.

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. Nineteen girls participated in the session.



# BOSCO: Homelink Child MISS MONTHLY REPORT December- 2021



	Male	Female	Total
Children rescued	259	35	294
Service provided	91	42	133
Grand Total	350	77	427

## New Children Data of Contact Center/Area:

Contact Point	Fresh		Repeated		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Railway CHILDLINE	123	04	00	00	127
Bus Stand BMTC	18	02	00	00	20
Bus Stand KSRTC	09	01	00	00	10
BOSCO Yuvodaya	02	00	00	00	02
BOSCO Sumanahalli	01	00	00	00	01
BOSCO Rainbow Home	00	00	00	00	00
BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan	00	02	00	00	02
CHILDLINE	12	15	00	00	27
CSN	34	03	00	00	37
SJPU	09	05	00	00	14
ARSP	51	03	00	00	54
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>294</b>

## Final Action Taken:

Placement	Boys	Girls	Total
Referred to BOSCO Centers	45	15	60
Home Placement	201	12	213
Produced before CWC (Admission)	04	04	08
Referred to OH	03	00	03
Referred to Hostels	06	04	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>294</b>

## Classification Report

Classification	Boys	Girls	Total
Accompanied	12	12	24
Unaccompanied	247	23	270
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>294</b>