



E-Street Voice

Monthly Newsletter from BOSCO Bengaluru

Editorial Note...

In the Name of Love...

'Love goes by haps; Some Cupid kills with arrows, some with traps,' says William Shakespeare in his romantic comedy, 'Much Ado About Nothing.' However, the stark, real-life experiences in this hyperconnected world reveal that most of the arrows and traps that come in the name of love are devoid of the emotion in its true sense. Misrepresentations, concoctions, and definitions of love stemming from convenience often fill the February air.

"Ma, you are not able to understand me because you have never been in love," retorted a fourteen-year-old girl to her mother as the latter tried to dissuade her daughter from an untimely, unhealthy relationship. The helpless mother in tears said that after the death of her husband, she found it difficult to motivate her child to continue her education and keep her safe. "Sir, kindly help me, someone has uploaded my pho-

tos with objectionable, obscene comments on social media," reported a worried, seventeen-year-old girl child. The child later shared that the person who uploaded the photos was her friend on one of the online platforms. The person turned hostile and abusive as she had refused to give in to his demands.



The instances throw light on the effects of cyber grooming that happens under the pretext of love. Hence, our collective responsibility is to educate children to cultivate healthy friendships and relationships and demystify the false notions of love.

Fr. Prasad SDB

Review Meeting with the NGOs



Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), BOSCO Bengaluru conducted a review meeting with the NGOs implementing the SJPU project, at BOSCO Mane on

February 21, 2022. Social Workers of SJPU expressed that they need support and co-ordination from the police department; the need to create child-friendly police stations and providing of formal counseling report.

Ms. Bharathi, DCPO, Bengaluru Urban, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. John MA, Director, BOSCO SJPU project, Sheela Devaraj, Director, APSA, Bengaluru and eight SJPU staff representing BOSCO, APSA, and ECHO were present for the meeting.

State Level Stakeholders' Meeting



Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru organized State Level Stakeholders' Meeting at Don Bosco Centre, Yadagiri District and BOSCO Yuvodaya, Bengaluru on February 12 and 26, 2022 respectively. Addressing the group, Dr Hanumanthaiah Karadi, Chairperson, CWC, Yadagiri remembered the association he has had with BOSCO since his student days and appreciated the organization for its yeoman services towards the children and young at risk. Addressing the group in Yuvodaya, Ms. Nagaratna, Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee 3, Bengaluru Urban appreciated the work done by the Social Mobilizers for promoting the foster care concept and placing the deserving children into Foster Families. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, explained the foster care concept, meaning, types, purpose, key players and their roles and

responsibilities, the importance of networking and the involvement of the stakeholders in the programme. He also exhorted the stakeholders to disseminate the information regarding foster care to all their friends, relatives, contacts and community members and help in identifying the prospective parents and children. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, explained in detail the procedures involved in foster care, adoption, eligibility criteria and so on. After the session, one participant from Chitradurga came forward to sponsor two children.

Fr. Praveen KJ, Director, Don Bosco, Yadagiri, Fr. Kuriakose, Rector, Don Bosco, Deodurga, Raichur District, Mr. Umesh, Outreach Worker, DCPU, Bellary, Mr. Veerappa, Social Worker, DCPU, Bengaluru, Ms. Savitha, Counsellor, DCPU, Ramanagara, Mr. Santosh, Social Worker, DCPU, Chitradurga and Mr. Vital, Social Worker, DCPU, Mysuru were present during the meetings.

Fifty-two stakeholders from Yadagiri, Raichur, Gulbarga and Bidar attended the meeting in Yadagiri and seventy-five stakeholders from Bengaluru, Bellary, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Mysuru and Ramanagara participated in the meeting in Bengaluru.

Staff Induction Training

Human Resource Department, BOSCO Bengaluru organized Induction Training Program for the new staff in the organization, at BOSCO Yuvodaya, on February 15, 2022. Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya welcomed the trainees and gave the introductory words. Fr. John MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru facilitated a session on programs and services at BOSCO. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru engaged the staff in the session on the Preventive system of education of Don Bosco.

Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, Gandhinagar area Project and Mr. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme conducted interactive sessions on child rights and child Laws. Mr. Basavaraju PN, Coordinator, BOSCO CSN Project



facilitated the sessions on the procedures involved in producing the rescued child before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), the role of CWC, and the Juvenile Justice Act.

The new staff were made aware of the HR Policy of BOSCO by Mr. Prashantha Murthy, HR Manager. There were seventeen staff and three student volunteers in the training session.

Parents' Meetings Organized



BOSCO Nivas organized a parents' meeting at Ambedkar Huts, Shivajinagar, to inform them about children's performance in the school, on February 22, 2022. Guidance was given to the mothers to take care of their children during exam time, to follow up with their children's studies, watch their behaviour, have a proactive conversation with the children, and instil confidence in them. The team asked the parents to see that the children regularly attend tuition classes. Twelve mothers attended the meeting.

BOSCO Sumanahalli

BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, Bengaluru organized a parents' meet at the centre on February 26, 2022, to provide an opportunity for the parents to meet the children and staff and to foster parent-child relationships and communication. Deliver-

ing the keynote address, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram said that the child is primarily the responsibility of the parents and family. In the absence of parents/ family, the Government and other institutions pitch in. Mr. PN Basavaraj took a session on the role of parents in the upbringing of children. He said that children need a lot of support and encouragement during their upbringing. Fr. Joshy spoke about the training programmes offered at the centre. He appreciated the efforts of parents to attend the program. Children performed cultural programs. Certificates were distributed to the computer trainees who had completed the training. Prizes were given to the winners of the competitions held during Don Bosco's month. One of the parents, Ms. Nagaveni, spoke on behalf of the parents. She said that she was happy to see the improvements made by her child. Twenty parents took part in the meeting.

BOSCO Rainbow Home

Rainbow Home, BOSCO Bengaluru organized a meeting for the parents of the resident girls at the centre on February 27, 2022. Sr. Jenny and her team gave awareness about the importance of education, different schemes like E-SHRAM card, pension etc. The parents were told about their visits to the centre, dates, and timings. The team explained about procedures of CWC in detail. The team collected some details from the parents to update the documents. Manjula Ullal, Education Coordinator, State Office, Rainbow Home, Fr. John MA, Director, BOSCO Rainbow Home were present in the meeting. Twenty parents attended the meeting.

Exposure Visit Organized

BOSCO Sumanahalli organized an exposure visit to Silicon Honda Showroom, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru for the youth of the two-wheeler unit on February 22, 2022, so that they get an idea about the showroom, the activities, and the nature of work that takes place in a showroom. The youth worked with the tools and advanced machines. The exposure visit helped the trainees to get more familiar with the work. The employees of the showroom appreciated the active participation of the trainees. Mr. Venkatesh, Manager, expressed interest in employing the trainees as interns in the showroom. Five trainees and Mr. Narendranath, the Instructor visited the showroom.



Karate Grading Exam

BOSCO Nilaya conducted Karate Grading Exam for the students attending Karate classes at BOSCO Sumanahalli on February 13, 2022, to assess the students and allow them to move to the next level. Fr. Regi spoke about the discipline, humility, and hard work required to achieve success in life. He said, “Karate should be taught to girls mainly to empower them for self-defense and protection.” Fr. Joshy motivated children to work hard and achieve success by giving examples of the Olympians. Karate Instructors and students performed the Karate demo.

The exam started with warm-up exercises and testing of skills by Mr. Marlinga, Karate Instructor, and his team. Belts, certificates, and prizes were distributed to all. Three children were promoted to green belt, one



child was promoted to purple belt, five children were promoted to orange belt, four to brown belt, and twenty children were promoted to yellow belt from Nilaya Team. A total of thirty-three children - seventeen girls and sixteen boys from Bakshi Garden and Jolly Mohalla areas, participated in the Karate grading exam.

Health Camps Organized



In coordination with BOSCO Health Care Department, BOSCO Sumanahalli organized a medical camp to ensure the good health of the trainees, tuition children, and computer students of the centre on February 3, 2022. Dr. S. Abraham M D, Dr. Pavitra, and Ms. Uma Rai, Social Worker from St. Martha's Hospital conducted the medical check-up. Doctors suggested organizing an awareness programme for the tuition children and their parents regarding health and hygiene. Seventy-four children including trainees, tuition children, and computer students availed the benefits of the camp.

A health camp was organized for the inmates of BOSCO Mane, Vikas and children in Foster Care at the centre, with the support of Dr. Abraham and his team from St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru, on February 12, 2022. Height and weight check-ups and physical health check-ups were done for all children. Medicines were prescribed for a few children. Eighty-one children from BOSCO Mane, Vikas, and Foster Care benefitted from the camp.

Online Meeting with Social Mobilizers



Foster Care Online meeting via Google Duo Meet was held by BOSCO Foster Care Project at BOSCO Mane on February 2, 2022. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru recommended conducting the meeting online once a month for the regular sharing of the work done. He also appreciated them for conducting programs, placing children in foster families, and for achieving targets in their respective districts. Fr. Varghese asked the teams to prepare case studies of the children placed in foster care and conduct meetings with the newly appointed CWC members. During his presentation, Mr. Shivamallu summarized the six-month program report of the ten districts. He also clarified the doubts put forward by the social mobilizers. Thirteen social mobilizers participated in the programme.

Stakeholders' Workshop



BOSCO Nivas organized a Stakeholders' Workshop at Ambedkar Bhavan, JJR Nagar, Bengaluru on February 18, 2022, to build rapport and empower the stakeholders to help the children and young at risk. Fr Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, addressed the group by sharing his experiences associated with child labour at silk farms and factories near Magadi. Fr Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas explained the concept, types and stages of growth in children. Mr Channakshava, Area Leader, shared about his association with BOSCO during COVID 19, thanked and appreciated the service of the BOSCO Team. Mr Raj Ku-

mar, PSI, JJR Nagar Police Station, spoke about a child-friendly society and child-friendly police stations. Shruthi, Social Worker, BOSCO SJPU Project briefed about POCSO act. Chaitra, Counsellor, CHILDLINE explained about the JJ act. CHILDLINE team requested the stakeholders to help the children and young at risk by availing the services of 1098, the child helpline number.

Parimala, Headmistress, BBMP school shared about school dropouts. Asha workers and Anganwadi Teachers explained about health issues among young mothers. Disadvantages of online classes, misuse of social media, child labour, child marriages and child beggary during the pandemic were discussed in the meeting. Sharing further, Ms. Parimala spoke about a child who was rescued from begging with the intervention of BOSCO in the area.

Anto Michael Mattam, BEO, South Zone, Bengaluru and Anjaneyalu, Labour Inspector were present during the meeting. Ten men and thirty women from the community attended the meeting.

Training on Reporting and Documentation

BOSCO National Research and Documentation (BNRD) organized half-day training on 'Reporting and Documentation' in collaboration with HLK Department, BOSCO Bengaluru for the staff involved in documentation, in various capacities, at BOSCO Yuvodaya on February 23, 2022. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram said that BOSCO constantly strives to maintain a system of documentation that is relevant and efficient. Joshua, Coordinator, HLK, BOSCO Bengaluru conducted a session on programme reporting. He explained the reporting format developed by BOSCO. Tino, Assistant Project Development Officer, BOSCO Bengaluru, gave a practical session on photo documentation, tips on taking good, relevant photos, and sharing the photos taken.

Fr. Prasad, Director, BNRD, facilitated the session on Documentation and Reporting Skills. He said that writing is refined thinking. He briefed about the four branches of writing- Creative writing, Journalistic



writing, Academic writing, and Technical writing. He explained the 'Inverted Pyramid Format' used in Journalistic writing and said that news reports should be actual, factual, and accurate. Mr. Prashanth Murthy, HR Manager, BOSCO Bengaluru welcomed the gathering, and Deepa VasantKumar, Coordinator, BNRD proposed the vote of thanks. Thirty-two staff involved in documentation attended the training.

Training for Police Officials

BOSCO Child Safety Net (CSN) project conducted a training program on Juvenile Justice Act 2015 and CWC/ JJB procedures to the Police Officials, West Division, Bengaluru at BOSCO Yuvodaya on February 28, 2022. In The inaugural address, Fr Varghese Pallipuram spoke about the activities of BOSCO, the involvement of the police department in rescue and rehabilitation of the children, and stressed the need for creating child-friendly police stations across Bengaluru. Mr. Kubera, PSI, Basaveshwar Nagar Police Station, spoke about the support of BOSCO in rehabilitating the children rescued under various circumstances by the police. Ms. Anitha Lakshmi, WPSI, Chandra Layout, recollected her previous child rescue operations in her police station limits jointly conducted by the police department, labour department, and BOSCO and assured her support in the future also. Fr. Johnson also spoke on the occasion. Mr Basavaraju PN, Coordinator, CSN Project took a session on 'Care and Protection of Children and



CWC Procedures'. He highlighted the protocols in the JJ act and rules that should be followed by a child welfare officer, such as, keeping children in the police station, transfer of information to Special Juvenile Police Unit and social workers from respective NGOs, code of conduct of the police officials during a rescue, etc. Fr. Johnson Kanjirakattu, Project Director, CSN Project, and thirty-four police officials participated in the training.

Training of Child Rights Club Members



BOSCO CREAM Project organized first, second and third levels of training to the members of the Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) in the schools of Bengaluru Urban and Rural during February 2022. The training commenced with the introduction of the CREAM Project, BOSCO, its services by Mr. Nagaraju, Social Activist, BOSCO CREAM Project. He explained about roles and responsibilities of children and re-capped the four basic rights of children. He also briefed about leadership qualities and conservation of the environment. Mr. Devaraju, Coordinator, BOSCO CREAM Project, and Bhagyalaxmi, Social Activist, BOSCO CREAM Project conducted the sessions. Around 1200 children attended the training programmes.

Child Protection Committees Formed



BOSCO CREAM project formed Child Protection Committee (CPC), to strengthen child rights supporters in the community, at GUEHP School at Gangondanahalli, Bengaluru, on February 4, 2022. Mr. Yahiyah Ahamad Khan, Local Leader, welcomed the gathering. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Devaraj gave an introduction about BOSCO, its services, and CREAM Project. Asha workers, Anganwadi workers, PHC members, School teachers, SDMC Members, Local leaders, parents, SHG Group Members, BRC, and CRP were inducted as CPC members. Twenty-six CPC members were present on the occasion.

BOSCO: Homelink Child MISS MONTHLY REPORT



February- 2022



--	Male	Female	Total
Children rescued	226	34	260
Service provided	254	45	299
Grand Total	480	79	559

New Children Data of Contact Center/Area:

Contact Point	Fresh		Repeated		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Railway CHILDLINE	86	03	00	00	89
Bus Stand BMTC	25	03	00	00	28
Bus Stand KSRTC	18	00	01	00	19
BOSCO Yuvodaya	03	00	00	00	03
BOSCO Yuvakendra	03	00	00	00	03
BOSCO Sumanahalli	04	00	00	00	04
BOSCO MANE	03	00	00	00	03
BOSCO Nivas	02	00	00	00	02
BOSCO Nilaya	10	06	00	00	16
BOSCO Rainbow Home	00	01	00	00	01
BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan	00	03	00	00	03
CHILDLINE	04	06	00	00	10
CSN	11	00	00	00	11
SJPU	14	07	00	00	21
ARSP	42	05	00	00	47
TOTAL	225	34	01	00	260

Final Action Taken:

Placement	Boys	Girls	Total
Referred to BOSCO Centers	21	10	31
Home Placement	191	05	196
Produced before CWC (Admission)	06	18	24
Referred to OH	07	00	07
Referred to Hostels	01	01	02
TOTAL	226	34	260

Classification Report:

Classification	Boys	Girls	Total
Accompanied	42	12	54
Unaccompanied	184	22	206
TOTAL	226	34	260