

That they may have life...in all its fullness



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STREET VOICE

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of BOSCO

It gives me great pleasure to put in your hands the first Street Voice for this year.

As you will see, we celebrated our Founder, Don Bosco with multiple programmes and initiatives in his name. His compassionate appeal for the future of our youth and children remains as much a necessity today as it was when he lived and practised.

Our usual programmes continue and we are happy to bring more and more ordinary citizens and stakeholders into our ambit. Alone we cannot achieve safety and security for all our wards, and we thank you for your continued interest in our programmes.

I would like to add a word regarding climate change and the need to educate ourselves and our wards about this. It is their future which is most affected, and therefore we must focus on this as a matter of critical urgency.

Thank you and God Bless!

Fr. Mathew Thomas, SDB,
Executive Director

CREAM Project



CREAM, BOSCO organized a workshop with key stakeholders to disseminate the success of CREAM Project during 2018 at BOSCO Nilaya on January 19, 2019. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, CREAM Project, enlightened the stake holders and chief guests about Don Bosco's life, origin of BOSCO, Vision and Mission of BOSCO, CREAM, BREADS, Centers of BOSCO and activities of the same. Fr. Regi gave the clarion call to create a child friendly society. A glimpse of CREAM's activities and its success during 2018 was presented by Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, CREAM.

With the assistance of BOSCO, many dropout children have been re-enrolled to schools. Anganwadi Centres have been strengthened and children as CRC members are being empowered to handle the issues concerning them. Mr. Azeez, SDMC Member, GUHPS, Goripalya requested to resolve the problem caused by the alcohol outlets near the Schools.

Fr. Regi Jacob, in his concluding note said that CREAM has created leaders and motivated every individual to join hands in creating child friendly society. Child Rights Club and CREAM Training modules were released by dignitaries. Books were distributed to all.

Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, spoke on the occasion. Forty-four people participated including B.R.C, B.R.P, H.M, SDMC members, School Teachers, Railway Department Officials, Community leaders, Community members, Youth leaders, BOSCO District CRC Federation leaders, CRC Members, Anganwadi Teachers and Helpers, SHG members and Parents.

BOSCO Bengaluru: 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, spoke about climatic change largely caused by irresponsible human behavior. The coordinators presented reports of projects and programmes from the various areas and centres of BOSCO. All the new staff were welcomed and introduced to BOSCO. A common birthday celebration was held for all the staff who celebrated their birthdays between December 2018 and February 2019.



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DON BOSCO MONTH: CELEBRATING OUR FOUNDER

Inauguration across Centres

Don BOSCO's month, was inaugurated from January 3 to 6, 2019 at the various centers of BOSCO, in the presence of children and youth. The representatives of each center and area along with their Directors garlanded the statue of the Saint.

BOSCO Mane and Vikas held the inauguration of Don Bosco month on January 3, 2019. Shivashankar, Inspector, VV Puram, Bengaluru, Fr. Binny, Director, BOSCO Mane and Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO CHILDLINE and BOSCO Sumanahalli were present. Around fifty children from Mane and Vikas participated in the programme.

The inauguration of the month of Don Bosco was organized at **BOSCO Sumanahalli** on January 3, 2019. Fr. Prasad SDB, Director BOSCO Sumanahalli spoke about the importance of celebrating Don Bosco's Month, St. John Bosco's work, his mission and vision. Twenty-one youth participated in the programme.

BOSCO Nivas organized the programme at Doddi, Mackan Compound and Nehrupuram areas of Shivajinagar on the January 4, 2019. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nivas, Nivas team, tuition teachers and forty-five children participated in the programme.

Don Bosco's month was inaugurated in **BOSCO Yuvakendra** on January 4, 2019. Fr. CV George, Director, ARSP and SJPU projects, BOSCO Bengaluru and Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra graced the occasion. Seventy-five youth participated in the program.

Fr. Rubin, Director, **BOSCO Yuvodaya** inaugurated the Don Bosco Month by garlanding the Don Bosco Statue on January 5, 2019. He spoke about Don Bosco and his work for children and also the reason of celebrating Don Bosco month. Forty children participated in the programme.

BOSCO Rainbow Home held the inaugural function on January 5, 2019. Ms. Savithri, the Sub-inspector of Wilson Garden Traffic Police, spoke about girl's safety and education. Mr. Melvin, Australia, and Fr. John M.A, Director, were present. Seventy girls attended the programme.

BOSCO Nilaya organized the programme at Nilaya Tuition Center and Karate class center, Rajgopal Garden on January 5, 2019. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya, addressing the children, spoke about Don Bosco and motivated children to make use of Nilaya to grow in life. Hundred and eighteen children from the areas participated in the programme.

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan held the inauguration on January 5, 2019. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO, Bengaluru and Sheeba Thomas, Director In-Charge, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan were present. Children sang hymns honoring St. John Bosco. Seventy children attended the program.

The directors of the centers enlightened the children on the life and work of the priest, confessor, founder, father and teacher of the youth St. John Bosco by elaborating on his life. They exhorted the children and youth to become independent, acquiring skills for life and become responsible citizens in the society.



Children's Sports Meet 2019

BOSCO Bengaluru organized a Children's Sports Meet at BOSCO Sumanahalli on January 13, 2019. Addressing the children, the chief guest, Mr. Krishnamurthy, Coach, Kantheerava Stadium, Bengaluru, said, "The tiny seed knew that in order to grow it needed to be dropped in dirt, covered in darkness, and struggle to reach the light and become a tree. We, as a seed, through hard work, courage and confidence can succeed in life and become fruitful." Various sports events like running race, relay, high jump, long jump, tug of war, shot-put, musical chair, sack race, frog race, lemon and spoon race, etc. were organized for sub juniors, juniors and seniors.



The winners were awarded with medals and certificates. Fr Binny, Director, BOSCO Mane, Fr John MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. Prasad, Director, BOSCO CHILDLINE and Sumanahalli, Fr. Regi, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, Fr. C. V. George, Director, SJPU and ARSP Projects, staff and volunteers were present at the event. Over five hundred children participated in the sports meet.

BOSCO Annual Quiz Contest 2019



Don Bosco Annual Quiz competition for the children of BOSCO was held at BOSCO Mane on January 19, 2019. Dr. Suresh Kumar, Radiologist, Brindavan Aerion Hospital, Bengaluru, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. Binny K, Director, BOSCO Mane, and Child Representatives Ms. Tulasi and Master Manjunath inaugurated the program by

lighting the lamp. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Suresh Kumar said, "Winning or losing the competition is secondary, but participation is important." Giving insights into the programme, Fr. Prasad, SDB, Director, BOSCO CHILDLINE and Sumanahalli, exhorted children to be happy in life in order to become like Don Bosco who treated life as a celebration in spite of difficulties, and negativities. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru spoke on the occasion.

Eight teams representing different centres and areas-BOSCO Mane, Vikas, Vatsalya Bhavan, Nilaya, Nivas, Rainbow Home, Yuvakendra, Sumanahalli and Foster Care children participated in the competi-

tion. The quiz masters Arun Irudhaya and Santosh Steven, Kristu Jyothi College, Bengaluru conducted the program. The format of the quiz involved eleven rounds. The rounds included MCQs, filling up the gaps, individual round, maze round, general round, pick and speak, deal or no deal, picture zig-zag puzzle, rapid fire round, buzzer round and audio round. Children from BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan emerged as the winners and runners up were Vikas children. All the participants were given mementos. Basavaraju PN, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU project welcomed the gathering and Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, proposed the vote of thanks. Forty children participated in the quiz contest.

Inter-Centre Cultural Competition

The Inter-Centre Cultural Competition for Children was held at BOSCO Mane, Bengaluru, on January 20, 2019. Mr. Thejas Saddhiwal, Actor, Director, Cinema and Television, said that everyone must make use of opportunities and time in order to seek better future. Mr. Harshil Koushika, Theater Performer and Cine Artist, addressed the gathering said, "Everyone must have a goal and BOSCO provides the opportunities to get access towards the same". While speaking on the occasion, Fr. Prasad, SDB, Director, BOSCO CHILDLINE and Sumanahalli, exhorted children to have self-confidence, courage and determination to achieve their goal.

The competitions included group songs, group dances, mimes, fancy dress and pick and speak based on the theme 'Don Bosco - Protector of Children'. The Judges were Mr. Ranaprachanda P. Hucchappa, theater and cine artist, Mr. Charles Dominic, Guitarist and Composer who composes music for advertisements, short films, radio programmes and Ms. Mandara D, Dance Artist. The judges were honoured with mementos. Mrs. Padma, Dance Artist, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. Binny Director, BOSCO Mane, were present for the event. Over hundred children participated in the competition.



Past Pupils Meet

BOSCO Past Pupils meet was organized by BOSCO Yuvakendra at the centre on January 26, 2019. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bangalore, appreciated the past pupils as they are leading dignified lives in the mainstream of the society. He exhorted the past pupils to continue leading a disciplined life and guide other youth and help them to become responsible citizens in the society. Fr. George CV, Director, BOSCO SJPU and ARSP programmes, was happy to see the past pupils being successful in their career. He urged the past pupils to strengthen relationships. The past pupils expressed their gratitude to BOSCO for enabling them to become what they are today. Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra and Veeresh KM, Coordinator, BOSCO Yuvakendra were present in the meeting. Twenty past pupils attended in the meeting.



'Let not Adversity Define You': Annamalai IPS

At the Grand Finale of the Children's Cultural Fest held at BOSCO Mane, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru, on January 27, 2019, Shri K. Annamalai IPS, Deputy Commissioner of Police, South Division, Bengaluru, said, "Don't allow your adversity to define you. Take over adversity and become great personalities like Prime Minister, Chief Minister, IAS, IPS officers."

Mr. Raju Pudota, Group Director, Cadence Design Systems, speaking on the occasion applauded the services rendered by BOSCO and said, "It does not matter from where you come. What matters is where you are right now and where you go". He exhorted the children to make optimum use of the available opportunities.

In the presidential address Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, highlighted the work rendered by BOSCO towards the care and protection of children over the years. Mrs. Roopa Naidu, Promoter Director, Dwar Eco Design graced the occasion. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya welcomed the gathering and Ms. Pallavi, counsellor, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan proposed the vote of thanks.

The Chief Guest for the Valedictory Function, Dr. Antony Sebastian, Chairperson, Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR) exhorted children to avail the opportunities, grow as responsible citizens and succeed in life. The Guests of Honour, Ms. Debasmita Chattopadhyay, Security Commissioner, Railway Protection Force, Bengaluru Division-SWR, Ms. Rashmi Vijai, Delivery Leader, AXA XI and Rev. Sr. Teresa Mandakath, Superior, St. Martha's Community, Bengaluru, spoke on the occasion.

A month-long celebration was organized for the children such as quiz competition, children's sports day, inter-center cultural competitions, etc., in preparation of the feast of Don Bosco. The winners of the competitions were awarded prizes



es during the function. A special programme - 'Talking Doll' by Indushree, Ventriloquist, had been organized along with the theme based cultural programmes. Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO CHILDLINE and Sumanahalli welcomed the gathering and Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme proposed the vote of thanks. Around five hundred children, staff, volunteers, friends and well-wishers of BOSCO participated in the programme.

BECOMING CONSCIOUS OF OUR HEALTH

A Healthy Body and Mind go Together



Health Awareness Sessions

Health awareness session on Cancer was organized at BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan and BOSCO Yuvakendra, by Nursing Students from St. Martha's Hospital for the inmates of the centre on January 14 and 29, 2019 respectively. The students interacted with the children staged a mime show with the message on ways of preventing deadly cancer. They educated the children on avoiding tobacco, maintaining a healthy body weight, eating right, doing enough exercise, and the need to undergo appropriate cancer screening tests etc. Thirty girls from Vatsalya Bhavan and nineteen boys from Yuvakendra attended the session.

Health Awareness session on First Aid was organized for BOSCO Mane, Vikas and Vatsalya Bhavan children at BOSCO Mane by St. Martha's NSS Unit on January 30, 2019. The students explained about First Aid through a presentation and a skit. Hundred and forty eight children participated in the session.

Health Camps

BOSCO Health Care Department organized eight health check-up camps and one dental screening camp at BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, BOSCO Rainbow Home, BOSCO Mane, Sumanahalli, Magadi Road, Ambedkar Huts, Vinobha Nagar, Hub Centre and Ramanna Garden areas of Bengaluru during the quarter. Dr Abraham M.D, and his team from St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru conducted the camps. The doctors suggested providing more fruits and vegetables to the children. Dr Akula from Victoria Dental College and Hospital, Bengaluru conducted the dental screening. Dr. Harsh, Pediatrician and Ms. Pushpa, Nurse carried out the checkup at the Hub Centre. Eye Testing, Height and Weight checkup, B.P Checkup, Physical Health checkup and Dental checkup, suspected Tuberculosis and ICTC were done. Doctors prescribed medicines for the ailing. The doctors suggested providing more fruits and vegetables to the children. 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. Three hundred and twenty five children and four hundred community people availed the services.



AWARE AND EMPOWERED

Spreading the message of BOSCO

Public Awareness Report

Public awareness programs were conducted by BOSCO Railway CHIDLINe team at the entrance and platforms of Krantivira Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station, Bengaluru and in the moving trains on January and February, 2019. The main aim of the awareness programmes was to sensitize the public towards runaway children and missing children. The topics were BOSCO and its activities, CHIDLINe, missing children, 1098, runaway children, child rights child protection mechanisms and child welfare committee. Around three hundred and fifty public and passengers were given pamphlets. Around fifty phone testing calls were made.



Awareness for Stakeholders

Railway CHIDLINe, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized awareness programme for the Parcel Office, Staff Railway Housekeeping Staff and Taxi Drivers at Platform No.1 and Pre-paid Taxi Stand at the KSR Railway Station in January and February 2019. KrantiveeraSangolli-Rayanna Railway Station, Bengaluru on February 11 and 20 2019. Information about BOSCO and the services rendered, information about runaway and missing children, CHIDLINe, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Missing Children Bureau, CWC, Child Helpline 1098, child rights and role of stakeholders in rescuing children were given. Twenty-five parcel staff, twenty-three housekeeping staff and sixteen taxi drivers attended the sessions.

Information about BOSCO and the services rendered, information about runaway and missing children, CHIDLINe, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Missing Children Bureau, CWC, Child Helpline 1098, child rights and role of stakeholders in rescuing children were given. Twenty-five parcel staff, twenty-three housekeeping staff and sixteen taxi drivers attended the sessions.

Foster Care Awareness

BOSCO Foster Care Programme, organized awareness programmes for B Tech. students, REVA University, Yelahanka, Bengaluru, at BOSCO Mane, Chamarajpet on February 1, 2019 and Anganwadi Mothers and Self Help Group (SHG), Members at Kantheerava Nagar and Gramina Coota, Thimmayya Park, Bengaluru on February 2 and 4, 2019. Anil, Akshita and Gayathri, Social Mobilizers, and Nandini, Assistant Coordinator, Foster Care Programme, BOSCO

Bengaluru, spoke about BOSCO and its services. They also enlightened the students, Anganwadi Mothers and SHG Members on CHIDLINe toll free number (1098), child rights, Foster Care concept, types of Foster Care, purpose of Foster Care, roles and responsibilities of Child Welfare Committee. Twenty-four students, eleven Anganwadi Mothers and thirty-three SHG Members attended the awareness programmes.



Open House

CHIDLINe, BOSCO Bengaluru organized open house programme at Government Higher Primary School Abbigere, Bengaluru, on February 05, 2019. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Prasad, Director, CHIDLINe, BOSCO Bengaluru spoke about the role, aims, goals and objectives of CHIDLINe 1098. He said whenever children need care and protection, they could rely on CHIDLINe.

Mr. Nagabhushan, Member, BBMP Shettihalli Ward, Bengaluru appreciated the work of CHIDLINe. He advised children to not misuse the 1098 helpline. Ms. Nagamani, Nodal Coordinator, CHIDLINe Bengaluru, facilitated the open discussion with children.



As children raised the issue of lack of drinking water and toilet facilities, Mr. Nagabhushan made arrangements with the water authority to make drinking water available on an emergency basis. He promised to build more rest rooms in the school premises soon. Mr. Lakshmayya Police sub inspector, Gangammanagudi Police station, Mr. Nagaraju PM, Head master, Government higher primary school Abbigere, and over 263 students and seven teachers were present for the programme.

School Awareness

Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) team, BOSCO, Bengaluru organized a school awareness programme at Solomon Higher Primary School, Bengaluru on February 8, 2019. Mr. Basavaraju, PN, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU Project gave awareness about the SJPU programme, JJ Act and child protection mechanisms. He explained about child rights, CHILD LINE and 1098.



After the programme a few children came forward and shared the problems they were facing near the school premises. Their problems were taken into account and shared with the Police Officials. Ms. Kavitha, Social worker, SJPU Project proposed vote of thanks. Two Hundred and forty five children participated in the programme.

Sensitization Programme

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 Kumar, 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 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 CHILD-



LINE 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 CHILD-LINE. Eighty-two Coolie Porters attended the sensitization programme.

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.



TRAINING & SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Growing Together

Training for NGOs at Ramanagara



District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) and Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD), Ramanagara organized a training programme on 'Tracking the Child Portal Information, Foster Care, CHILDLINE Tollfree number and police number' for NGOs at District Health & Family Welfare Unit, Ramanagara on January 3, 2019.

Ms. Lakshmi Prasanna, Paraspara Trust, Bengaluru spoke about 'Track the Child Portal Information and Basic Facilitation of Child-care Organizations'. Mr. Shivaraje Gowda, Former Member, Karnataka State Children's Rights Protection, Bengaluru, spoke about

Investigation Committee. Mr. Shivalingayya, District Investigation and Childhood Board, Ramanagar spoke about Maintaining Child Files in Child Care Institutions.

Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru, gave introduction about BOSCO and its services, explained about CHILDLINE, Child rights, Foster care concept, Group Foster Care, Individual Foster Care, Kinship care, Purpose of Foster Care, difference between Adoption and Foster Care, selection criteria of potential parents and children, age group of children, time frame of placement, legal procedures, roles and responsibilities of Child Welfare Committee. Twenty-six NGO staff participated in the training.



Training for PRI Leaders

CREAM, BOSCO Bengaluru organized Training for Panchayat Raj Institution (PRI) leaders at Vanakenahalli Grama Panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Rural, on January 29, 2019. The training started with the briefing about BOSCO and its activities, CREAM and its aims, activities of CREAM. Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, CREAM Project, explained about the purpose of Grama Sabha, roles and responsibilities of PRI President, Secretary and members. He said that the prevention of child rights violation, imple-

mentation of government schemes for children especially with respect to health and education and protection of children are the main roles of PRI members and leaders. He insisted PRI members to monitor teachers to see that they track the progress of each child. List of child related departments and their roles were explained. Definitions, roles and working of Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) and Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) were briefed. Panchayat Development Officer (PDO) and PRI President requested BOSCO to organize a training session during Grama Sabha. Nine male and seven female members including PDO and President participated in the training.

Training for Anganwadi Teachers

BOSCO Foster Care Programme, organized training programmes for Anganwadi Teachers at Bengaluru Central Project, Geleyara Balaga, Kurubarahalli, Parimala Nagar, Kanteerava Studio and Triveni Circle, K.P.Agrahara, Bengaluru on January 10 and 11, 2019.

Anil, Akshita and Gayathri, Social Mobilizers, Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru, spoke about BOSCO and its services. They explained about CHILDLINE toll free number 1098, child rights, Foster Care concept, types of Foster Care, purpose of Foster Care, difference between Adoption and Foster Care, selection criteria of potential parents and children, age group of children, time frame of placement, follow up of children, weaning period, matching process, legal procedures, roles and responsibilities of Child Welfare Committee. Sixty-three Anganwadi Teachers participated in the trainings.



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 and for CWC Members and Staff of 3 NGOs with the help of Mr. Ashok Yeragatti, CWC Chair Person, Hebballi, Dharwad on March 2, 7 and 14, 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. Seventy-three participants attended the trainings.



Induction Training for Staff

Induction training programme for the new staff of BOSCO was conducted at BOSCO Yuvodaya, Bengaluru, on February 28, 2019. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO, Bengaluru, welcomed the new staff and briefed about the History, Vision and Mission of BOSCO. Fr. John MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru explained about the programs and the services of BOSCO. Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme and Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO CREAM and ECCE Programmes, spoke on child rights and laws and said that right-based approach should be the paradigm to be adhered to in working with the poor and marginalized children.

Fr. Regi, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, speaking about the Preventive System of Don Bosco said, "BOSCO has been able to reach

out to thousands of children and young people in difficult situations through the dedication and commitment of the staff of the organization. Today, the onus is on you to let the legacy live on." Fr. Ruben, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, explained in detail about the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) procedures to be followed during the child rescue process. Mr. Vivek Dev, HR Manager, BOSCO, Bengaluru introduced the HR policies of BOSCO to the group. Thirty-one new staff was present for the induction programme.



REVIEWS & MEETINGS

Learning from each other

Parents' Meet

Jolly Mohalla: BOSCO Nilaya organized parents' meeting at Jolly Mohalla on February 12, 2019. Ms. Pushpa, Area Coordinator, CRY enlightened the parents about the importance of education. Parents' role and responsibilities were briefed. Tips to manage study habits during exams were explained. Information about BOSCO Nilaya and the activities of the centre were explained.

Parents requested to guide children on importance of education as they were mostly concentrating on games and mobile phones at home. Children were individually counseled and were told about the importance of education and goal setting. Twenty-one tuition center children's parents attended the meeting.

Mane: BOSCO Foster Care Programme organized Parents' meeting at BOSCO Mane on February 23, 2019. Mr. Anil Social Mobilizer welcomed the Foster Parents, Children. Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, Foster Care Programme, spoke about the purpose of parents meeting. He explained about the importance of alternate forms of family care for the children without functional families. He exhorted the parents to allot more time for their children. Group activities were conducted for the children on how to improve listening and communication skills. Fr. Binny, Director, BOSCO Mane, spoke on the occasion. Twenty-seven parents gathered for the meeting along with children and Foster Care Team.

Rainbow Home: Parents' meeting was held at BOSCO Rainbow Home on February 24, 2019. Ms. Mamatha Hallima Nagaraj, Life Skill Trainer, conducted a session on child rearing and upbringing by screening a motivational video. She said that the children imitate parents to a large extent. So parents have to ensure that they become role models to their children. Sr. Leena, Coordinator, BOSCO

Rainbow Home, asked the parents to make Adhaar cards, Caste and Income certificates of their children. She informed that all the girls staying in the centre would be produced before Child Welfare Committee as per the Government order. She requested the parents to open/re-activate banks accounts of their children. Fr. John M.A, Director, BOSCO Rainbow Home spoke on the occasion. Twenty-five parents were present for the meeting.

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan: 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' Meetings

Jolly Mohalla-2 and Janatha Colony: ECCE Programme, BOSCO, Bengaluru, organized mothers' meeting at Bengaluru, on February 4 and 5, 2019. The topic for the meeting was 'Parents role in child development, nutrition and dangers that children are likely to face'.



Ms. Ravikumari, Cluster Coordinator, ECCE Programme, addressing the group, spoke about the importance of Child Development and measures to be taken by parents for their child's growth and development. Importance of early childhood care and education was briefed. Mothers were motivated to teach the topics taught in the Anganwadi using the resources available at home. Mothers were asked to take care of their child's health status by following the Immunization schedule. Cleanliness, punctuality, regularity, respect for elders are the few habits that mothers were asked to teach their children regularly. Child protection mechanisms were explained. Mothers were informed about the need for gender equality. Mothers

were asked to teach other languages other than their mother tongue. Thirty-one mothers, AWC Teachers and Helpers participated in the meetings.

Ramanna Garden-2: ECCE, BOSCO organized Mothers' meeting on the 'Importance of Voting' at 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.



Adolescent Girls

Meeting for adolescent girls from the evening tuition centers was held in Ambedkar Huts, Mackan Compound and Nehrupuram by BOSCO Nivas on February 13 and 14, 2019. With the preparatory examination fast approaching, girls were enlightened about the importance of time. Thirty-five adolescents were empowered with tips on facing exams



CHILDLINE Annual Review

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, Bengaluru.



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.

SDMC Meeting



CREAM and ECCE programmes of BOSCO, Bengaluru organized SDMC Meeting for Padarayanapura Cluster Members at GUHPS, Goripalya, Bengaluru, on February 11, 2019. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, CREAM and ECCE Programmes, briefed about BOSCO, CREAM, ECCE and their activities. Information about online safety, importance of education, fear of examinations and values that children should imbibe were given. Mantra and Teach for India Volunteers presented about objectives of SDMC, roles and responsibilities. The success of CREAM project during 2018 was explained by Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, CREAM and ECCE. Mr. Yusuf Aslam Khan, President, State Urdu SDMC, requested for the translation of SDMC related Book into Urdu language. SDMC members requested conducting such cluster level meetings once a month involving all SDMC members.

Ward Advocacy

BOSCO Nilaya organized a Ward Advocacy Meeting in the presence of Ms. Nazeema Ayub Khan, Corporator, K.R. Market, Ward -139 on February 2, 2019 at Jolly Mohalla Ward Office. A request letter regarding the water problem at BOSCO Nilaya center was produced to AEE, BWSSB, Tulasi Thota by the Children's Collective members. Staff submitted a request letter to the Corporator to resolve the problem of lack of drinking water at BOSCO Nilaya center, the need to place a name board with directions to BOSCO Nilaya center near Cottonpet Main Road and about organizing a Children's Ward Sabha. Mr. Ayub Khan was in all praise for BOSCO and felicitated the Nilaya team for its service towards the poor and children.

The next day the drinking water issue was solved. Name board is placed at the Cottonpet Main Road. The concerned officials are in



the process of providing new connection for drinking water to the Center. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nilaya staff attended the meeting. Community members and leaders were also present.

Non- Serious Case Consultation at BOSCO Mane

Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), BOSCO, Bengaluru, organized consultation with parents of children in conflict with law of the West Division and South Division, Bengaluru at BOSCO Mane, Bengaluru, on February 24, 2019 and March 24, 2019, respectively. 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. The participants were shown a video about the Child Marriage and Substance Abuse. He also 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 vocational 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. Twenty-eight parents including their children participated in the discussions.

Resource Organization

CHILDLINE Bengaluru organized resource organization meeting at BOSCO Yuvodaya, Gandhinagar, on February 22, 2019. Ms. Nagamani, Nodal Coordinator, welcomed the gathering. The participants, representatives from various NGOs, introduced themselves. Fr. Rubin, Director, Railway CHILDLINE Bengaluru, addressed the gathering and explained about the purpose of the resource organization meeting. Ms. Vishalakshi, Coordinator, CHILDLIN E Collab, APSA,



Bangalore, spoke about the goals, objectives, vision and Mission of CHILDLINE.

After the presentation, Fr. Prasad, Director, CHILDLINE Collab, BOSCO Bengaluru, Ms. Usha Nayak and Johnson facilitated the session. The NGO's assured that they would support CHILDLINE. Other NGOs shared about the service schemes and facilities available at their NGOs. Ms. Nagamani, Nodal Coordinator, CHILDLINE Bengaluru proposed vote of thanks. Total twenty three Representatives from twelve NGOs from various areas of Bengaluru were present at the resource organization meeting.

Ms. Vinnarasi, Cluster Coordinator, ECCE, Ms. Priya, Reporter, ECCE and Ms. Prathibha, CRC Coordinator, HDFC Project, were also present in the meeting. One Cluster Resource Person (CRP), forty SDMC members from eight schools, ten CRC members and four Mantra and Teach for India Volunteers participated. Ms. Jabeen Taj, CRP, welcomed the gathering and proposed the vote of thanks.

LEARNING ABOUT LIFE

How to lead a better life

Life Skill Session on Team Building

BOSCO Yuvakendra organized a life skill session on 'Team Building' for the boys at the centre on February 18, 2019. The session was conducted by Mr. Taha and Mrs. Fatima. Group session began with two introductory games. The program was designed around three keywords that were explained to the boys in depth: Dependence, Independence and Interdependence. While in some situations people would rely on themselves alone (independence) or on someone else (dependence), the skill of collaborating with and relying on each other (interdependence) should not be considered less important. The facilitators shared the principles of strategy and planning in a team as well as speaking up confidently in front of other people. Around twenty boys attended the session.



Value Education Session on Compassion

BOSCO Rainbow Home organized Value Education session on 'Compassion' for the inmates of the centre on February 17, 2019. Sr. Shamala conducted the session by involving the girls in various games and activities. Through these activities girls understood the pain, difficulties one faces and the need for supporting each other in life. A story about 'Good Samaritan' was narrated. This story taught them the quality of being compassionate towards others, experience the feelings of others and be at their side to comfort them. Fifty-two girls participated in the session.

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.



AWARDS & CELEBRATIONS

BOSCO Bangalore Receives Inspire Awards 2018-19



The BRITT WORLD WIDE (BWW) in collaboration with Parivartan Global Success Foundation, Mumbai, an initiative for inspiring action aimed at social transformation and encouraging volunteerism, organized 'Inspire Awards-2018-19' for Social Significance at Christ University, Bengaluru on January 6, 2019. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, represented BOSCO and received the Inspire Award-2018-19. The award was given in recognition of the undeterred and relentless work towards children and youth at risk. The organizers wished that BOSCO may inspire others to join the league towards making this world a better and safer place for children and youth.

Fr. Mathew Thomas spoke about BOSCO and the services rendered for the welfare of children and youth in Bengaluru. The delegates and partners of Britt World Wide and Parivartan from all over the world applauded the efforts and services of BOSCO. The event was witnessed by over two thousand invitees.

Extraordinary Canonical Visit at BOSCO

Rev. Fr. Guillermo Basanes SDB, General Councilor for Missions, Rome, held extraordinary canonical visit at BOSCO, Bengaluru from February 19 to 21, 2019. He met the staff and management personnel of BOSCO on February 21, 2019 at BOSCO Yuvodaya. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru introduced Fr. Guillermo Basanes to the group and gave a brief description about the purpose of the visit.

Addressing the gathering, Fr. Basanes, said that BOSCO staff should not only look into the lives of the young that they have transformed or are transforming but also should have an insight into their own lives being transformed by BOSCO. He opined that the rescued are becoming rescuers and the healed are becoming the healers. Togetherness is fundamental to the success of BOSCO. He urged all the staff to have zero tolerance towards punishment and be merciful and patient in everyday life. All the staff and management were present during his visitation.



BOSCO Receives Certificate of Appreciation

Zilla Panchayat, Bangalore Urban and Department of Public Instruction, Government of Karnataka together organized 'Shaalegaagi Naavu Neevu' event on February 20, 2019 at Basappa Auditorium, Bharat Scouts and Guides, Palace Road, Bengaluru. Block Education Officers (BEOs) and Block Resource Coordinators (BRCs) presented the services rendered by the NGOs and CSRs in the school development. During the event, Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, CREAM, BOSCO Bengaluru, was felicitated with a Certificate of Appreciation, for the services BOSCO has rendered for the betterment of schools in South-2, Bengaluru.

Ms. MS Archana, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Bengaluru Urban District, Mr. TG Narasimha Murthy, President, Standing Committee for Education and Health, Zilla Panchayat, Bengaluru



Urban District and Mr. C Muniraju, President Zilla Panchayat, Bengaluru Urban District were the chief guests. Officials from the Education Department, Zilla Panchayat Representatives, CSR Heads and NGO Representatives were present for the programme.

Exposure Visit to Kanteerava Indoor Stadium



CRY, BOSCO Bengaluru organized exposure visit to Kanteerava Indoor Stadium to watch the Premiere Badminton League (PBL) match between Hyderabad and Mumbai Teams for the children of BOSCO Nilaya Tuition center and Jolly Mohalla, Bengaluru on January 12, 2019. Children were overwhelmed to meet P.V. Sindhu, National Badminton Player. Children were happy to watch the live match and the see the national players. They gained knowledge about how the PBL Matches are

played. Children played Kho Kho and did exercises at the play area. They were motivated to work towards their goal and become achievers.

Fifteen boys were part of the exposure visit. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO CRY Project, Priya, Program Manager, CRY, Abhishek and Joseph Joe, Student Volunteers accompanied the children. Ms. Pracilla, Ms. Prasanna and Ms. Abhiroop, CRY staff organized the visit.

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.



Staff Sports Day at BOSCO

The Sports Day for BOSCO staff was conducted at BOSCO Sumanahalli, Bengaluru on February 6, 2019. Addressing the group, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, exhorted everyone to keep smiling and be fit and healthy through sports.



The morning session included party games such as balloon breaking, musical chair, filling the water, bomb in the city and plucking the tail. In the afternoon teams games like volley ball, throw ball, cricket and tug of war were organized. The day concluded with the distribution of prizes. The directors and over hundred staff of BOSCO participated in the event. Shafi, Assistant Programme Manager, BOSCO Bengaluru, welcomed the gathering and proposed the vote of thanks.

Anniversary Celebration at BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan



BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, Bengaluru celebrated 5th anniversary of its inception on February 27, 2019. Ms. Geethalakshmi, PSI, Jayanagar Police Station, Bengaluru, expressed her gratitude to BOSCO for helping children on the streets and children in difficult situations. She ensured the support of the police department to BOSCO towards fulfilling its mission of serving the young at risk. Fr. PS George, Economer, Don Bosco Provincial House, Bengaluru, congratulated the team of Vatsalya Bhavan for rehabilitating and restoring large number of children back to their families and to main stream society.

A video recap of the achievements and successes of BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan since its inception in 2014 to 2019 was screened. Chil-

Director, BOSCO Nilaya, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, Fr. C.V. George, Director, BOSCO SJPU and ARSP Programmes, Fr. Edward, Director, MCB Programme and Sr. Silvy, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra were present during the celebration. Around hundred and fifty children, five religious volunteers and Vatsalya Bhavan staff were present in the programme.

dren performed skits and dances on the life of Malala Yousafzai, Pakistani human rights activist and Kittur Rani Chennamma, female freedom fighter of India.

Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. Binny, Director, BOSCO Mane, Fr. John MA, Administrator, Fr. Regi,

International Women's Day Celebration

CREAM, BOSCO Bengaluru organised International Women's Day for SHG members at Rayapuram Anganwadi Center, Ranganatha Colony, J.J.R. Nagar, Bengaluru on March 8, 2019. Ms. Shashikala Gopal Krishna, Counsellor, Rayapuram, Ward 137, Mr. Chandrappa, 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 Gopal Krishna 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. Chandrappa explained the difference between status of woman in olden days and the present and spoke 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 Anganwadi teachers and helpers, BOSCO Nilaya staff and Tuition teachers.

Sports Day



Yuvodaya, BOSCO Bengaluru, under the auspices of APPI project, organized Sports Day for the inmates of the temporary shelter at BOSCO Mane on January 5, 2019. Fr. John MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru inaugurated the programme. The children were divided as two teams. They participated in a variety of individual and team sports events like throw ball, cricket, ball and Spoon, musical chair, tug of war and running race, etc.

It was a fun-filled day with children jumping, shouting, encouraging and supporting their team members. The winners were announced and prizes were distributed. Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO CHILDLINE and Sumanahalli and Fr. Rubin Mathew, Director, BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE were present for the event. Forty-five children from the open shelter participated in the event. Joyce Kennedy, Coordinator, BOSCO Yuvodaya welcomed the gathering and proposed the vote of thanks.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ACHIEVERS!

Second PUC student, 19-year-old Sridevi, has been awarded the 'Best Student of the Year' in her college - St. Theresa's PU College, Bengaluru. Our warmest congratulations!

Sridevi was rescued by BOSCO CHILDLINE and referred to BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan. In Vatsalya Bhavan she completed her tailoring course and joined college in 2017.

First PUC student, 19-year-old Abhirami Radhakrishna is academically bright and talented in sports. She has won a lot of medals for her achievements not only in academics but also in sports: she was awarded 'Over All Championship' for sports for the year 2018-2019 in SLN College of Arts and Commerce, Bengaluru.

The daughter of Radhakrishna and Aleuma from Bengaluru, Karnataka, she was given admission in BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan in October, 2017 and we are proud of her many achievements.

Vijay is his name and he has been successful at multiple occasions. A student in BOSCO Vikas 13-year-old Vijay S is currently studying in the 8th standard at St. Joseph High School, Bengaluru. From Tamil Nadu, he is the youngest of his parents who died when he was very young. In 2014 he was brought by his elder brother to BOSCO.

A talented boy, Vijay exhibits exceptional aptitude in sports and regularly participates in athletics, hockey and Taekwondo as well as a drawing competition in Bal Bhavan. He played Hockey for HAL and got selected for the Division Level. He excels in Taekwondo. He has participated at the junior level in Dharwad and Madikeri and won silver medals. In 2018, he participated in the Taekwondo state level match (under 32 kg weight category) and won a gold medal. He recently represented Karnataka at the National Level Tournament held at Vishakhapatnam on February 22 and 23, 2019 and went up to the third round before losing to Jharkhand.



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 5th 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 behaviour 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.

NEW CHALLENGES

BOSCO National Inter-Collegiate Essay Competition 2019

BOSCO Bengaluru organized a two-month long National Level Inter-Collegiate Annual Essay Competition that concluded on January 27, 2019. The objective of the competition was to create awareness on child rights, child welfare and bring attention to issues concerning



the young at risk in the society. The competition that spanned countrywide had student participants from various academic streams such as Social Work, Sociology, Media, Economics, Engineering, Law and Psychology, from various colleges and universities. The topics for the essays were- 'Online safety challenges and children', 'Children and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Spaces for adolescent participation on matters concerning them.

The essays were evaluated by a panel of three members which included Fr. Previnth Joe Tony Kristu Jyothi College, Bengaluru, Dr. P.M. Mathew, Christ University, Bengaluru and Dr. Mini Mark Bonjour, St. Joseph's College Autonomous, Bengaluru. The first prize was awarded to Rajitha A from Central University Bangalore, Owais Qadir and Himanshu Singh from Aligarh Muslim University, Uttar Pradesh bagged the second and third prizes respectively.

Karate Belt Grading Exam

BOSCO Nilaya under the auspices of HDFC, Bengaluru, organized Karate Belt Grading Exam at BOSCO Life Skill Training Center, Sumanahalli on February 17, 2019. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya, in the keynote address said, "Work is Worship. Hard work always pays. Karate is mainly to empower girls to fight for their rights." Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli and CHILDLINE recalled the words of Usain Bolt and motivated children to work hard and become successful. Among the students supported by BOSCO Nilaya, one child was given the grade of Blue Belt, twenty-three children Orange Belt and fourteen children Yellow belt respectively. Six Karate Instructors conducted the exam. Mr. Marilinga and Mr. Lingappa, Karate Instructors were felicitated during the programme. Belts, Certificates and Prizes were distributed to all the participants. Thirty-eight children from Vinobhanagar, Gurappa Garden, Vyayam Shale, Cement Huts, Ramanna Garden and Jolly Mohalla participated. Seventy-nine children from various parts of Bangalore also participated in the Belt Grading Exam. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru and Mr. Amal, Project Manager, HDFC Project, were present at the event.



ious parts of Bangalore also participated in the Belt Grading Exam. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru and Mr. Amal, Project Manager, HDFC Project, were present at the event.



Child Rights Club

CREAM, BOSCO, Bengaluru formed a Child Rights Club (CRC) at BBMP GHPS, Gandhinagar, on February 7, 2019. The programme began with welcome speech by Mr. Ganesh, Teacher In-charge of the Club. Information about child rights, child protection mechanisms and children in difficult situations were imparted. Need for the formation of CRCs, roles and responsibilities of club members and leaders were briefed. Ms. Divya was elected as the president along with Ms. Sardhya as the vice president. The CRC members were motivated to identify children in vulnerable situations. Six boys and eight girls were elected by the children as club members. Ms. Prathibha, CRC Co-ordinator, HDFC Project facilitated the training.

"In every young person, a point of goodness is accessible and it is the primary duty of the educator to discover that sensitive cord of the heart so as to draw out the best in the young person"

DON BOSCO



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