

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



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# STREET VOICE

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Well Wishers

Despite the best efforts of society and government, child labour continues to persist and raise its ugly head. We must continue to strive to eradicate it, to educate people regarding the terrible evil of destroying childhoods and exposing young children to rigorous physical work and mental and emotional stress while they are still growing.

As the year progresses, we continue in our endeavour to make the world a better place for our youth. Our multiple training programmes and awareness for the public are geared towards this.

When our children are able to make the most of the opportunities we provide and grow in emotional strength and skills, we feel our sense of purpose is renewed and revived.

We thank all of you for your continued support and good wishes.

We pray for His blessings upon us all.

Fr. Mathew Thomas, SDB,  
Executive Director

## World Day against Child Labour

BOSCO observed 'World Day against Child Labour', in Bengaluru on June 12, 2019 on the theme "Abolish Child Labour and Save Childhood". In his key note address, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, said, "Eradicating child labour is the mission of BOSCO and it would continuously strive towards achieving the same. In this endeavor we also require the support of the society at large, the Government agencies and the stakeholders whom we closely work with." Inaugurating the Awareness Campaign, Mr. Shivashankar K, Inspector, VV Puram Police Station, Bengaluru, lauded BOSCO for its untiring work towards the welfare of children and ensured the support of the Police towards this noble cause. Mr. Santosh Hipparagi, Assistant Labour Commissioner, Division 2, Bengaluru, said that although child labour is fewer in number compared to the earlier days, we still see children coming in large numbers from the northern states like Bihar, UP, etc. to Bengaluru in search of jobs.

Two teams reached out to KR Market, Wilson Garden Police Station, Pantharapalya, Shanthinagar, Sumanahalli Circle, Garuda Mall, Orion Mall, Bangalore Central Mall, Mantri Mall, Brigade Junction, MG Road, Cubbon Park, City Railway Station, Shivajinagar and BMTC Bus Stand areas educating the public about the importance of childhood and child rights, creating awareness about child labour, and inviting the civil society to join hands to combat child labour. Children from BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan and Rainbow Home performed Flash Mobs at the Malls and other areas creating awareness. The teams distributed pamphlets, stickers, shouted slogans and exhibited placards in an attempt to disseminate the message on Child Labour to as many people as possible.

Mr. Basavaraj, Asst. Sub Inspector, Kalasipalya Police Station, Mr. J.M. Veerasangaiah, President, Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha and Harsiru Sene, Bengaluru, Mr. Mir Ghous, Inspector, Wilson Garden Police Station, Mr. Umesh, Traffic Inspector, Kamakshipalya Police Station, Mr. Mahadev, SI, Brigade Road, Mr. Narayan Swamy, Dy.



SMR, Mr. Brahma Reddy, PA to Station Director, KSR Railway Station, Bengaluru, Mr. Deepak, Manager, Orion Mall, and Ms Jeny, Mall Marketing Manager, Mantri Mall were present during the campaign.

The campaign concluded at the BMTC Bus Stand Skywalk, Majestic, Bengaluru, by forming a **Human Chain** consisting of about 200 people including the BOSCO Management, staff and children from the various BOSCO centres, dignitaries and the public. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Jaipal, DTO, Bengaluru, appreciated BOSCO for its work and explained the situations which push children into child labour. Mr. Pravin Shivashankar, General Manager, gave a call to create a child friendly society. Mr. Bharath, Assistant General Manager, Child Rights and You (CRY), was also present on the occasion. An oath was taken by all those who formed the human chain to eradicate child labour. Around 5,000 people were reached out to through the campaign.

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## IN THE NEWS



### **Namma Palli Father is back...**

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

Fr. Vargese Pallipuram SDB, fondly known as 'Palli Father', is a Salesian of Don Bosco, belonging to the Salesian province of Bengaluru. His first spell in BOSCO Bengaluru was from 1990-1999. He still continued to be a part of BOSCO (at Don Bosco Yuvakaragrama, Ajjanahalli, Magadi) from 1999-2009. He has two books, 'Street Presence' and 'Glow in the Horizon' to his credit. After a gap of twenty years, he has returned to BOSCO, Bengaluru.

### **Adios Amigos!**

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

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



# AWARENESS PROGRAMMES



## Public Campaign

Awareness for the public in the vicinity of the High Court and in the surroundings of Cubbon Park was conducted by the BOSCO Niwas team on April 13, 2019. Public were educated about the issues of children such as child labour, school dropouts, begging children, child abuse, missing children and runaway children. Hand-outs with information on CHILDLINE (1098) and child related issues were distributed to the public. A group of students from Frank Antony Public School received the awareness with great enthusiasm. A positive response was given by the public who assured that they would call the child helpline if any children were at risk.

During the campaign, a mother and her children were counselled on child labour, and the mother was advised to refrain from using the children to earn a living and to meet the school expenses. Around a hundred people received awareness.

## Panchayat Raj Institutions

BOSCO Foster Care Programme, organized awareness programme for Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) at Bedarahalli on June 4, 2019. The programme was organized with the assistance of Mr. Ravi Kumar, Secretary, Bedarahalli Gram Panchayat. Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru, spoke about BOSCO and its services. He also enlightened the PRI members on CHILDLINE toll free number (1098), child rights, Foster Care concept, types of Foster Care, purpose of Foster Care, difference between Adoption & Foster Care, selection criteria of potential parents and children, age group of children, time frame of placement, follow up of children, legal procedures, and the roles and responsibilities of the Child Welfare Committee. Twenty-five PRI members including the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Panchayat Development Officer (PDO) participated in the awareness programme. Vijayalakshmi, Social Mobilizer, Foster Care Programme, welcomed the gathering and proposed the vote of thanks.



## Community

Child Safety Net (CSN) Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru organized a community awareness programme for the migrant families from



Bellary District working as construction labourers near Old Sangam Theatre, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru, on June 30, 2019. Mr. Sampath Kumar, Construction Supervisor, supported the team in organizing the programme. It was observed that many children in the labour camp were either dropouts or not enrolled in schools during the Shaale Kade Nanna Nade campaign. The awareness included information on child rights, right to education, child protection mechanisms, CHILDLINE, Juvenile Justice Act (JJ Act), child marriage and child labour. The team explained about the importance of education to the parents. They were also given information about various government schemes.

Through this programme the CSN team was able to enroll and re-enroll twenty-four migrant children to Arya School, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru. Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, was present for the programme. Mr. Shafi, Coordinator, CSN Programme and Mr. Devaraj, Rescue Coordinator, CSN Programme were the resource persons. Seventy migrant labourers and children participated in the awareness programme.

# TRAINING



## Counseling

BOSCO Bengaluru organized one day training on Basic Counselling for the staff involved in the counselling of children, at BOSCO Yuvodaya on April 26, 2019. In the interactive session, the resource person, Ashwini NV, Founder and Director, Muktha Foundation, Bengaluru, gave a briefing about basic counselling skills, cognitive distortions, over generalization, personalization, labelling, magnification and minimization. She also spoke about emotional reasoning, character strengths, core conditions in humanistic approach to counselling, different listening styles and different levels of listening. Ms Joyce, Coordinator, BOSCO Yuvodaya, welcomed the gathering and proposed the vote of thanks. Eighteen staff of BOSCO involved in the counselling of children attended the training.

## Anganwadi Cluster Supervisors

CREAM and ECCE, BOSCO, organized training for Anganwadi Cluster Supervisors at Stree Sakthi Bhavan (ICDS), Madiwala, Bengaluru, on April 25, 2019. Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, CREAM and ECCE Projects briefed everyone about the projects and their activities. He also spoke about the anganwadis and schools that BOSCO is working with and the teaching learning materials distributed to them. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya, explained about the vision, mission, and the activities of BOSCO.

He also made a special mention about the School Enrollment Campaign 'Baa Marali Shaalege-Come Back to School', the aim of which is to reduce and bring down the school dropout rate to 0% in the operational areas of BOSCO, and to create awareness about Child Rights. Ms. Meenakshi, CDPO and eleven Anganwadi Cluster Supervisors were present during the training.



## Digital Center

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

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

## Capacity Building for ICDS Staff

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), BOSCO Bengaluru, organized a Capacity Building Program for ICDS Staff on May 15, 2019 at the Anganwadi Centre, S.R. Nagar, Bengaluru. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, ECCE, introduced the activities of BOSCO, ECCE Project, working areas of ECCE and its functions. Child rights and child protection mechanisms were also covered in the program. Ms Surekha, AWC Cluster Supervisor, appreciated BOSCO for providing Teaching Learning Materials and shoes for the children. She suggested organizing such training programs during the ICDS Circle Meeting of other clusters. Twenty-three Anganwadi teachers participated in the training. Ms Vinnarasi, Cluster Coordinator, ECCE, welcomed the gathering and proposed the vote of thanks.



## SUMMER CAMPS

Many summer camps were organized for the children, in different BOSCO centres, during the months of April and May 2019.

**BOSCO Nilaya** organized a summer camp from April 11 to 16, 2019 at BOSCO Nilaya. The children were taught action songs, finger print art, puppet making, crafts, morals, values, good qualities in life, leadership through stories, using the writing board, puzzles, word building, etc. The camp included sessions on 'Child Rights Violation' by Mr. Arul Das Vijaya, Freelance Artist, Janabimba Organization; 'self-awareness, goal setting and adolescence, and gender equity for adolescent girls' by Mr. Rajesh, President, Bharatiya Jain Sanghata Organization, Chikkamangaluru; yoga by Ms Sudha; 'waste management' by Ms Prameela from Hasirudhala NGO; 'Child Protection Mechanisms, Sustainable Development Goals and Advocacy actions' by Mr. Ramaswamy, Project Coordinator, CREAM, BOSCO.

A craft session by Dr. Joshy, Principal, Don Bosco B. Ed College, Yadgiri, and a session on 'traffic rules and regulations' by Mr. Narayan and Mr. Pranesh Kumar, PSI, Traffic Police of the Chickpet Division, was also conducted. A health awareness and eye camp was conducted in collaboration with the BOSCO Health Department, St. Martha's Hospital, and Gift of Sight NGO. The children also put up various shows, like a skit on the disadvantages of the new age lifestyle of mobiles, selfies, junk food etc. and the importance of

having healthy habits, and a karate performance by the Nilaya Karate students. Sarkari Hiriya Prathamika Shale Kasaragod movie was screened, and the children had fun with many party games. Seventy-seven boys and seventy girls from nine communities such as Vyayamshaale, Vinobhanagar, Cement Huts, Ramanna Garden, BOSCO Nilaya, Rajgopal Garden, Giripuram, and Anandhpuram Tuition Center participated. Two clerics, seven tuition teachers and four foreign volunteers were also part of the program.



**BOSCO Nivas** held a summer camp for the children at St. Xavier School, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru, from April 22 to 26, 2019. Mr. Arul Das conducted craft activities for the older children; Karate Instructor Mr. Lingappa conducted a class on Martial Arts; Ms Fatima Azghar, Founder, Evolved, conducted a 'Mindfulness' session to increase children's observation skills and concentration; Mr. Ajith Kaikeni, Director, Buoyance, an organization working with children and for children, conducted a session which stressed the importance of being unique, developing life skills, trust and confidence; and Dr. Ali Khawaja, Chairman, Banjara Academy, motivated the children to believe in themselves and to take pride in being an Indian. Ms Sarita Vaz, CWC-2 Member also addressed the girls on the role of child helpline. The children were taken to Christu Seva Sangam, Tasker Town, to help them understand their responsibility towards their parents in their old age and to develop social responsibility. Sixty-seven children from Ambedkar Huts, Mackan Compound and Nehrupuram areas participated in the camp. Br. Subin, Br. Albin and volunteers from Christ College supported the BOSCO Nivas staff in organizing the camp.

**BOSCO Yuvakendra** organized a seven day summer camp – 'Summer Capsules' for its residents at Don Bosco Tech, Bannerghatta, Bengaluru, from April 23 to 29, 2019. The youth were engaged in various activities like craft, painting, magic tricks, and outdoor games like football, cricket, badminton, basketball and other team games. Motivational classes, life skill sessions on life goals and dreams, and a session on nature and how to conserve and protect nature, was conducted. The session on "The river of Life" made them reflect about their past, and during their leisure time the boys mingled with the pupils of Don Bosco Skill Mission. The boys were taken to Bannerghatta National Park for an outing, where they danced and sang, and enjoyed the campfire. On the last day of the camp, the boys decorated the place with candles, flowers, cards, etc. and shared that they had learnt a lot of good lessons from the camp. The resource persons Nagaraj, Nisha and Puja along with Yuvakendra staff were a part of the camp. Twenty youth participated in the camp.



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



**BOSCO Vikas** organized a summer camp for its residents from May 2 to May 22, 2019 at Don Bosco Vidyakshetra, Prakashpalya. The children were kept busy with morning exercises; everyday classes on Mathematics, Science, English, Kannada; indoor and outdoor games during the afternoons; team games like football, volley ball, cricket and treasure hunt; sessions on life skills, moral education, environment, etc., and activities such as singing, dancing, clay modelling, crafts, and skits. On Sundays, the children were taken to nearby temples, Gaganachukki, Talakdu, Malai Mahadeshwara Hill and Hogenakkal Falls for outings. Some children also went fishing while the others made a tree house. In the late evenings they were allowed to watch movies, and competitions were also held regularly for dance, singing, football, cricket and volley ball. During the camp, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru and Fr. John MA, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru, visited the children and cheered them up with their inspiring thoughts and words. The sessions were taken by the teachers of the centre with the support of Papaiah, Coordinator, BOSCO Vikas, Babu, Asst. Coordinator, BOSCO Vikas, Br. Albin, Br. Subin and Br. Vimal. Fifty-two children participated in the camp.



Summer Gala Masala (summer camp) was organized for the residents of **BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan** and **BOSCO Rainbow Home** at Don Bosco, Ajjanahalli from May 2 to 16, 2019. The fifteen-day camp included sessions on effective communication, self-confidence, problem solving, and activities such as 'My Dream House', basket making, jewellery making, nail art, mehndi drawing, face painting, hair style competition, rangoli competition, learning language creatively, visits to the village, interacting with the people, cooking, trekking, yoga, meditation, staging mime shows on general hygiene and importance of saving the girl child etc. The camp also included recreation for the girls, screening of motivational videos, formation of gratitude circles, parliament, group activities and campfire. On the last day of the camp, the girls put up a programme expressing gratitude to the community of Don Bosco Ajjanahalli - Rev. Fr. Maria Julian, Rector, Fr. Siju, Administrator, Fr. John Peter, clerics Roshan and Yesuraj. The children were given prizes during the programme and some of the paintings of the children were presented to the Fathers and Brothers as a token of memory. The activities and sessions were conducted by Ms Ajantha, Ms Saroja, Ms Mary Shamala, Sr. Malika and Ms Shruthi. Seventy-four girls participated in this camp.



## HEALTH CAMPS

### Ramanna Garden Hub Center



ECCE, BOSCO Bengaluru organized a Health check-up at Ramanna Garden Hub center on April 26, 2019. Ms Vinnarasi, Cluster Coordinator, ECCE organized the checkup. A complete physical checkup (eye, ear,

mouth, weight check) was done for all the children. Anemia, mouth cavities, vitamin deficiency, mouth ulcers and fungal infections were commonly seen among the children. Children were guided to keep themselves clean and to eat fruits and vegetables. Parents and Anganwadi teachers were guided as to how to overcome vitamin deficiency by giving nutritious food. Parents were told to avoid giving chocolates and sweets to children.

The health checkup was conducted by Dr Parimala, Pediatrician and Ms Nisha, Nurse, Brindhavvan Areion Hospital, Bengaluru. Ms Sureka, Anganwadi Cluster Supervisor, three Anganwadi Teachers and one helper were also present during the camp. Forty-five children underwent the health checkup.

### Brindhavvan Hospital

CRY, BOSCO organized a Health Screening Camp for badminton aspirants on May 17, 2019 at Brindhavvan Areion Hospital, Bengaluru. Dr. Prashanth Jain, Orthopaedic Surgeon and Dr. Sharanu, Physician, examined the children.

Children were made to undergo ECG Scan, Complete Blood Count, Serum Creatinine and GRBS tests. Two children were guided to take calcium supplements, one child to take medication for cold and two children to take medication for fever. The Doctor prescribed protein supplement for all the children as most of them had low haemoglobin count. The Doctor also advised the children to take two glasses of milk, two eggs and one banana everyday. One child with breathing problems was asked to consult a paediatrician in the coming week. All the children aspiring to take up badminton were examined thoroughly by the physician and certified with a fitness certificate.

Mr. Ravindran, General Manager, Mr. Munni Raj and Mr. Rakesh, Consultants, Brindhavvan Areion Hospital assisted in carrying out the health camp. Medicines and protein powder were distributed to



the children. Ten children aspiring to take up badminton availed the services of the screening camp.

## OUTINGS & EXPOSURE VISITS



### Bakery Trainees

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



## Trainees in Welding Trade

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



## Picnic to Fun and Water World Amusement Park

BOSCO Nilaya organised a one day picnic at Fun and Water World Amusement Park, Bengaluru for the children of ten tuition centres- Vyayam Shaala, Cement Huts, Vinobhanagar, Gurappa Garden, Ramanna Garden, Rajgopal Garden, Anandapuram, Giripuram and BOSCO Nilaya on April 24, 2019.

The children enjoyed playing in Water world in the morning. In the afternoon, they were engaged in other games. The picnic gave the

children and staff members a lot of joy and happiness. The children thanked BOSCO for the opportunity, as most of them were visiting the park for the first time. 76 children from 10 tuition centres and 20 staff members participated in the picnic. Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, BOSCO Nilaya, Mr. Melvyn, Sponsor, Australia and Mr. Bhora, Assistant of Mr. Melvyn and tuition teachers were present.



## Picnic to Fun World Amusement Park

The residents of BOSCO Life Skill Training were taken for a one-day picnic to Fun World Amusement Park, Bengaluru, on May 31, 2019. The thrilling rides like tsunami, rollercoaster, bumper car, etc. kept the boys on their toes. The water games like lazy river and wave pool were refreshing. Overall, the boys enjoyed playing the water

games and dry games. The time spent in Snow City was also memorable. It was a good time of relaxation for everyone. Twenty-one youth, nine staff and Fr. Prasad, SDB, Director, Sumanahalli were part of the programme.





# MEETINGS

## CWC Members

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

Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, Foster Care Programme, started with an introduction about BOSCO, its services, explained about CHILD-LINE toll free number (1098) and child rights, and then moved on to foster care concept, types of foster care, purpose of foster care, difference between adoption & foster care, selection criteria of potential parents & children, to whom the awareness can be given, age group of children, time frame of placement, follow up of children, legal procedures, roles and responsibilities of the CWC. CWC members informed that the foster care programme was already being implemented and that they had placed some children in foster



care families. Mr. Shivanna, P.O, proposed the vote of thanks. Nine members participated in the meeting.



## Parents

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan organized a parents meeting at the centre on June 2, 2019. Welcoming the parents and guardians, Ms Joythi, Counsellor, Vatsalya Bhavan insisted on the parents/guardians being responsible and caring. She also educated the parents on the roles and responsibilities of the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). Ms Ajantha, Coordinator, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, interacted with the parents/guardians individually and discussed about their children's overall progress and performance.

Mrs. Nagarathna, Chairperson, CWC-3 was present during the meeting. Twenty-four children were produced before the CWC. Thirty-five parents/guardians participated in the meeting.

## Foster Parents

The BOSCO Foster Care team organized a Parents' Meeting for the Foster Parents at BOSCO Mane, Bengaluru, on June 22, 2019. Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, welcomed the parents and introduced Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya to the group.

Addressing the parents, Fr. Pallipuram appreciated the Foster Parents for giving life to the children. He said that, as parents everyone should fulfil the physical and basic needs of the children such as food, clothing, shelter, health and hygiene, safety, etc. He felt that it is important to understand the emotional needs of the children by spending time with them, showing love and affection, interacting and listening to them so that the emotional bonding strengthens. He exhorted parents to cultivate discipline in children so that they would grow up as responsible citizens of the society. The parents prom-

ised that they would take care of the children with love, care and also treat them as their own children. The program concluded with the vote of thanks by Mr. Shivamallu. Twenty-one parents and staff attended the meeting.



# ANNUAL EVALUATION MEETING

## 'Let us recommit ourselves' Fr. Antony Sebastian

The Annual Evaluation of BOSCO was held at BOSCO Yuvodaya, Bengaluru on June 18 and 19, 2019. Welcoming the guests and the gathering, Fr. Mathew Thomas, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, was happy to share 'BOSCO at a Glance' during June 2018 to May 2019, which showcased the generous and dedicated efforts of the staff. He also shared the message of Fr. George Kollashany, Founder Member of BOSCO, who had congratulated BOSCO for its reach during the year. He felt that the two day evaluation was an exercise aimed at deepening our experiences in the field of working with children. Inaugurating the Annual Evaluation, Fr. Antony Sebastian, Chairperson, Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR), Bengaluru, said, "Let us recommit ourselves towards the cause of betterment of children. We need to bring back our passion and enthusiasm for the cause". He exhorted BOSCO to work towards ensuring 100% enrollment and 0% dropout in schools. He assured BOSCO of his support in bringing about 100% enrollments in the state.

The activities of twenty-six departments were evaluated on the basis of the reports presented.

The log frames of activities of the programmes of BOSCO for 2019-20 were planned. Major events, activities and campaigns to be organized during the year were also planned. The birthdays of the staff were celebrated on the



occasion. All the new staff, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Clerics Subin, Pavan and Xavier were welcomed and introduced to BOSCO Bengaluru. All the managing directors of BOSCO and staff were present during the evaluation.

## CAMPAIGNS

### International Child Helpline Day Celebrated

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

Mr. Vasudev Sharma recalled the struggles of Eglantyne Jebb, the British Social Reformer and exhorted everyone to boldly stand up

for the rights of children. Fr. Prasad, Director, CHILDLINE, BOSCO Bengaluru appealed to the public to report violations of the rights of children through the helpline. He added that help for a child in need is just a call away. The Directors, Coordinators and staff members of BOSCO, APSA, Child Rights Trust, BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE and SATHI were present at the rally.



### Join Hands to Trace Missing Children!

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

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



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

## Talk Show on Akashvani FM Rainbow



**FM Rainbow 101.3 Mhz, Bengaluru**

8 hrs · Facebook for Android ·

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

## Shaale Kade Nanna Nade Campaign

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



CREAM Project, BOSCO Bengaluru with the support of BOSCO Yuvakendra, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan and CHILDLINE; BOSCO Nilaya Team in collaboration with BOSCO Rainbow Home; BOSCO Nivas team with the support of BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE and ARSP teams and tuition children, and Child Safety Net (CSN) with the support of SJPU and ARSP teams organized the campaign at various areas of Bengaluru. The youth from Yuvakendra and the girls from Rainbow Home enacted theme based mimes in the areas and conducted rallies. The message about the importance of education, enrollment and re-enrollment to schools and facilities at government schools was disseminated by shouting slogans, displaying placards, flex boards, and distribution of pamphlets. The team conducted awareness programmes and door to door campaigns regarding the importance of education, CHILDLINE, and child rights for children and general public. Close to 10,000 people pledged their support for the cause of enrolling and re-enrolling the drop outs into school during the total span of six days of the campaign.

People from various communities appreciated BOSCO and its work. They assured that they will enroll children into schools. RMSA, BRC, CRP, SDMC, H.Ms, teachers from the Education Department, Ward Counsellors, officials from ICDS Department, Police Department, Child Welfare Committee, Bala Vikas Samithi, Youth, Community leaders, SHG, CRC were involved in the campaign. The week-long campaign was conducted under the guidance and presence of Fr. Prasad and Fr. Regi.





## Plant a Tree, Breathe Free

World Environment Day was celebrated at BOSCO Sumanahalli on June 5, 2019. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mahantesh Hanji, Senior Assistant Director, Horticulture Watershed Development Department, Bengaluru said "In order to make our planet safer for us and for generations to come, we need to plant more trees and avoid the use of plastic."

Fr. Prasad, Director, BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, said that small steps taken towards preserving nature and greenery would make a big difference in the long run. Children recited the World Environment Day anthem and took an oath to preserve the earth. Fifty saplings were planted by the residents of the centre and the children from Devaraj Urs Slum, Sumanahalli.

Ms Shruthi, Coordinator, BOSCO Sumanahalli welcomed the gathering and Ms Vinushree, Counsellor, CHILDLINE, proposed the vote of thanks. Ms Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, Sr. Selvi, Principal, St. Josephs Higher Primary School, Sumanahalli, project staff, and over eighty children participated in the event.

## International Yoga Day

BOSCO Nivas celebrated International Yoga Day at Govt. Kannada and Telugu Higher Primary Schools on June 21, 2019. Children were given an introduction to the term Yoga. Further enlightening the children on Yoga, they were told that Yoga could be considered as a disciplined method of attaining a goal, and a method of controlling the body and the mind. Children were also given a demonstration of asanas namely, Shavasana, Surya Namaskara, Padmasana, Vakrasana, Veerabhadrasana etc. Children along with the HM of the school, Ms Usha Rani performed the asanas. Thirty children from the school along with the teachers and HM participated in the Yoga session.



## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### Survey at Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station (Bengaluru City Stn)

Bengaluru Railway CHILDLINE (BRCL) conducted a survey on runaway children being found in Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station from April 24 to 26, 2019. The survey was conducted at all the platforms of the railway station in three shifts (6.00 AM to 2.00 PM, 12.00 PM to 8.00PM and 8.00 PM to 6.00 AM) to identify the average count of runaway children. Twenty-one children (nineteen boys and two girls) were rescued during the survey. The children rescued belonged to Karnataka, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and

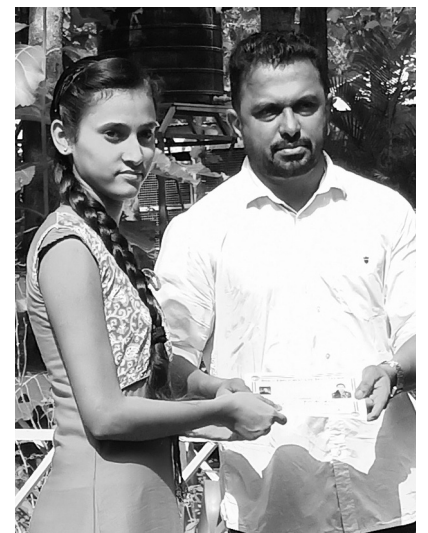


Orissa. As per the survey, most of the children had come to the city in search of jobs. Another reason for running away from home was the attraction of the city. Eighteen staff and nine student volunteers were involved in conducting the survey.

### Certificates Awarded to Trainees at BOSCO Sumanahalli

BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre organized Certificate distribution for the youth who completed skill training and computer training on May 14, 2019. The center provides non-formal vocational training in Bakery trade, Carpentry, Electrical, Two-wheeler Mechanics and Welding. Basic Computer (Microsoft Word, Power Point, Excel etc.) and Tally are taught at the center for the residents as well as those from the neighborhood.

The duration of the courses offered ranges from three to six months. A certificate is awarded to the trainee at the completion of the course. Two vocational trainees and two neighbourhood youth who completed the computer training received the Certificate of completion from Fr. Prasad, SDB, Director, Sumanahalli, Bengaluru.



## Values to Cultivate

BOSCO Rainbow Home, Bengaluru organized a Value Education session on 'Obedience' for the children on June 23, 2019. Sr. Shama-la, Counselor, BOSCO Rainbow Home began the session with party games connecting them to the value of obedience. The girls were told that obedience was not just about rules, regulations and punishment. It was also about co-operating with each other in order to have a safe and friendly atmosphere. They were reminded that obedience is doing what is right, doing it with good attitude and doing everything to the best of one's ability. The four important values of obedience such as following instructions correctly; completing what one is expected to do; having a cheerful and positive attitude and not obeying a wrong command were taught to the children. Thirty-eight girls benefited from this session.



## Youth Parliament at Yuvakendra

BOSCO Yuvakendra, Bengaluru, organized Youth Parliament for the residents of the centre on June 22, 2019. The previous month's report was read. The new entrants to the centre were welcomed and introduced to the group. The youth discussed about keeping the premises clean, maintaining personal hygiene, waste management and waste segregation, displaying decent behavior, taking care of the centre materials and infrastructure etc. They also discussed about the importance of the events such as Shaale Kade Nanna Nade, Anti Child Labour Day, BOSCO Anniversary and International Yoga Day. Sr. Silvy, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, exhorted the youth to lead a disciplined life and become responsible citizens of the society. Twenty-two youth participated in the meeting.

## Distribution of Shoes to Anganwadi Children

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Project, BOSCO Bengaluru in collaboration with Dr. Shruthi, NIMHANS and Bata Happy Steps Project took the initiative of distributing 500 pairs of shoes to children belonging to twenty-two Anganwadi Centres in the working areas of BOSCO, during the second and third week of May 2019. Ms Priya, Ms Jyothi and Ms Prathibha, BOSCO staff assisted the distribution of shoes. Ms Meenakshi Kabade, CDPO, Bangalore Central, Ms Surekha, Ms Shashikala, Ms Pushpa and Ms Seema, Anganwadi Cluster Supervisors, Anganwadi teachers, helpers and parents, and Fr. Regi Jacob, Director, ECCE were present for the programme.



## Kabaddi Kabaddi!

BOSCO Nilaya organized an exposure visit for the children and youth of the centre to Kanteerava Indoor Stadium, Bengaluru, with the support of Book My Show and RMT Department, BOSCO, to watch Indoor International Premier Kabaddi League on June 4, 2019.

Mr. Vajubhai Vala, Governor, Karnataka State, was the chief guest. Mr. Gurukiran, Singer, Kannada Film Industry entertained the audience. The kabaddi match was between Chennai and Delhi and the finals between Bengaluru and Pune. Bengaluru won the match. The Children and youth were very happy and excited to watch the live matches. Twelve youth and twenty-three children from Vinobhanagar and BOSCO Nilaya were part of the exposure visit. Mr. Waseem, Coordinator, BOSCO Nilaya, led the group.



# RESULTS

## SSLC RESULTS



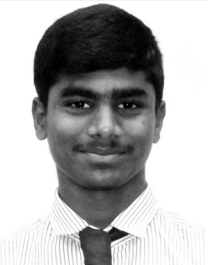
### Shrilakshmi

Shrilakshmi joined BOSCO Rainbow Home in May 2014. She is the daughter of Late Mr. Suresh, and Mrs. Geetha. She studied in Shree Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose High School, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru. She has scored 58% in the SSLC exam. When Shrilakshmi was studying in the 9<sup>th</sup> standard, she took the courageous step of informing BBMP and getting the garbage around her school campus removed. For this same reason, she was appreciated and awarded by the "Children's Movement for Civic Awareness". Shreelakshmi is good at sports, and has won several prizes.



### Baby Shyamali

Baby Shyamali (16) hails from Bengaluru. She came to BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan in June 2017. She has scored 58% in the SSLC exam. She is good at painting, and has participated in several competitions and won prizes in school.



### Avinash

Avinash (17) comes from Bengaluru. He came to BOSCO Mane in November 2012. After his bridge course he was shifted to BOSCO Vikas in 2013. He was enrolled in St. Joseph's High school, Bengaluru. He is very interested in sports. He plays football, cricket and is good in athletics. He has undergone Taekwondo training. He actively participates in all the school and BOSCO events and has won many laurels. He appeared for the SSLC exam in April 2019 and secured 67.5%. He has plans of becoming a software engineer.



### Manjunath M

Manjunath M (16) is a native of Doddaballapur. He was rescued from Bengaluru Railway Station and brought to BOSCO Mane in June 2014. He underwent bridge course till May 2015 and was later placed in BOSCO Vikas. He was then formally enrolled in the Model Primary School in Bengaluru. He completed his SSLC from St. Joseph's High School. He scored 71.36% marks in SSLC. He is active, loves participating in quizzes and speech competitions. He actively participates in BOSCO events and has won prizes.



### Pradeep

Pradeep (17) came to BOSCO in July 2015. He was initially in Vikas and was later placed in Foster Care in August 2016. He was studying in Shri Lakshmi Ramanna High School, Bengaluru. He has passed SSLC with 55% marks. An active boy, he is very interested in drama and theatre. He is good at sports and has won many prizes during BOSCO events.

**Eight of the 27 children from Nilaya Tuition Centres who appeared for the SSLC exam have cleared all papers**

**2 out of 7 children in Nivas who appeared for the SSLC exams have passed**

## PUC II RESULTS



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



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



**Pooja** from Gulbarga was rescued by BOSCO CHILDLINE from getting married as a child. She appeared for PUC II during 2018-19 and has passed with 43% marks. She has joined BA course.

All the 7 children who had appeared for PUC II exams during 2018-19 from BOSCO Nilaya working areas have passed the exam. Among them 5 were girls and 2 were boys. From BOSCO Nivas, 1 boy appeared for the PUC II exam and cleared it.

## CASE STUDIES

### *Recipe for a New Life*

Failure has a negative connotation, but in reality it can be the stepping stone that leads you to success.

"I am Dinesh" from Bengaluru and I lost my parents at the age of three and became an orphan. I did not give up. After a few days, the family of a doctor adopted me. While growing up, I couldn't bear the ill-treatment at home and I ran away so many times. Finally I decided to leave home for good.

When I left, I had nothing except the clothes I was wearing. I settled down on a street on Hosur Road and did odd jobs till one day I heard about a place in Tirupati where I could get free food and shelter. So, I went to Tirupati. As I didn't feel like staying there, I returned to Bengaluru. A policeman found me and referred me to BOSCO.

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

One of the most difficult steps is choosing what work to do and to choose it correctly. I have just finished my Bachelor's Degree in Hotel management from Christ University (a four-year course), specializing in kitchen and bakery. I also did an additional course in marketing.

All of us at one point or the other have faced challenges and difficulties. I am grateful to my mentors, Sheeba aunty, Manavi aunty, Silvy aunty and Bharathi aunty who have tried to change my behaviour through counselling, motivation etc. I really thank you for your hard work and moulding me into the person I am today.

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

Joji uncle is another significant person in my life. He supported me in pursuing higher studies, PUC at St. Joseph College and Degree at Christ University. Fr. Mathew, Fr. John and Fr. Rubin have accompanied me throughout my academic journey with their guidance and motivation. Once again, I thank BOSCO for making me who I am!"





## Mechanic Maruthi!

Maruthi Prakash Mavarkar hails from Bagalkot, Mudhol Taluk. He is an orphan and a 9<sup>th</sup> standard school dropout. He was in the care of his maternal uncle, when he left home and came to Bengaluru in November 2017. After trying his hand at various odd jobs for almost three months, he ended up at the Majestic bus stand, and was rescued by BOSCO.

He spent a few days at BOSCO Yuvodaya and was later transferred to BOSCO Yuvakendra. After staying at the centre for two months, as he expressed his desire to undergo skill training in two-wheeler mechanics, he was sent to BOSCO Sumanahalli, the Life Skill training centre.

Maruthi showed a keen interest in learning the trade and completed the six months course in two-wheeler mechanics. While undergoing skill training, he persistently informed the counsellors and authorities at the centre that he wants to pursue his studies. Seeing his sustained interest, he was referred to Don Bosco Yuvakarama, Ajjanahalli, Magadi. He was directly admitted to the 10<sup>th</sup> Standard in the Rural Residential High School in Ajjanahalli.

He continued his studies, staying at the centre. Maruthi appeared for his SSLC exam and scored 401/625 (64.16 %). Now he wishes to go back to stay with his maternal uncle and sister. He wants to stay with his family and continue his education. His dream is to have his own two-wheeler showroom.

Maruthi says, "Had it not been for the care and support that I received at the BOSCO institutions, I would have reached nowhere in life."

## Life Skills and Spoken English Classes

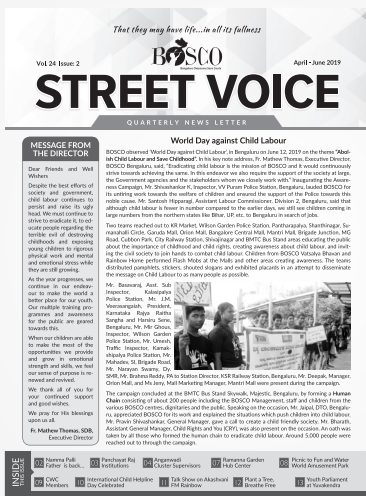
BOSCO Computer Training Project, funded by Charity Aid Foundation, organized life skill sessions and spoken English sessions for the computer trainees at BOSCO Mane from May 2019 to June 2019. The sessions were facilitated by the faculty from Creating Future, Bengaluru. Life skills such as self-confidence, self-awareness, hopes, overcoming fears, communication, problem solving, decision making, thinking out of the box, grabbing opportunities, participation, planning for the future, respecting each other, and inter and intrapersonal skills were taught through various activities like 'crossing the river', '123 bang, bang', 'passing the ball', 'filling up the dots', 'meditation', etc.

Spoken English classes included basics of English: grammar, sentence formation, framing questions, increasing vocabulary, and basic communication in English through activities like playing word puzzle, word building, etc. Thirty-five computer trainees attended the classes.



**"without confidence & love, there can be no true education"**

ST. JOHN BOSCO



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