

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



Vol. 27 Issue 3

July to September 2022

STREET VOICE

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

Freedom For Children: A Distant Dream?

Former President of the United States, Ronald Reagan once said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same." While interacting with the students and teachers of one of the large government schools in the city recently (where there are around 2000 students), it was learnt that there was a lack of drinking water and sanitation facilities among other basic infrastructural deficiencies. The matter has been brought to the notice of the concerned department. However, the story is not an isolated one. As per the statistics of UNICEF India, there are high levels of malnutrition (38.4 per cent of children are stunted), poor learning outcomes (only 42.5 per cent of children in grade three can read a grade one text), vaccine-preventable diseases, and child labour persisting in our country. Children from underprivileged backgrounds, including those in rural areas, slums, urban poor families, scheduled castes, tribal communities, and other disadvantaged groups suffer from a variety of disadvantages, including poverty, malnutrition, access to quality health care, child marriage, low school attendance, poor academic performance, a lack of facilities for sanitation and hygiene, and a lack of improved water supply. The majority of child brides worldwide are from India. In terms of the prevalence of child marriage among the eight South Asian nations, India comes in fourth (after Bangladesh, Nepal, and Afghanistan). As India completes 75 years of independence, may we have the courage to relentlessly lobby and fight for the protection and promotion of the rights of children who are the 'citizens of today.'

Fr. Prasad SDB

BOSCO DIARY

JULY TO
SEPTEMBER

- Awareness Campaigns
- Value Education Classes
- Life Skills
- Meetings
- Youth Parliament
- Training and Workshops
- Campaigns and Celebrations - Independence Day, National YaR Day, Don Bosco's Birthday, Life Skills Day, Teachers' Day, World Day against Trafficking in Persons, Anniversary Celebration at BOSCO Yuvakendra
- Health Camps
- Exposure Visits, Outings and Picnics
- Formation of Child Protection Committees
- Course Completion Certificates
- Monitoring and Quarterly Evaluation
- Monitoring and Quarterly Evaluation
- Quiz Competition
- Visits of Other NGOs and Foreign Volunteers
- Art Therapy Session
- Distribution of Track Suits to Children

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Open House Programme Organized

CHILDLINE, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized an Open House programme at the Govt. High school, Nelagadarana Halli, and PVP College and School, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru, on August 11 and September 24, 2022, respectively. Addressing the gathering, Fr. Prasad, Director, CHILDLINE Bengaluru, spoke about the objectives, role and responsibility of CHILDLINE. He spoke briefly about the purpose of the Open House programme. Ms. Shashikala, Education Officer, spoke on the occasion and opined that children should know about the government schemes which help them. Mr. Siddu Hugar, Sub Inspector, Peenya Police Station, and Mr. Shridhar, Sub Inspector,



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Jnana Bharathi Police Station, interacted with the children. They explained the ill effects of taking alcohol and drugs. He exhorted the children to have dreams and to work hard to achieve them. Ms Nagamani, Nodal Coordinator, conducted an open discussion with the children. The children shared the various issues they were facing. The CHIDLINe team took the list of issues from the children and assured them that the team would follow up on the issues. Over four hundred and fifty children, and two hundred and eighty college students and school teachers/lecturers were present for the programme



Police Sensitization



Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), BOSCO Bengaluru, organized a sensitization programme for the police officials of Shankarapura Police Station and ACP South Zone, Bengaluru, during August and September 2022. Information on child rights, child protection mechanisms, child-related issues, child-related laws and acts, JJ Act, SJPU and procedures involved in the SJPU project, documents required to be maintained, and roles and responsibilities of the SJPU team, was given to the police officials by Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU Project. Mr. M. Shivarama, SI, Ms. Annapoorna, Woman PSI, Mr. Pavan N (KSPS) Asst. Commissioner of Police (South Zone), and fifty-five Inspectors, CWOs and WPCs were part of the sensitization programme.

Health Centre Awareness Programme



CHIDLINe team conducted an Awareness programme at the Govt. Primary Health Centre, Ullal Upanagar, on September 15, 2022. The team explained rescue interventions and the procedures of CWC and JJB. They shared that every child has rights as well as duties. After the session, CHIDLINe and child rights pamphlets were distributed to the Hospital staff and the Public. Over 33 members of the public and 10 staff members benefitted from the programme.

Awareness of Moving Trains



Adjacent Railway Street Presence (ARSP) Project, BOSCO Bengaluru, conducted awareness in moving trains running from BNC Railway Station to KSR Railway Station and from Yelahanka to BNC Railway Station, on September 23, 2022. The passengers on the train were given information about child rights, child-related laws and acts, child helpline number 1098, children's issues, and BOSCO's support for the young at risk. Around two hundred pamphlets were distributed to the passengers on the trains.

Awareness Programme for Caring Community

The Outreach Team working in the BMTC Bus Stand organized an Awareness Programme for the Caring Community Group (CCG) comprising BMTC Sweepers, at the BMTC parking area, on September 23, 2022. Mr. Kiran, Team Member, spoke about children in distress, child rights, and the role of BOSCO in protecting the rights of the children. Information was given on the BOSCO Assistance Center in the BMTC and KSRTC bus stands and its services. Mr. Narsimha, Supervisor, BMTC, asked the CCG members to be attentive towards needy children and to refer them to BOSCO for further support and rehabilitation. Twenty-five BMTC Sweepers were given awareness.



MEETINGS

Parents' Meetings

BOSCO Rainbow Home conducted a Parents' Meeting at the centre on July 24, 2022. The parents were made aware of the importance of education, about their visits to the centre to meet their wards, CWC rules and procedures, and updating documents like Caste Certificates, Aadhaar Cards, etc. They were also updated about the performance and behaviour of their children. Fifteen parents attended the meeting.



BOSCO Nilaya organized a meeting of the parents at GKEMPS, KP Agrahara Dasarahalli, on September 3, 2022. Mr. Joseph Raj, Coordinator, BOSCO CREAM project, and Bhagyalakshmi, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Nilaya, stressed on the need for the children to be regular in tuition classes to improve their overall academic performance. They spoke about the existing Government schemes for their wards and the procedures for availing of the benefits of these schemes. They appealed to the parents to support BOSCO in reducing the number of school dropouts. Thirty-two parents attended the meeting.



BOSCO Yuvakendra organized a Parents' Meeting at the centre, on September 27, 2022, to sensitize them to the need to bring changes and to provide a good future for their children. Sr. Silvy, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, spoke about the performance of the youths, the activities of the centre, and the support required by the children from their parents. Geethamala, Counsellor, BOSCO Yuvakendra, spoke about the behavioural changes seen in the boys. Parents were allowed to interact with their children. Parents were happy to see the progress of their wards and shared that Yuvakendra was like a second home for them. Eight parents participated in the meeting.



Meeting With Police Officials

BOSCO Foster Care Programme conducted meetings with the police officials of Vijayanagar Police Station and East Division, Bengaluru, at Vijayanagar Police Station and Shishu Mandir, Kithganur, Bengaluru, respectively, on August 23 and 26, 2022. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, Foster Care programme, briefed everyone about the CWC, DCPO, types of children produced before the CWC, and the foster care concept. Ms. Sindhu Naik explained the adoption procedure, and Ms. Nagamani, Nodal Coordinator, briefed the gathering about the JJ Act. Mr. Hemant Kumar, Member, CWC 3, Ms. Geetha Lakshmi, DCPO, East Division, and Mr. Subramani, Legal Consultant, Shishu Mandir, were present during the meetings. A total of seventy-two police officials attended the meetings.



Meeting With District Child Protection Officer



BOSCO Foster Care programme attended the meeting organized by the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) at Yelahanka, on September 2, 2022. Mr. Thimmaiah, DCPO, welcomed the gathering and introduced the BOSCO Staff. Mr. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care programme, explained in detail the foster care concept, eligibility criteria for children and parents, role of the DCPO and CWC, duration of foster care, etc. Mr. Anna Rao, PO-NIC, NGO Staff, and DCPU staff attended the meeting.

Group Foster Care Parents' Meeting



Group Foster Care Parents' Meeting was organized by the BOSCO Foster Care team at BOSCO Mane, on September 17, 2022. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, briefed everyone about the behaviour of the children placed in Group Foster Care units. Parents of the Group Foster Care shared that the children are doing well in school, are close to their foster mother and share their daily activities with her. However, one child had some health problems and needed to be taken to the hospital frequently. The parents of Group Foster Care-2 shared that the children have adjusted well to the atmosphere of the home and are doing well in studies and sports. Fr. Pallipuram, Executive Director, exhorted parents to spend quality time with their children and to pay attention to their behaviour. There were discussions on identifying sponsors for the Foster Care programme. A one-day outing was planned for Group Foster Care unit-2. Fr. Jose Joseph, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru, and Nandini, Documentation Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care programme, were present in the meeting.

Youth Meeting

BOSCO Nivas organized a youth meeting at the Moulana Azad Model English School, Shivaji Nagar, on September 16, 2022, to create awareness about drug abuse among children. The children were given information about the harmful effects of different types of drugs, the consequences of using drugs, and mental health problems. The Nivas team explained in detail the effects of using drugs on their families, friends, education, their self-esteem, and the economic status of their families. Tips were given on how to stay focused on positive goals which will prevent them from getting into addictions. Children pledged to say 'No' to drugs. Thirty-six children attended the meeting.



EXPOSURE VISIT

Exposure Visit to Silicon Honda Showroom



An exposure visit was organized for the trainees of the Two-wheeler Unit of BOSCO Sumanahalli to Silicon Honda Showroom, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru, on July 4, 2022. It was a hands-on experience for the youths who were able to work with the tools at the garage. They were also given exposure to advanced machines. The staff of the showroom spoke highly of Prasanna, a trainee of BOSCO Sumanahalli who has been working in the showroom. During the visit, the showroom personnel selected two of the trainees to join their outlet for work. Seven trainees along with Mr. Narendranath, Instructor, Two-wheeler trade, BOSCO Sumanahalli, visited the showroom.

Exposure Visit to Ramachandrapuram



The tailoring students of BOSCO Nivas were taken to Ramachandrapuram, Bengaluru, for an exposure visit, on July 13, 2022. The exposure visit was organized to create awareness and knowledge about purchasing the materials necessary for tailoring. Guidance about the measurement of fabrics, and materials like threads, needles, scissors, buttons, zips, etc., was given to the students. The visit helped them gain a greater understanding of matters related to tailoring and craftwork. Fourteen trainees along with Ms. Daisy, Tailoring Instructor, Ms. Priya Malini, Coordinator, and Mr. Xavier, Team Member, BOSCO Nivas, were part of the exposure visit.

Exposure Visit to Amma's Pastries



The Bakery Unit of BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, organized an exposure visit for the trainees of the unit to Amma's Pastries, Kothanur, Bengaluru, on September 22, 2022. Mr. Ravi, Manager, Amma's Pastries, welcomed the group and introduced them to the unit. The HR Manager of the unit explained the daily activities, especially those involved in cake and doughnut making. He also introduced them to the machines being used for making cakes and other bakery products. Five trainees along with Antony Dass, Instructor, Bakery Unit, and Pramila, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Sumanahalli, visited the bakery.

TRAINING

Staff Induction Training

The Human Resource Department, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized an Induction Training for the newly recruited staff, at BOSCO Yuvodaya, on July 20, 2022. Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, ARSP, BS, and CSN, welcomed the participants and spoke words of introduction. There was an ice-breaker session by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru. He also facilitated a session on the Programs and Services of BOSCO. This session gave the new staff a clear understanding of the overall services rendered and the programs carried out at BOSCO.

Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU project, and Mr. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care project, conducted an interactive session on Child Rights and Child Laws. This session made the staff aware of child rights and their importance in the development of children. Fr. Jude Anand, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, engaged the staff with a session on the Preventive System of Don Bosco. The staff were involved in group discussions and other learning activities. Mr. Basavaraju P.N, Coordinator, BOSCO CSN project, took a session on Child Welfare Committee (CWC) procedures, and the HR Policy session was taken



by Mr. Prashantha Murthy, HR Manager. The newly appointed staff members were apprised of the HR Policy, the leave system, mechanisms for the prevention of sexual harassment of women at the workplace, the grievance redressal system, punctuality and regularity, attendance, and dress code. The training session came to an end with concluding remarks by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram. Twenty-five staff members participated in the induction programme.

Tuition Teachers' Training

BOSCO Nilaya organized a half-day capacity-building programme for the teachers of the tuition centres, at the centre, on July 16, 2022. Fr. Jude Anand, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas, instructed the teachers about the general rules and regulations followed in the tuition centres, about increasing the attendance of the children in the centres and making the learning process interesting and interactive. He also gave tips on improving their teaching skills. Fifteen teachers attended the training session.



Training for Child Rights Club Members

CREAM, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized the third module of training for the members of the Child Rights Clubs (CRCs), at ten schools in Bengaluru Urban during the first week of September 2022. The staff briefed the members about BOSCO, CREAM, and CHILDLINE. Children gained knowledge about UNCRC, child rights, child-related laws, and children in difficult situations. They were given information about maintaining and protecting the environment. They were encouraged to create a 'Green World'. Children expressed that the training helped them become better individuals and empowered them to fight for their rights. Around a thousand children from various schools of Bengaluru Urban attended the training.



Training on Road Safety



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, organized training on Road Safety for the youth of the centre, to help them understand the various rules and signs related to road safety, on September 9, 2022. Ms. Sandhya, Need Base India, introduced the topic "Two Wheels and One Person" to the trainees. Ms. Salima, Road Safety Trainer, Need Base India, explained the concept using a PowerPoint presentation. The topics covered were safe-rider, how to be safe as pedestrians as well as two-wheeler riders, important road signs, the importance of wearing helmets, etc. All the participants were awarded a Certificate of Participation and presented with notebooks, pens, and smileys. Ms. Saleena, Coordinator, BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, welcomed the gathering and Master Harish proposed the vote of thanks. Nineteen trainees attended the training.

Training for Police Officials

A training was organized for the Police Officials of the KSRP Battalion at Chamarajpet, Bengaluru, by the CSN project, BOSCO Bengaluru, on September 5, 2022. Mr. PN Basavaraj, Coordinator, CSN project, explained in detail about BOSCO, CSN project, child-related issues, child rights, child laws, and the role of the police in protecting children in difficult circumstances. He said that child labour was largely prevalent and that BOSCO needed the support of police personnel in identifying and rescuing child labourers and giving them their rightful due. Thirty-two Police Officials attended the training.



Orientation Programme

An orientation programme was conducted for the students of Kristu Jayanthi College, Bengaluru, at BOSCO Yuvodaya, on September 20, 2022. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, took a session for the volunteers. He explained to them the history of BOSCO, its vision and mission, programmes, projects, activities, etc. Mr. Bhaskaran, Director, SOS Children's Village, spoke briefly about the history of SOS and the programmes implemented by the organization. Students posed questions about the challenges faced, funding, and resource mobilization. College faculties wanted to know about the internship opportunities in the organization. Students interacted with children of the Open Shelter. Forty MSW students, two faculty members, and two staff members of SOS Children's Village participated in the programme.

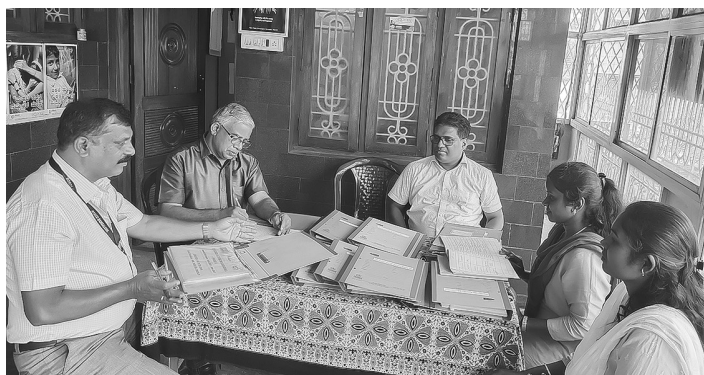


MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring Visit to Don Bosco, Ramanagara

BOSCO Foster Care team comprising of Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Mr. Shivamallu, the State Coordinator, Foster Care programme, and Ms. Nandini, Documentation Coordinator, visited Don Bosco, Ramanagara, to verify the documents related to the Foster Care programme maintained by the centre.

The team had a meeting with Narayana Swamy, Deputy Director (DD), Mrs. Nagaveni, DCPO, Mrs. Suchitra, PO - IC, Ms. Savitha, Counselor, and Mr. Lakshman, PO -NIC (DCPU Staff). Mr. Shivamallu shared in detail about the awareness/training programmes conducted in the district after getting permission from the concerned departments; explained the Amendment Rules and Foster Care SOP; briefed everyone about the Foster Care programme implemented in the ten districts and the placement of children in the ten districts with the help of the DCPO and CWC members. There was a discussion regarding the parents' applications received in the office. District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) said that they would seek the assistance of Don Bosco staff to do the SIR. The DCPO shared about the children who are transferred to the SOS Village. The Deputy Director appreciated the services of Don Bosco, the DCPO, and the Unit staff.

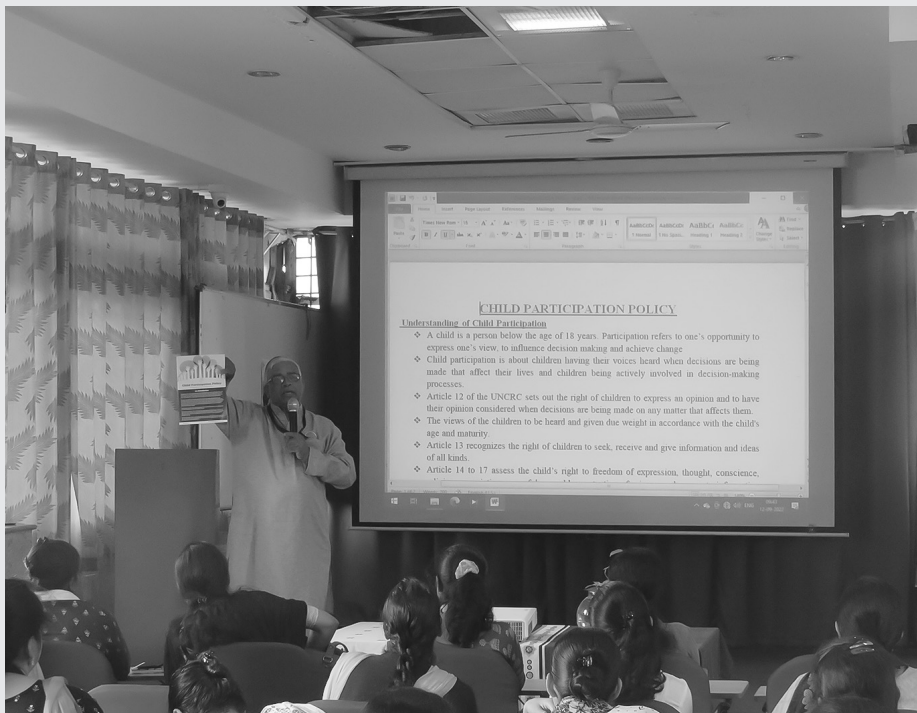


The State Team had a meeting with Fr. Saji, Director, Don Bosco, Ramanagara, and the Social Mobilizer. They verified all the documents maintained at the centre. The team was happy to note that Don Bosco and Ramanagara had reached their targets. The team observed that there was a good rapport between the DB centre and Government officials.

Quarterly Evaluation at Bosco

The first quarterly evaluation of BOSCO for the period of June 2022 to August 2022 was held at BOSCO Yuvodaya, Bengaluru, on September 12, 2022. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, in the keynote address shed light on the Child Participation Policy. He said that participation refers to one's opportunity to express one's view, influence decision making and achieve change. He explained the guiding principles of participation and the guidelines for implementing child participation in the BOSCO centres, areas, and communities, based on the document released by the National YaR Office. He welcomed one and all to the meeting and exhorted everyone to make meaningful contributions.

The projects and programmes of BOSCO were evaluated based on the quarterly reports presented by the coordinators. E Street Voice of August 2022 was released on the occasion. It was suggested to organize all the important events/programmes and campaigns during the year based on the YaR theme- 'Choose Life. Not Drugs'. The respective teams and centres were asked



to plan for upcoming events such as Dasara Camps, International Day of the Girl Child, and Children's Day. A common birthday celebration was held for all the staff members who had celebrated their birthdays from June 2022 to August 2022. All the Managing Directors and Staff of BOSCO were present for the programme.

Health Camps Organized



Child Safety Net (CSN) project along with Health Care Project, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized a Health Camp at Chennasandra, Bengaluru, on July 24, 2022. A team of three doctors and two assistants from St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru, conducted the camp. The doctors checked the height, weight, eyes, physical health, and BP, of the children and people from the community. The team advised the community members to consume fruits, vegetables, green leafy vegetables, eggs, and milk daily to increase immunity and maintain health. They also advised them to have homemade food and avoid junk food. A total of hundred and twenty-six children and adults availed the benefits of the camp. BOSCO Yuvodaya organized a health check-up for the children at the Open Shelter in coordination with the Health Care Department, BOSCO Bengaluru, on August 22, 2022. Dr. Vishnu and Dr. Fayaz from St. Martha's Hospital conducted the camp. Three boys were referred to hospitals for further treatment for skin and other medical complaints. All the boys were given deworming and Vitamin A tablets. Dr. Vishnu noted that there was an improvement in the health and hygiene of the children residing in the Open Shelter and that the children currently present in the centre were not addicted to any substances such as gutka, tobacco, etc. Fifty-two boys availed the benefits of the camp. BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan in collaboration with the BOSCO Health

Care Department conducted a health camp for the Beautician and Tailoring trainees of the Skill Training Unit of the centre, on August 24 and September 17, 2022. A team of three doctors and three assistants from St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru, examined the blood pressure, eyesight, height, weight, and physical condition of the trainees. A few of them were found to be anaemic and a few were referred to other hospitals. The doctors advised maintaining good personal hygiene and having a balanced diet. Forty-four trainees attended the camp.

A general health check-up was organized for the trainees of the Life Skill Training Centre and the children and youth attending tuition classes from the Devaraj Urs Community, at the centre, on August 27, 2022. Dr. Rakshita and the team from St. Martha's Hospital conducted the camp. Some of the children were referred for further medication, and other beneficiaries were administered vitamin A and deworming tablets. Around fifty children from the Devaraj Urs community and twenty-five trainees from the centre underwent health check-ups.

BOSCO Rainbow Home organized a general health and dental check-up for the girls of the centre in collaboration with the Health Care Department, BOSCO Bengaluru, on September 3, 2022. Dr. Rakshita and the team from St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru, conducted the general health check-up. They advised the children to consume a lot of water and follow a healthy, balanced diet. Some of the children were recommended calcium tablets while some children required psychological counselling. Forty-six girls attended the camp.



Dental Camp



A team comprising of Dr. Akshay and Dr. Siju from RR Foundation conducted a Dental Camp for the children of BOSCO Rainbow Home on September 3, 2022. They checked for dental cavities and did dental extractions. They gave tips on maintaining oral hygiene. Forty-six girls benefitted from the camps.

A Dental Camp was organized by the Health Care Department, BOSCO Bengaluru, for the youths of Yuvakendra and Sumanahalli, at BOSCO Yuvodaya, on September 17, 2022. Dr. Moorthy, Dr. Siju, and Dr. Abhishek, R&R Foundation and Charitable Trust, conducted the camp. Most of the youths were referred for further treatment – restoration, scaling, RCT, filling, and orthodontic treatment.

CELEBRATIONS AND CAMPAIGNS

Independence Day: Towards Children's Freedom

The 75th Independence Day was celebrated at the centres of BOSCO on August 15, 2022, on the theme, 'Towards Children's Freedom'. BOSCO Mane and Vikas celebrated Independence Day in the presence of Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane and Vikas, and Fr. Jose Joseph, Director and Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru. BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan celebrated Independence Day in collaboration with Leelavathi Multi Specialty Hospital, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru. Dr. Harish MD, Leelavathi Multi Specialty Hospital, gave an inspirational speech on the importance of Independence Day. Deveri Manju, a past pupil of BOSCO, interacted with the children and spoke about 'Har Ghar Tiranga'.

Fr. Philip, SDB, hoisted the National Flag along with Deveri Manju, BOSCO Past Pupil, in BOSCO Yuvakendra. They spoke about the importance and meaning of Independence Day. Independence Day was also celebrated at the Govt School, K. P Agrahara. The youth of the centre performed a skit and dance. BOSCO Sumanahalli celebrated Independence Day with the centre youths and some volunteers from France. Fr. Alexander hoisted the Indian flag. Master Harish spoke about India, its culture, and the freedom fighters. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, and Fr. Joshy, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, were present during the celebrations.

Rev. Fr. Joseph SJ, Rector, St. Joseph's Indian Institution, hoisted the flag at BOSCO Rainbow Home in the presence of Fr. Jose Joseph, Director, BOSCO Rainbow Home. Children performed cultural programmes. Independence Day was celebrated at BOSCO Yuvodaya with the children at the Open Shelter. The Gandhinagar Area tuition children led by Ms Vijaya and Ms Priyanka gathered in BOSCO Yuvodaya and celebrated Independence Day on August 13, 2022. Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, Mr. Prasanth, HR Manager, and Mr. Prasad, Programme Manager, gave messages and Br. Lijo conducted action songs.

BOSCO Nilaya celebrated Independence Day at the Veerabhadranagar Tuition Centre. The programme started with a prayer song, and the children talked about the freedom fighters. ARSP team celebrated Independence Day in the MCT Quarters with the children attending tuition classes, in the presence of Ranjit Kumar, Area Leader, Laxman, DTO, KSRTC, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, and Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO ARSP project, on August 14, 2022. A rally was taken out in the surrounding areas.

BOSCO CREAM project celebrated Independence Day with the Child Rights Club (CRCs) children at three schools and tuition children in Nelamangala, Bengaluru Rural. Independence Day was also celebrated at Bhakshi Garden, Bengaluru. The CSN team and the Project Director participated in the celebrations at Pillahalli GHPS.



A digital poster was developed for the occasion and shared with all the network groups, stakeholders and friends via social media. Children sang patriotic songs and also performed on the occasion. Later in the day chance games were conducted and prizes were distributed to the winners. All the centre children, area children, children attending tuition classes, and the staff of BOSCO were part of the celebrations.

Don Bosco's Birthday Celebrated



The 207th birthday of Don Bosco was celebrated at the BOSCO centres – Mane, Vikas, Vatsalya Bhavan, Yuvodaya, Rainbow Home, Sumanahalli, Yuvakendra, Nivas and Nilaya, on August 16, 2022. The statue of Don Bosco was garlanded. The respective Directors of the centres spoke about the life of Don Bosco, his love for children and youth, and the principles and values he practised, and exhorted the children and youths of the centres to imbibe his values and tread his path to lead a respectful and decent life. Children performed cultural programmes like dance, drama, speech, etc. honouring the great saint. They sang hymns describing the life of Don Bosco. Fr. Alexander from France spoke on the occasion in Vatsalya Bhavan. Sweets were distributed to the children and staff. All the centre children and youth, and the staff and directors of the respective centres were present for the celebrations.

Life Skills Day

BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, organized 'Life Skills Day' for the trainees at the centre, on August 29, 2022. Fr. Joshy, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, spoke briefly about the significance of the Day. He said that every skill gets perfect when practised and shared. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, in his speech said, "Making oneself and others happy is more important. Each one is unique in his/her way. Helping one another is also a talent."

The theme of YaR Day - 'Choose Life. Not Drugs' was introduced by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram. He cautioned the trainees about the bad effects of drugs. Various competitions like speech competitions, solo singing, drawing, solo dance, and smiling and crying competitions, were conducted. Twenty-three trainees and the staff participated in the event.



National Yar Day at Bosco



the occasion. Children from Margaret Bosco Bal Sadan, Paliem, Goa, DB Navajeevan, Vijayawada, DB Navajeevan, Vishakhapatnam, Anbuillam, Chennai, and Shelter Don Bosco, Wadala, Mumbai, performed on the occasion. A few children and youth shared their experiences during the event. A video compilation- 'A Child's View' was screened. A pledge was taken by everyone, based on the theme.

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, addressed the children of BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan and spoke about the importance of the Day and its purpose. He appreciated the children for participating in the competitions. Mahesh, Past Pupil, BOSCO Bengaluru, engaged the youths of BOSCO Yuvakendra on the harmful effects of consuming drugs and shared insights on choosing life rather than falling prey to drugs. BOSCO Yuvodaya participated in the online launch of the YaR National Campaign on the Day. The boys of the Open Shelter were briefed about the importance of the Day and the theme.

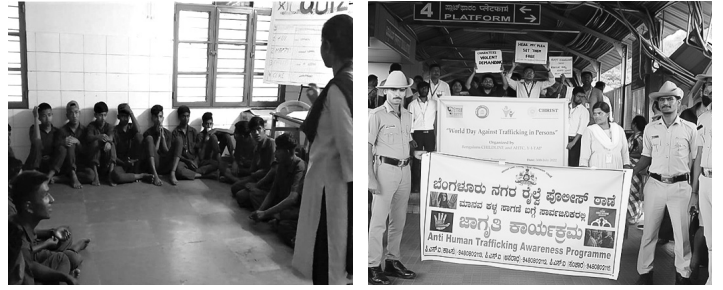
CSN team celebrated YaR Day with the stakeholders at BBMP Ward No-128, Chandra Layout, and with the students of the BBMP PU College, Kalyana Nagar. PN Basavaraju, Coordinator, CSN project, spoke on the theme and urged the stakeholders to join hands with BOSCO in its fight against substance abuse. Mary Shamala, Counsellor, BOSCO Rainbow Home, introduced the theme for YaR Day and spoke about the importance of the Day. They were given awareness about the danger of drugs and the proper and responsible use of social media. Forty-three girls were present on the occasion. BOSCO Vikas children participated in a drawing competition. A volleyball match was also played. The children also participated in the online launch of the YaR Campaign.

On the occasion of YaR Day, BOSCO Nilaya, BOSCO Nivas, and BOSCO Sumanahalli organized sessions with the children and staff on the theme, 'Choose Life. Not Drugs'. The teams conducted drawing, skit and speech competitions for the children and youth as part of the campaign. The winners were given prizes.

The online launch of the National YaR Campaign 2022 - 2023 and the celebration of YaR Day was held on the theme- 'Choose life. Not Drugs', on August 31, 2022. Fr. Tony Pellissery, Executive Director, DB YaR, and Rev. Fr. Santiago Thomas, Provincial, Hyderabad, spoke on the occasion. Ms. Maheshwari Balan briefed everyone about the highlights of the campaign. The Campaign Poster was released on

World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

BOSCO Railway CHILDLINE and BOSCO City CHILDLINE observed World Day against Trafficking in Persons in collaboration with the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHT) of Christ College, Bengaluru at KSR Railway Station, Bengaluru on July 30, 2022. The theme of the day was, 'Use and Abuse of Technology,' in the context of trafficking in persons. There was a formal inauguration of the programme involving CHILDLINE, GRP, RPF, Station Managers, KSR and YPR, Faculty Coordinator, Christ University, and Directors, CHILDLINE. The undergraduate students of the AHT Unit of Christ colleges formed a street play highlighting the importance of the day. They also displayed placards with information on trafficking in various dialects including Kannada, Tamil, Malayalam, Hindi, and English. The group organized a rally on the railway platforms shouting slogans, and distributing pamphlets to the public, commuters and passengers. BOSCO Sumanahalli conducted a session highlighting



the importance of World Day against Trafficking in Persons. Sr. Saleena, Coordinator, BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, introduced the issue of human trafficking in India to the trainees. She also spoke about the precautionary measures to be taken to prevent human trafficking. Twenty-seven trainees attended the session.

Tribute to Teachers



Children of BOSCO Sumanahalli, Vikas, Mane, Vatsalya Bhavan, Yuvakendra, Nivas, Nilaya, and Rainbow Home celebrated Teachers' Day at the centres, on September 5, 2022. The celebration began with welcoming the staff by showering flowers, giving bouquets, etc. Children spoke about the importance of Teachers' Day and the life of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan. The role of teachers and their valuable contribution to society in creating lawyers, teachers, judges, and other achievers were briefed. Children performed dances and songs and did drawings and paintings. They wrote letters thanking their teachers as a mark of gratitude. Games were organized as part of the programme.

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, and the Directors of the respective centres were happy and impressed by the initiative and creative presentation of the programmes organized by the children for their teachers which showed their love and respect. Mr. Prakash ASI, Cottonpet Police station, was present during the celebration at BOSCO Nilaya. It provided an opportunity for the children and youth at the centres to appreciate and acknowledge the contribution of their teachers and other staff members.

Anniversary Celebration at Bosco Yuvakendra

BOSCO Yuvakendra organized its 38th anniversary celebration at the centre on September 8, 2022. There was a short presentation on the journey of BOSCO Yuvakendra. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, highlighted the growth of the centre over the years and its major achievements. Centre youths performed cultural programmes based on the theme of the National YaR Campaign- 'Choose life. Not Drugs'. Mr. Jignesh, Sub-Inspector, KP Agrahara Police Station, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Vikas and Mane, Fr. Jose Joseph, Administrator, BOSCO Bengaluru, and Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, were present. Thirty youths from the centre, twenty-five past pupils, and staff of the centre participated in the programme.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

Alumni Meet at Bosco Vatsalya Bhavan

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan organized a meeting of the alumni of the centre on July 7, 2022. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, explained that the purpose of the gathering was to foster social relationships and bonds with BOSCO as well as to reflect on the past and plan for the future. Addressing the gathering, Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, expressed her joy at the pupils' progress in life and assured support to everyone in need of skill development training. The chief guest, Ms. Rekha Hande, Former Miss India, Miss Karnataka and Miss Bengaluru, spoke on boosting one's self-esteem and urged parents to serve as role models. She also thanked the BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan team for their excellent service to needy children and youth. Course completion certificates were given to twenty-six beautician course students and eighteen tailoring students on the occasion. A total of thirty-five alumni attended the meeting.



Life Skill Sessions



A life skill session on Personality Development was conducted for the youth of BOSCO Yuvakendra on July 9, 2022. The session was conducted by Colonel Ankur Sabarwal, Personality Profiler, Government of India. He asked the youths to evaluate their actions and life regularly to reach their goals successfully. Twenty-five boys benefitted from the life skill session.

BOSCO Mane Computer Training programme organized a Life Skill Training session for the students attending the computer training programme, at the centre, on July 23, 2022. Ms. Jyothi, Trainer, introduced the functions of "Creating Futures" and the effectiveness of training



in shaping one's career. She expressed that life skills training builds self-confidence and self-awareness, and helped the students understand the importance of hard work through different activities. Four volunteers from Creating Futures were also present during the programme. Twenty-six students were the beneficiaries of this training.

BOSCO Rainbow Home conducted a session on 'Money Management' and 'Self Reliance' for the girls of the centre on July 27, 2022. They were taught about making financial decisions, and how to value and respect money. Mary Shamala, Counsellor, BOSCO Rainbow Home, conducted games to help develop self-confidence and the ability to take control of their lives and make informed decisions. Twenty girls attended the sessions.

Value Education Sessions

BOSCO Rainbow Home conducted a value education session on the 'Values of being a good friend,' and 'Generosity', for the girls of the centre, on August 26 and September 22, 2022. Kumari Raheem, Student, at BOSCO Rainbow Home, explained in detail about friendship, its impact on one's mental health and happiness, and the importance of choosing good friends. Children were shown a short motivational movie on generosity. Children were also shown the gestures of being generous to others. Twenty-six girls participated in the sessions.



Quiz Competition

BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, organized a quiz competition for the trainees of the centre on July 28, 2022. Speaking on the occasion, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, exhorted the boys to acquire more knowledge on various topics to understand life and society. He appreciated the efforts made by the team to organize the program creatively. The quiz master conducted the programme involving several rounds of questions about history, current affairs, general knowledge, etc. Fr. Joshy, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, appreciated the active participation of the trainees and staff. Mr. Prasad, Programme Manager, BOSCO Bengaluru, five members from Need Base India, and Aishwarya, Intern, Acharya College, were present on the occasion. Twenty-seven trainees took part in the competition.



Sandesh Organization Visits Bosco Sumanahalli



Special children from Sandesh - an NGO working for special children, visited BOSCO Sumanahalli as part of their Community Day celebration, on July 29, 2022. The purpose of the visit was to provide an opportunity for the special children to have a day of fun and play. Fr. Joshy Puthur, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, welcomed the group and introduced the staff and activities of the centre to the guests. Two of the centre boys performed 'beatboxing'. Several games like cricket, badminton, and indoor games were organized. The visitors enjoyed the time spent at the centre. Sixty-one special children, staff, and volunteers from Sandesh visited the centre.

French Volunteers Visit Bosco

An orientation programme was conducted for volunteers from France, at BOSCO Yuvodaya, on August 12, 2022. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, took a session on the history of BOSCO, its vision and mission, programmes, projects, activities, challenges, structure, systems, etc. The orientation programme helped them understand the overall activities of the organization. The volunteers interacted with the children of the Open Shelter. They entertained the children by singing songs. Thirteen volunteers from France along with Fr. Alexander and four interns from Bangalore University participated in the programme.



Distribution of Track Suits to Children

The Child Safety Net (CSN) team, organized the distribution of tracksuits to the children of the Government School, Pillahalli, Bengaluru, on August 12, 2022. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, presided over the function. The CSN team distributed tracksuits to a hundred thirty-one children. Children were happy to be dressed in tracksuits. The School Management thanked BOSCO for its thoughtful service and support. The Caring Community members promised their wholehearted support to BOSCO for the welfare of children. Mr. Krishnamurthy, SDMC President, Panchayath member, ASHA workers, teachers, Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO CSN project, and students were present on the occasion.



Certificates Awarded



BOSCO Computer Training project, BOSCO Mane, Bengaluru, organized a Certificate Distribution programme for the students who completed the three-month Basic and Tally computer training course from the centre, on August 15, 2022. Addressing the trainees, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram SDB, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, explained the importance of receiving the certificate after completing the course and congratulated the students for their success. Forty trainees completed the course and 26 received the certificate during the ceremony. Fr. Prasad, Director, BOSCO Mane, Fr. Jose Joseph, Administrator, and staff and children of BOSCO Vikas and BOSCO Mane were present on the occasion.

Art Therapy



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, organized an art therapy session for the trainees of the centre on September 25, 2022. Fr. Joshy Puthur, SDB, Director, BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, introduced the trainees to spiral drawing. The method of drawing was explained to the trainees. Beautiful and creative drawings were brought out by the trainees. They felt relaxed and refreshed. Twenty-one youths participated in the session.

Felicitating The Caring Community Group Members



The Outreach Team working in BMTC and KSRTC Bus Stands organized a programme to felicitate the Caring Community Group (CCG) Members for their services and support to BOSCO by way of rescue and rehabilitation of the children in difficult situations, at BOSCO Yuvodaya, on September 29, 2022. An introduction to BOSCO was given to the CCG members. Their timely referrals of needy children in the bus stands were appreciated. They were requested to continue with the same support in future also. Mr. Manjunatha, TCI, KSRTC, Mr. Narayanaswamy, DSI, KSRTC, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru and Fr. Johnson, Director, Yuvodaya were present during the felicitation programme. Sixteen CCG Members were honoured for their services towards needy children.

On the Wings of A Dream

9-year-old Manju (name changed) dreams of becoming a football player when he grows up and works very hard every day to get to his dream. Today his world is filled with books, sports, fun, and a lot of possibilities. But 3 years back, his life was nothing like this; there was no school, no football, and no dream.

Manju lived in the J.C Road area of Bengaluru with his mother, his elder sister Kavya and his younger brother Lala. 3 years ago, their father walked out of their lives, leaving their mother to carry the weight of an entire household on her own. Manju knows that his father lives somewhere in Hosur, but that is where his relationship with his father ends. His mother works as a domestic help, from early morning to late night, just to survive and make enough to feed her children every day. But while she toiled to make a living, her children paid the price of her absence. Barely old enough to take care of themselves, the children were forced to face each new day without the support and guidance of a grown-up in their lives. So, most days were spent on the street, on their own, and often at the mercy of other people. Sometimes Manju used to get beaten by his neighbours for no reason other than not having anyone to stand up for him.

It was on one such day while wandering along the streets that he was spotted by BOSCO field staff. On further enquiry, it was found that though Manju was already six years of age, he had never been enrolled in school. When his mother was asked about this, she said that in the early morning rush to get to work, she did not have time to get the children ready for school. The staff visited Manju's house and did a home enquiry and got a better understanding of the family's real situation. They understood that Manju's father did not take care of the family in any way, the mother and children did not have a house to call their own, and what the mother earned after working all day was not nearly enough to meet all their different needs. Clearly, in need of help, Manju was brought to BOSCO Mane for shelter and education. His mother was also happy

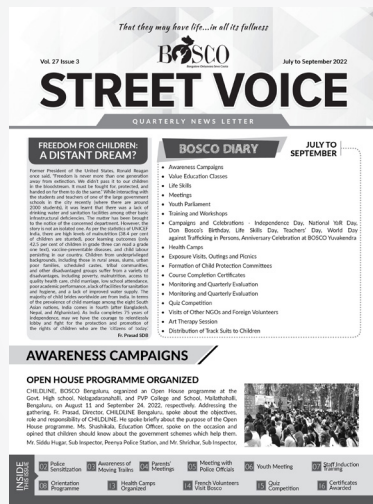
with this decision, and Manju became a part of BOSCO in 2019.

On the 1st of June, 2019, Manju was enrolled on the Bridge course offered at the centre, and from there began a new phase of his life. The initial days at the centre were very difficult for the little child. Adjusting to the new environment, routine, and people was a challenge, but with regular counselling and attention, Manju slowly started overcoming his initial hesitancy and began taking an active interest in the various activities and events organized at the centre. Seeing his remarkable progress in studies as well as in all other areas, he was enrolled in St. Joseph's Higher Primary School in Cottonpet, in the 1st standard. Manju immensely enjoyed his new role as a student and attended all his classes without fail, till everything came to a standstill with the pandemic and the lockdown.

During the first wave of the coronavirus, Manju came down with a fever and his mother requested permission to take him home for a few days. So, he was sent home with his mother but continued to be given regular counselling over the phone and through home visits for the entire duration of his stay there. His family was also helped with ration kits to get through the difficult time of the lockdown. After some time, Manju returned to the centre, and when the world slowly started getting back to normal, he once again began going to school, regularly and diligently like before.

3 years after he first came to BOSCO, Manju is now in the 4th standard and has grown into a good student, a talented dancer, and a competent sportsperson with a passion for football. He makes the most of every opportunity presented to him and enthusiastically participates in all the activities organized at the centre. He actively participated in the Don Bosco month celebrations held recently and won several prizes at the Sports Day organized during the occasion. Manju says that he is very happy in BOSCO and cherishes each day as he continues to uncover new possibilities in the space that daily teaches him to challenge the impossible and believe in the improbable.

“
**OUR GREATEST
 ENEMY IS LAZINESS;
 LET US FIGHT
 IT WITHOUT REST.
 -Don Bosco**
 ”



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Published by BOSCO Bangalore

Printed @ www.dbigact.com