



E-Street Voice

Monthly Newsletter from BOSCO Bengaluru

December 31, 2022

Editorial Note...

Quest for the spark of the divine

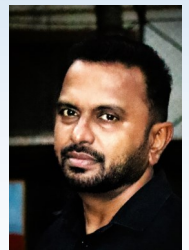
International Human Rights Day was celebrated with the theme, 'Dignity, Freedom and Justice for all,' on December 10. The 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human rights will be held on December 10, 2023. The ideals and rights contained in the UDHR serve as benchmarks for our collective activities so that no one is left behind as the world faces new and continuous challenges such as pandemics, conflicts and rising disparities.

The reports that surface time and again in mainstream media regarding caste, language discrimination, honour killings etc., are indicative of the direct violation of Article 1 of the UDHR- "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood".

There is a story about a group of monks who lived in

a monastery. They had constant infights and bickering among them. The leader of the monks, wanting to find a solution, approaches a sage. The sage told the leader that one among them was God. When the monks heard about it, their attitude towards the other changed drastically. Unity and peace began to reign again.

An attitudinal reversal and paradigm shift in the collective conscience is the need of the hour. As long as the more privileged sections of society look down on the rest as lesser mortals, the journey to discovering the inherent dignity of every human being would be tedious and arduous. May the search for the spark of the divine in the other begin with each of us.



Fr. Prasad SDB

International Human Rights Day Celebrated



On the occasion of International Human Rights Day, BOSCO Bengaluru organized various activities in its

centres on December 10, 2022. A document on 'The Universal Declaration of Human Rights' was shared by the Executive Director with all the centres and staff. A session was conducted for the students at Govt. PU College Dasarahalli, Bengaluru, by the City CHILDLINE Team, BOSCO Bengaluru. Mr. Vinod Sandeep, Team Member, spoke about the history, significance, and UDHR 1948. He gave awareness on CHILDLINE 1098. Around 350 students participated.

BOSCO Yuvakendra celebrated the day with the youth residing at the centre with the aim of giving

Continued on Page 2

Stakeholders' Meeting at BOSO Nivas

BOSCO Nivas organized a meeting with the stakeholders of the surrounding communities of the centre on December 12, 2022. The purpose of the meeting was to build a good rapport and empower the stakeholders to help the children and young at risk. Fr. Jude Anand, Director, BOSCO Nivas explained the purpose of the meeting. Mr. Shankarppa, PSI, Shivajinagar Police Station spoke about creating a child-friendly society. Mr. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU Project, spoke about Juvenile Justice Act under which care and protection are given to children who are in conflict with the law. He also briefed about child labor, child marriage, school dropouts, children found begging, the importance of education, and child safety measures. Dr. Sridevi and Mrs. Madevamma shared their experience associated with BOSCO during COVID-19 Pandemic and ap-



preciated the service of the BOSCO Nivas team. School teachers raised the issue of school dropouts and long-term absentees. Asha workers and Anganwadi teachers expressed concerns about health issues in teenage pregnancy and young mothers. Thirty stakeholders attended the meeting.

Adolescent Girls' Meeting



BOSCO Nivas conducted a meeting with the adolescent girls of GKMTS, Shivajinagar on December 5, 2022. The meeting included topics on personal hygiene, consumption of nutritious food and adequate water, and adopting a healthy lifestyle. Through an interactive session, the team tried to put forth the above-said topics to the group. Thirty-one girls were part of the meeting.

BOSCO Nilaya organized meetings for the adolescent girls of Siddhaganga High School and GHPS Gangamma Thimmaiah High School on December 7 and 8, 2022. Ms. Brunda and Mrs. Kalaivani, Outreach Staff, BOSCO Nilaya spoke about menstrual hygiene and personal safety by screening motivational videos. Hundred and five girls attended the meetings.

Continued from Page 2

International Human Rights Day

awareness on the 74th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The theme – 'Dignity, Freedom and Justice for all,' was made known to the participants.

The resource person explained about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and basic human rights. The youth of the centre took a pledge to live by the theme, 'Dignity, Freedom and Justice for all'. Fr. Ravithanaya, The Regional Superior of India, PIME, Fr. Baskar, PIME and Sr. Silvy Lawrence, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra and twenty boys were present for the programme.

BOSCO Mane organized an orientation programme on the occasion of Human Rights Day for the inmates on December 10, 2022. Sujatha, Counsellor, BOSCO Mane spoke about human rights and related acts. Around thirty children attended the orientation. BOSCO Vikas had an interactive session and group discussion with the children at the centre on December 10, 2022. Mr. Papaiah, Coordinator, BOSCO Vikas explained the theme and human rights to the children. The children were asked to do a poster on the theme. Forty-four boys participated in the session.

Training Program for Child Welfare Police Officers



BOSCO Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) organized training programmes for the Child Welfare Police Officers (CWPOs) of West Division, Bengaluru at BOSCO Yuvodaya on December 17, 2022, and CWPOs of South Division at BOSCO Mane, on December 30, 2022. Mr. Rohit KG, Trainer, DCPU, Bengaluru conducted the training. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram explained the roles and responsibilities of the SJPU social worker and about creating a child-friendly

police station. Mr. K.C Giri, ACP, Chickpet Police Station exhorted CWPOs to ensure that children's rights are protected and a child-safe environment is created. Mr. Pavan N, ACP South Division was present for the training on December 30, 2022.

Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU Project spoke about child rights and child protection, SJPU procedures, child-related documents, JJ ACT, and procedures. Obalesh, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, briefed about the foster care concept. Devaraju, Coordinator, BOSCO CREAM Project, explained the CREAM activities. Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, Fr. Jose Joseph, Director, BOSCO SJPU Project, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane and Fr. Jude Anand, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas were present for the programmes. Fifty- three CWPOs of the West Police Division and forty-six CWPOs of South Division attended the training.

Day of the Poor Observed



BOSCO Nivas celebrated the Day of the Poor at the centre on December 15, 2022. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram addressed the group and gave a message. Sixty-five blankets with food packets were distributed to the most deserving people of the Shivajinagar area.

BOSCO Nilaya organized Christmas celebrations for the people living on the streets on December 21, 2022. They were invited to the centre. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru addressed the gathering. Fr. Jude Anand, Director, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas and staff sang carols. Food and kits containing basic necessities were distributed to the gathering. Mr. Melvin, a well-wisher from Australia was present during the celebration. Seventy people received gifts and food.

Stakeholders Awareness



BOSCO Child Safety Net (CSN) Project organized an awareness for the BBMP workers of Chandra Layout and Nayandahalli, Bengaluru, on December 3 and 9, 2022, and the police officials, at KR market Police Station on December 14, 2022. Basavaraju PN, Coordinator, CSN Project, BOSCO Bengaluru, addressed the group about the various existing child-related issues-protecting children from child labour, trafficking, abuse, etc., and enrolling them in schools. Mr. Rajanna, ASI, Chandra Layout Police Station, was present during the awareness. Seventy BBMP workers and twenty-two police officials were part of the awareness programmes.

Second Quarterly Evaluation

The Second Quarterly Evaluation of BOSCO was held at BOSCO Yuvodaya, Bengaluru on December 13, 2022. Ms. Girija, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Nivas recited the prayer. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO, Bengaluru, in his keynote address, spoke about the Child-Centered Approach, and its meaning and cited the strategies that the NGOs and CCIs can adopt in working towards the welfare of the children. He discussed in detail the Child-Centered Approach practiced in BOSCO. He exhorted the staff to work with the motto of placing priority on the wellbeing of the child.

The centre, project and teams from the area presented the quarterly report of the activities, achievements, challenges and plans for the upcoming months of their respective programmes. Some of the major events and campaigns organized between September 2022 and November 2022 were evaluated. Upcoming events and programmes for the next three months were planned. Three BSW interns from Don Bosco College, Sultan Bathery were introduced to the group.



The HomeLink staff who received the award for the best Homelink Node at the YaR National Level were felicitated. The Sixth Anniversary Edition of the E Street Voice was released. A common birthday celebration was organized for the staff who celebrated their birthdays during the last quarter. The programme Manager welcomed the gathering and proposed a vote of thanks. All the managing directors and staff of BOSCO were present for the evaluation.

Meeting with NGO Staff



Ms. Geetha Lakshmi, South DCPO, Bengaluru organized a meeting for South Division NGOs and invited BOSCO staff for sharing the Foster care concept at Sri Sakthi Bhavan, Madiwala, Bengaluru on December 17, 2022. Mr. Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme explained in detail about the foster care concept, children who are eligible for foster care, the role of DCPO and CWC members, duration of Foster care, etc.

After the session, the floor was opened for discussion and the facilitator clarified the doubts of the participating NGO staff. DCPU Staff proposed a vote of thanks. Fifty-three staff from thirty-six NGOs and DCPU attended the meeting.

Child Rights Clubs Formation



BOSCO CREAM Project was involved in the formation and training of Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) in Shree Siddaganga High School, Shivanagar, G.H.S. Shivanagar, G.H.S. Rajajinagar, G.H.P.S. Shivanagar, and Ambedkar Memorial (HS), Bengaluru, Urban on December 5 and 6, 2022. The sessions were conducted by Mrs. Bhagyalakshmi and Ms. Archana, Social Activists, CREAM Project on the importance of child rights, child rights clubs, and UNCRC. They explained the process of formation of CRCs and thereafter formed the group. They were conscientious in bringing school dropout children back to school. Five hundred and thirteen children were given the training.

BOSCO Bags Prestigious National Awards



The tenth year of the Don Bosco National YaR (Young at Risk) Awards ceremony was held during the 17th Annual National Seminar of DB YaR Forum, at Don Bosco Provincial House, Hyderabad on November 30, 2022, and December 1, 2022. This year, a new category – the ‘Alumni Award’ was introduced. Dr. Prasanna T, who started a Kannada Vartha

Patrike called Police Bete in 2012 and has been exposing several irregularities and injustices in the society and advocating the government on the same through his newsletter, was bestowed the Alumni Award. Prasanna’s efforts have also been widely recognized and encouraged with several awards and recognitions. Armed with the knowledge of the law, he is actively involved in fighting corruption, organizing health camps, developing parks, adopting schools, and doing whatever he can for the betterment of society through the trust that he has established.

Homelink service of excellence – ‘Best Node Award,’ was given to BOSCO Bengaluru. Homelink Child MISS program helps to have easy access to child-related organizational documents and follow a common documentation system. John Joshua Nirmal, Co-ordinator, Homelink received the award.

Health Awareness



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli organized an awareness session on the ill effects of the use of tobacco and drugs in collaboration with the BOSCO Health Care Department for the trainees of the centre on December 10, 2022. Fr. Joshy SDB, Director, BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli welcomed the resource person and the participants with few words.

Ms. Uma Rai, Social Worker, St. Martha’s Hospital, spoke in detail regarding the abuse of various types of tobacco products and drugs. The PowerPoint presentation helped the participants to understand the concept better. Three MSW interns performed a short skit depicting how the youth of today get addicted to drugs, alcohol, and other substances. It also presented how to get rid of bad habits and create a positive future. A total of twenty-one trainees and nine staff benefitted from the program.

School Awareness Programmes



Child Safety Net (CSN) Project, BOSCO Bengaluru conducted school awareness programmes in BBMP High School, Gandhi Nagar, BBMP High School, Kasturba Nagar, St. Flower English School, Chandra Layout and Karnataka public school, Govindraj Nagar, Bengaluru during December, 2022. Basavaraju PN, Coordinator, CSN Project, sensitized the children on the issues concerning child labour, child trafficking, child marriage, children found begging and child abuse. He also made them aware of child-related laws and acts, child protection mechanisms, the CHILD-LINE programme, and the child helpline. He cautioned the children and the teachers to be alert on issues related to child labour, children found begging and child trafficking and immediately call up the helpline number. Around eight hundred and fifty school children got the information through the awareness sessions.

Parents' Meeting at BOSCO Vikas

Parents' Meeting was organized at BOSCO Vikas on December 24, 2022. The main agenda of the meeting was to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the parents, how to safeguard their children from the hazards of social media, and children's behavioral changes. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru spoke about the parents' role and responsibilities after taking the child home for the vacation. He asked them to observe the children's activities and their behavior.

Fr. Prasad spoke about social media and the ill effects of excessive mobile usage on children. Ranjani and Sujatha, Counsellors, BOSCO Vikas and Mane gave a short message to the parents and Savitha and Papaiah, Coordinators, BOSCO Mane and Vikas spoke about the children's documents required to be maintained at the centre and available government schemes and facilities for the children. One of the parents shared the behavioral changes and improvements seen in his



ward. Papaiah welcomed the gathering and proposed a vote of thanks. Fr. Jose Joseph, Administrator was also present in the meeting. Lunch was arranged for all the parents and children. Overall thirty-three children's parents attended the meeting and took their wards home for vacation. Eleven children stayed back in the centre during the holidays.

Certificate Distribution



BOSCO Mane computer training programme organized the distribution of certificates and orientation on Life skills and Spoken English for computer trainees on December 2, 2022. Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Mane appreciated the trainees and explained the changes and challenges in the post-pandemic academic life. Twenty-two students received the certificates. Thirty trainees were enrolled for the upcoming batch of Life skills and Spoken English training. Mr. Jimmy Cherian, Director, Creating Futures, Mrs. Geetha, Coordinator, Creating Futures and forty-one trainees were present on the occasion.

Exposure Visit to Cake Show



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, Bengaluru organized an exposure visit to the 'Bangalore Cake Show' at St. Joseph's School Ground, Bengaluru for the youth undergoing training in baking, on December 27, 2022. The youth had an opportunity to see varieties of cakes in different forms exhibited at the show. Cakes made in different shapes like the palaces, Santa Claus, FIFA World Cup, religious structures, etc. attracted their attention. They also learned how cakes could be prepared in different shapes. Four youths visited the cake show. Mr. Anthony Das, Instructor, Bakery Unit, BOSCO Sumanahalli, accompanied the youth.

Health Camp at BOSCO Sumanahalli



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli organized a health camp for the youth at the centre in collaboration with the Health Care Department, **BOSCO** Bengaluru on December 10, 2022. The general health check-up was done by Dr. Srinivas and his team, St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru. The trainees underwent eye check-ups. Some of the youth were given medication, two youths were referred for further follow-up. All the trainees were administered Vitamin A and deworming tablets. Twenty-one trainees availed the benefits of the camp.

Health Camp at BOSCO Yuvodaya



BOSCO Yuvodaya in collaboration with **BOSCO** Health Care Department organized a health camp for the boys at the open shelter, on December 15, 2022. The camp was conducted by Dr. Geetha and the team, St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru. The height, weight, and temperature levels of the boys were checked. They were treated for Vitamin deficiency and deworming. Two boys were referred to Minto Eye Hospital for further treatment. A few boys were given medication for headaches, back pain, etc. Thirty-six boys attended the camp.

Health Camp at JC Road



A Health Camp was organized for the community people at Vyayam Shaale and Cement Huts of JC Nagar, Bengaluru on December 28, 2022, by **BOSCO** Nilaya in coordination with the Health Care Department, **BOSCO** Bengaluru. Dr. Shrinivas and Dr. Janani, St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru did the general check-up of the people. A few were prescribed medicines. They were made aware of the general precautions to be taken to prevent common health ailments, maintain a healthy lifestyle and food habits, and maintain hygiene and sanitation. Sixty adults and fifteen children availed of the services of the camp.

One-day Picnic to Mysore



A one-day picnic to Mysore was organized for the trainees of the **BOSCO** Life Skill Training Centre on December 3, 2022. Trainees visited places like Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary, Chamundi Hills, Mysore Zoo, Palace, and Brindavan Gardens. They enjoyed the trip and discovered the beauty of nature, historical places, etc. The boys felt refreshed. The picnic helped in improving the group dynamics. Nineteen trainees and nine staff were part of the picnic.

Christmas Celebrations at BOSCO



at their respective centres.

The celebration commenced with the inauguration of the crib and carols. Centre and tuition children performed dance, song, skits and shadow play. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru and the centre Directors addressed the children and gave a Christmas message.

Course completion certificates were distributed to those who had completed their tailoring course during the programme at BOSCO Nivas.

BOSCO Bengaluru celebrated Christmas with staff and volunteers, at BOSCO Mane, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru, on December 21, 2022. Balraj, Coordinator, Gandhinagar Area, welcomed the gathering. Prashanth Murthy, HR Manager, BOSCO Bengaluru briefed about the importance of Christmas and preparation of the crib. Fr. Varghese, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, Fr. Johnson, Director, Yuvodaya, Fr. Joshy Puttur, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, Fr. Prasad SDB, Director, BOSCO Vikas and Mane and Fr. Jose, Administrator and Director, BOSCO Rainbow Home inaugurated the crib.

Addressing the gathering, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram exhorted everyone to share the love of God with the children. He said that we must love each other and work towards the care and protection of children. The programme included carols, dances, skits, sharing gifts, and exchanging season's greetings with each other. Shekhar, Coordinator, BOSCO ARSP Project, proposed the vote of thanks. All the staff, volunteers, and management participated in the Christmas celebrations.

Centre-level Celebrations

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, Yuvakendra, Yuvodaya, Nilaya, Nivas, Rainbow Home, Mane, Vikas and Sumanahalli organised Christmas Celebrations with children and youth from December 20 to 23, 2022



importance and value of Christmas. They performed dance and magic show for the children. They distributed cake and chocolates to the children. The celebrations drew to an end with the distribution of snacks and gifts to the children. All the centre children, youths, tuition children and children from the areas and communities were part of the celebrations.

BOSCO: Homelink Child MISS MONTHLY REPORT



December- 2022



	Male	Female	Total
Children rescued	271	33	304
Service provided	51	10	61
Grand Total	322	43	365

New Children Data of Contact Center/Area:

	Fresh		Repeated		
Contact Point	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Railway CHILDLINE	123	09	03	00	135
Bus stand BMTC	28	03	00	00	31
Bus stand KSRTC	25	02	00	00	27
BOSCO Yuvodaya	03	00	00	00	03
BOSCO Yuvakendra	01	00	00	00	01
BOSCO Sumanahalli	01	00	00	00	01
BOSCO MANE	00	00	01	00	01
BOSCO Rainbow Home	00	04	00	00	04
BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan	00	01	00	00	01
CHILDLINE	00	03	00	00	03
CSN	13	00	00	00	13
SJPU	10	06	00	00	16
ARSP	63	05	00	00	68
TOTAL	267	33	04	00	304

Final Action Taken:

Placement	Boys	Girls	Total
Referred to BOSCO Centers	30	18	48
Home Placement	216	07	223
Produced before CWC (Admission)	16	08	24
Referred to OH	07	00	07
Referred to Hostels	02	00	02
TOTAL	271	33	304

Classification Report:

Classification	Boys	Girls	Total
Accompanied	14	12	26
Unaccompanied	257	21	278
TOTAL	271	330	304