



E-Street Voice

Monthly Newsletter from BOSCO Bengaluru

Editorial Note

Towards Making the World a Better Place!

International Human Rights Day was celebrated with the theme, 'Freedom, Equality, and Justice for All' on December 10, 2023. At this juncture, it is imperative to reflect upon the progress made and the challenges that persist in our global commitment to safeguarding the inherent dignity and rights of every individual. This year, the theme is a clarion call for a collective effort to uphold the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In a world grappling with the aftermath of global crises, the significance of human rights has never been more evident. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted disparities in healthcare, education, and economic opportunities, emphasizing the urgency of addressing systemic inequalities. This day is a poignant reminder that pursuing justice and equality is a shared

responsibility transcending borders.

Despite progress, numerous regions still grapple with human rights violations. Conflict zones witness the erosion of basic rights, while authoritarian regimes curtail freedom of expression. The international community must unite to amplify the voices of the oppressed and ensure accountability for those who trample on human rights.

On this International Human Rights Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to fostering a world where everyone can live with dignity and enjoy their fundamental rights. By embracing unity, we can build a future where justice, equality, and respect for human rights are not just aspirations but the cornerstones of our shared global identity.

Fr. Prasad SDB



International Human Rights Day



International Human Rights Day was observed at the centres and areas of BOSCO on December 10, 2023. The year's theme was 'Freedom, Equality, and Justice for All'. Fr. Prasad, Director BOSCO Mane, and Vikas addressed the children at Vikas. Usha Nayak, Co-

ordinator, BOSCO Mane, explained the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and 75th Anniversary of Human Rights to the children at BOSCO Mane. Fr. Dominic Sequeira, Salesian In-charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, and Jordan, Centre Coordinator created awareness about the day's importance. The children were made aware of the importance of leading a life with dignity. During the day, a drawing competition was conducted for the children on the right-based theme. Members of Tereda Mane and Sisters of St. Charles visited BOSCO Yuvaspandana to commemorate the day. They also visited the Ramanna Garden area. Children of the centres and areas participated in the event.



Second Quarterly Evaluation

The Second Quarterly Evaluation of BOSCO was held at BOSCO Yuvodaya, Bengaluru on December 12 and 13, 2023. BOSCO Nilaya team recited the prayer. In his introductory words, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO, Bengaluru said, "The meetings are one of the opportunities to get to know each other." Highlighting the importance of teamwork in the organization, Fr. Shalbin, Shalbin SDB, Vice-Provincial, Salesian Province of Bangalore, quoted, "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together". He narrated various instances where Don Bosco made his teams work with a shared vision and proper communication, show appreciation towards each other, be responsible, and trust each other, thus making his dreams come true. Mr. PN Basavaraj, Coordinator, BOSCO CSN Project, honoured with the 'Best Social Worker' Award by Byatarayanapura Police Station, was felicitated during the inaugural programme. The coordinators presented reports of projects and programmes from the various areas and centres of



BOSCO. The major campaigns and events of the previous month were evaluated. Plans for the upcoming events and activities were presented and discussed. Some of the administrative matters were discussed. A joint birthday celebration was held for all the staff who celebrated their birthdays from September 2023 to November 2023. All the managing directors and staff of BOSCO attended the programme.

Meeting with SDMC Members



The BOSCO Nilaya team met with SDMC members of GHPS Malagala to empower them in their roles and responsibilities on December 30, 2023. An introduction about BOSCO and the

programmes were given. A glimpse of education activities for children in the Government schools was briefed by Ms. Bhagyalakshmi and Ms. Archana, Team Members, BOSCO Nilaya. Through an activity, working together for the cause of protection and promotion of child rights was briefed.

The roles and responsibilities of SDMC in the school were explained. SDMC members were asked to visit the school and regularly monitor the children's activities. Child protection mechanisms and child rights violations were made known. The members of the SDMC were motivated to teach children the importance of education. Twenty-eight SDMC members and the School HM were present at the meeting.



Foster Care Prospective Parents Meeting



The Foster Care Prospective Parents Meeting was organized by the BOSCO Foster Care Programme at BOSCO Mane on December 14, 2023. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, thanked all parents for their willingness to become foster parents. He said every child has the right to grow up in a family. The Foster Care team will have to support during and after the placement of children in foster families and ensure that the children are given their rights. He explained to the parents about the role of CWC and the legal procedures involved.

Fr. Prasad, Director, BOSCO Mane, and Vikas

briefed the audience on the differences between institutional and family care with suitable examples. Mr. Ganesh Murthy, PO – NIC, South, DCPU, spoke about the government's adoption and foster care programmes. He explained the procedures for the Social Investigation Report (SIR).

Mr Shivamallu, State Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, explained the eligibility criteria for parents and children, child rights, weaning period, roles and responsibilities of parents, CWC Members, DCPO, follow-up of children and parents with CWC, types of Foster Care and termination briefly.

Ms. Hemavathi, PO- NIC, North, DCPU and Mr. Anna Rao, PO – NIC, South, DCPU, attended the meeting. Mr. Obalesh, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Foster Care Programme, welcomed the guests and parents. Mr. Shivamallu proposed the vote of thanks. Eleven prospective parents participated in the meeting.

Awareness Programmes

BOSCO outreach team working in BMTC and KSRTC Bus Stands conducted four awareness programmes for the commuters and passengers during December 2023 regarding runaway children, child labour, child trafficking, CHILDLINE, 1098, and other activities of BOSCO. The team explained child rights and child-related issues, BOSCO Child Assistance Centre at KSRTC & BMTC to the public, and distributed around 250 pamphlets.

BOSCO Adjacent Railway Street Presence Project (ARSP) organized programmes in SMVT, KR Puram, Kengeri Railway Station, and Yelahanka Railway Stations and moving trains to create awareness about BOSCO's work and its services to the public in December 2023. The team briefly introduced BOSCO and the services rendered at the railway stations. They also spoke about the issues faced by children/youth on the streets and called for the support of the public in reaching out to these children/youth in need of



care and protection. The public supported BOSCO in reaching out to needy children and youth. Around three hundred public were reached out to by way of distributing pamphlets.



School and College Awareness Programmes

Child Safety Net (CSN) Project, BOSCO Bengaluru organized awareness programmes for children and teachers of Government Schools in Bengaluru during December 2023. Information on child rights, child-related laws, the JJ Act, child rights violations, and child-related issues like child labour, child beggary, child abuse, child marriage, child trafficking, etc. was given to the children and teachers. The CSN team urged the participants to make use of the child helpline-1098/112 to report cases of child rights violations. Three hundred and thirty-two children and teachers participated in the awareness sessions.

The special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) project, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized an awareness programme for college and school students in December 2023. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU Project, introduced BOSCO to the children. He also shed light on child rights, child protection mechanisms, child-related laws, children in conflict with the law (CCL), children in need of care and protection



(CNCP), and the child helpline. Two hundred and seventy children benefitted from the awareness.

Parents' Meeting Organized



A meeting was organized for the parents of the wards in BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan on December 10, 2023. Ms. Mallika, Team Member, BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, presented information on CWC

and their roles and responsibilities. Ms. Ajantha, the Centre Coordinator, addressed the parents/guardians with relevant information on parenting, their responsibilities as parents, being role models to their children and ensuring the overall development of the children. She exhorted the parents to work with BOSCO for the improvement of their children.

The rules and regulations in place at the centre were briefed, and newcomers were introduced to the system. Pictures of the children's activities were shown to the parents/guardians. The

coordinator also met the parents individually with their wards and reviewed their progress and development. Thirty-seven parents/guardians attended the meeting.



Session on Waste Management



BOSCO Yuvakendra conducted a session on 'Waste Management' for the centre's youths on December 16, 2023. The resource persons, Ms. Neha and Mr. Bharat explained the three 'R's in waste management- Reduce, Re-use, and Re-cycle. They explained the waste disposal process in detail. Youths were taught about the environmental hazards of improper waste disposal and how to avert the potential health and environmental risks. Eighteen youths attended the session.

Orientation Program



First-year MSW Students from Bengaluru City University came for an exposure visit to BOSCO Bengaluru Yuvodaya on December 11, 2023. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, orientated the group on BOSCO and its activities. Two students enrolled for concurrent field work at BOSCO. Students interacted with the children at the Open Shelter at Yuvodaya. The exposure visits to the BOSCO centres helped the students learn more about community development and working with children who need care and protection. Fifty-eight students and one faculty member participated in the program.

Exposure Visit



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, Bengaluru, organized an exposure visit to the '49th Annual Cake Show' at St. Joseph's School Ground, Bengaluru, for the youth undergoing training in baking on December 28, 2023. The youth had an opportunity to see a variety of cakes in different forms exhibited at the show. Cakes made in various shapes attracted their attention. They also learned how cakes could be prepared in different shapes. Seven trainees visited the cake show. Mr. Anthony Das, Instructor, Bakery Unit, BOSCO Sumanahalli, accompanied the youth.

Awareness for Police Officials



Child Safety Net (CSN) Project, BOSCO Bengaluru organized awareness programmes for KSRP Police Officials at Siddapura and Gandhinagar on December 14 and 18, 2023. These programmes aimed to give awareness of child rights and protection and rescue and rehabilitation of child labourers. The stakeholders were informed about child-related issues, laws related to children, and their role in safeguarding the rights of the children and in curbing child labour. Forty-two KSRP police officials took part in the awareness programmes.



Meeting with BBMP Ward Members



BOSCO Foster Care Programme organized a meeting with BBMP Ward Members, Srirampura, Bengaluru on December 16, 2023, to make them aware of the concept of foster care - alternative family care. Mr. Obalesh, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Foster Care Programme briefed about the BOSCO organization and its activities. He also explained the foster care concept, laws related to children, and the legal procedures involved in fostering children. He requested the support of the ward members in identifying prospective parents and children for the programme. Also, he asked them to disseminate the information to their family members, neighbours, friends, and other contacts. Thirteen ward members were a part of this meeting.

Health Awareness



BOSCO Nilaya, in coordination with BOSCO Health Care Department organized a health awareness programme for the women and children of Vinobhanagar on December 27, 2023. Ms. Uma Rai, Social Worker at St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru, gave awareness on HIV/AIDS, the transmission modes, prevention and care. She also spoke on the precautionary measures advised for the COVID-19 pandemic and taking care of children's health and nutrition. She stressed the need to maintain hygiene in the surroundings. Around thirty-two women and children from the area attended the awareness session.

Adolescence Girls' Meeting

BOSCO Nilaya organized a meeting for the adolescent girls of Siddalingeshwara School, Magadi Road, Bengaluru, on December 4, 2023. Ms. Bindu, Coordinator, BOSCO Nilaya, explained personal hygiene, girls' safety, and safe and unsafe touch. Videos on the POCSO Act were screened. The video, 'She,' was screened. Twenty girls attended the meeting.

BOSCO Nivas conducted an adolescent girls' meeting at BBMP High School, Commercial Street, Bengaluru, on December 20, 2023. Awareness was given on personal hygiene and peer group influence. The team focused



on practising healthy food habits, cleanliness, and frequent water drinking. Information was provided on making good friends and staying away from bad company. Eighty girls participated in the meeting.



We Dare to Care!

It was the news of a newborn child being sold by his mother that brought the CSN team to the RR temple in Bengaluru on the trail of a couple from Erode in Tamil Nadu and their 20-day-old child. In November 2023, the BOSCO Child Safety Net (CSN) team received information about a newborn male child being sold for money. Accordingly, the team, in collaboration with the RR Nagar police and CCB (Central Crime Branch), conducted a rescue mission in which the mother of the child and her three accomplices were caught. But this mother and child were just a tiny part of a more extensive illegal operation being headed by a broker targeting childless couples willing to pay money for a child and financially vulnerable families with infants aged 2-3 months, with children changing hands for amounts ranging from Rs. 3-5 lakhs.

Following the rescue, the child was immediately taken to Vanivilas Hospital and admitted for necessary medical attention and care. The team also informed Ms Nagaratna, the Chairman of the Child Welfare Com-



mittee, about the rescue and the events that unfolded after that. Finally, on November 27th, the baby was discharged from the hospital under the supervision of the concerned authorities and admitted to one of the Child Care Institutions (CCI) in Bengaluru, as per the order of CWC 1. This enabled the child to be away from the shadow of a life written by his parents' abandonment and society's shortcomings into a future rewritten by the conviction and compassion of people committed to caring for children against all odds.

BOSCO in the Digital Space

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/bosco-bangalore-oniyavara-seva-coota/><https://www.youtube.com/@boscobengaluru><https://www.facebook.com/boscobengaluru>https://www.instagram.com/bosco_ban/



The Year That Was...



DON BOSCO'S MONTH INAUGURATION



BOSCO ANNUAL QUIZ CONTEST 2023



Children's Sports Day



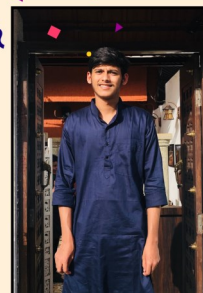
Past Pupils' day



Inter center cultural competition



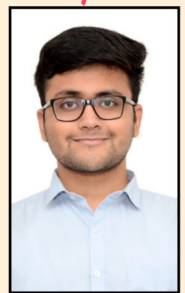
Annual Essay Competition Winners 2022-23



1st Prize
Mohammed Yasir Jamal
Kidwai
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai



2nd Prize
Alka Maria Varkey
Rajagiri College, Kerala



3rd Prize
Souhard Sharma
Azim Premji University, Bengaluru



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The Year That Was...



DON BOSCO
FEST 2023



Summer Camp



SHALE KADE NANNA NADE



International
Women's
day



WORLD DAY AGAINST
CHILD LABOUR



CREAM Sadhana Samagama



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The Year That Was...



Independence day



Don Bosco's Birthday



YaR day campaign



YaR Awards



Anniversaries of the Centres



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD



The Year That Was...



DASARA
CAMP



Child Rights Week



CHILDREN'S DAY





BOSCO: Homelink Child MISS Monthly Report December- 2023



	Male	Female	Total
Children rescued	236	26	262
Service provided	39	02	41
Grand Total	275	28	303

New Children Data of Contact Center/Area:

	Fresh		Repeated		
Contact Point	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Railway Station DCPU staffs	20	00	00	00	20
Bus stand BMTC	36	01	00	00	37
Bus stand KSRTC	29	03	01	00	33
BOSCO Yuvodaya	02	00	00	00	02
BOSCO Yuvakendra	01	00	01	00	02
BOSCO Summanahalli	04	00	00	00	04
BOSCO MANE	01	00	00	00	01
BOSCO Nivas	22	00	00	00	22
BOSCO Nilaya	13	00	00	00	13
CSN	20	03	00	00	23
SJPU	16	07	00	00	23
ARSP	70	12	00	00	82
TOTAL	234	26	02	00	262

Final Action Taken:

Placement	Boys	Girls	Total
Referred to BOSCO Centers	46	10	56
Home Placement	178	11	189
Admission to Government Homes	05	04	09
Referred to OH	07	00	07
Referred to Hostels	00	01	01
TOTAL	236	26	262

Classification Report

Classification	Boys	Girls	Total
Accompanied	19	09	28
Unaccompanied	217	17	234
TOTAL	236	26	262