

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



Vol. 29 Issue 2

April to June 2024

STREET VOICE

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

EDITORIAL

**WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR 2024:
A GLOBAL CALL TO STOP CHILD LABOUR
- JUNE 12, 2024**

Annually observed on June 12, this year, in 2024, it was celebrated under the theme, "Let's Act on Our Commitments: End Child Labour!"

There is no justification for child labour. The child is the future of our nation. Let us allow him to develop physically, mentally, and morally. - Mahatma Gandhi

Child labour remains one of the most pressing human rights issues of our time, depriving millions of children worldwide of their education, health, and fundamental freedom. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. It's also a chance to encourage all stakeholders to enhance their implementation of the two main conventions on child labour, namely Convention No. 182 and Convention No. 138 on the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment or Work.

Child labour figures in India are dismal. This year, India is at the 113th position out of the 176 countries on an index that evaluates countries on the well-being of children. Last year, India ranked 116. According to Census 2011, around 259.6 million children in India are employed as labourers.

It's also important to address the root causes of poverty by helping victims' families improve their economic opportunities. Together, we can make a difference and ensure that children are shielded from the exploitation of child labour in all its manifestations. There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than how it treats its children. - Nelson Mandela

Fr. KJ Joseph SDB

BOSCO DIARY

April to June
2024

- Awareness Campaigns
- Value Education Classes
- Life Skills
- Meetings
- Youth Parliament
- Training and Workshops
- Celebrations and Campaigns - International Missing Children's Day, World No Tobacco Day, World Environment Day, World Day Against Child Labour, International Yoga Day, International Day against Drug Abuse and illicit Trafficking, Ambedkar Jayanthi, Ugadi, Bakrid
- Health Camps
- Exposure Visits, Outings and Picnics
- Summer Camps
- PUC and SSLC Results
- Certificate Distribution
- Basket Ball Coaching

AWARENESS PROGRAMMES

Awareness for the Parents

BOSCO Yuvodaya organized awareness sessions for the parents who visited the centre during the CWC sittings during the quarter. Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Yuvodaya, addressed the parents and stressed



the importance of creating a conducive environment for the development of children at home. He urged parents to ensure their children get an education as it is their right. The parents were made aware of the rights of the children and the various laws and Acts

related to children. Group counselling was also done for the parents during the programme. Ms. Vinnarasi, Team Member, BOSCO Yuvodaya, supported Fr. Johnson by translating the information into Hindi. More than a hundred parents benefitted.

Awareness to Stakeholders

Child Safety Net (CSN) Project, Outreach Team at Bus Stands and Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) Project, BOSCO Bengaluru organized awareness programmes for the BBMP Pourakarmikas, the workers of a Bag Factory, conductors and drivers, KRSP Police Officials and for the staff and children of Auxilium Navajeevana, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru between April and June 2024 respectively. The coordinators spoke about child-related issues. They requested

the support of the stakeholders in identifying children employed, children in difficult situations, and children in conflict with the law so that every child may have a safe and happy childhood. Over a hundred Pourakarmikas, fifteen factory workers, fifty-six conductors and drivers, thirty-eight KRSP Police Officials and sixty-five Auxilium Navajeevana staff attended the sessions.



Foster Care Awareness Programmes

BOSCO Foster Care organized awareness programmes for the ASHA Workers in Dobbaspeta, Shivagange and Jigani, Bengaluru Rural during April 2024. Mr. Obalesh K, a Social Mobilizer, introduced the concept of foster care and adoption to the stakeholders. He briefed about the procedures and processes involved in foster care and adoption. He requested the support of the stakeholders in identifying prospective parents for fostering and children in need of a family setting. Fifty-seven ASHA Workers attended the programmes.



Awareness on Crime Prevention

BOSCO Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) project conducted awareness programmes on crime prevention in Jolly Moholla and Yarab Nagar communities on May 22, 2024 as it was noticed

that a large number of crimes and drug abuse was reported from these localities. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, BOSCO SJPU Project informed the communities about child rights, child related issues, drug menace, children into crimes and dropping out of school. He cautioned the parents to be alert about their children's deviant behaviour and for any issues like child marriage, child labour, missing cases, etc. call up the child helpline (112). Mr. Hanumanth R.R, Police Constable, and Ms. Shobha G.C, WPC, Cottonpete Police Station were present in the programme at Jolly Moholla and Mr. Prashanth, Police Constable, Ms. Tejashwini and Ms. Eshwari K.M, WPCs, Yarab Nagar Police Station, Banashankari were present in the programme at Yarab Nagar. Forty people from Jolly Moholla and thirty-five people from Yarab Nagar were part of the awareness sessions.



Health Awareness

Health care team in collaboration with St. Martha's Hospital conducted health awareness session for the children of BOSCO Mane, Vikas, Nilaya, Yuvodaya and Vatsalya Bhavan at the respective

centres in the said quarter. Ms. Uma Rai, Social Worker, St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru interacted with the children and spoke about skin infections caused by bacteria, virus, fungus, parasites, etc. and



the symptoms like redness, warmth, swelling, tenderness of the skin, and boils or blisters. She cautioned not to share personal items with others like the clothes, combs, towels, etc. St. Martha's College of Nursing Students performed a small skit regarding cleanliness. The children of BOSCO Mane, Vikas, Nilaya, Yuvodaya and Vatsalya Bhavan attended the sessions.

Public Awareness Programmes

BOSCO teams working in BMTC and KSRTC bus stand, Adjacent Railway Street Presence (ARSP) project, BOSCO Yuvakendra, BOSCO Nilaya and Nivas conducted awareness for the public, passengers and the commuters, shopkeepers, in the bus stands, railway stations and market areas during the quarter. The teams reached out to the public by way of distributing pamphlets

containing information on child rights, child-related laws, and Acts, and issues such as child labour, child marriage, child trafficking, child begging, missing children, child runaways, vulnerable children, and child helpline-1098. More than a thousand passengers, commuters, shop keepers, and other public benefitted from the awareness.



School and College Awareness Programmes

BOSCO Foster Care Programme conducted an awareness programme on Foster Care for the students of Bangalore City University on May 15, 2024. Obalesh, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Foster Care Programme explained about BOSCO and its programmes for children and young at risk. He explained in detail about the SJPU Project, and Foster Care Programme. The students ensured their support of the programme by disseminating the foster care information during their fieldwork in the communities and referring deserving parents and children to the foster care team. Fifty-three students attended the programme.



BOSCO Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) conducted an awareness for the children and teachers of S.L.N.High School, Fort, BBMP PU College at JJR Nagara, Government PU college, Shivanagara, Bengaluru, during June, 2024, regarding the SJPU project, JJ Act, POCSO Act, children in conflict with the law and children in need of care and protection. Mr.Nasir Ahmad, Head Constable, Mrs. Tejashwini S.H, HM, Mr. Srinivas PSI, Mr. Ganesh ASI and Mr. Prakash, Principal were present during the session. Around two hundred children and twelve teachers attended the awareness sessions.





BOSCO Child Safety Net (CSN) Project organized school awareness programme at Government Higher Primary School Pantharapalya, Nayandahalli, Government Higher Primary school Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru on June 14 and 27, 2024 it should be continuous. Awareness was given on child rights, child laws and acts, child-related issues such as child labour, child trafficking, child marriage, child abuse, drug abuse among children, and the role of BOSCO in child care and protection. Around three hundred and fifty students, Ms. Sandhya, HM, Mr. Dayanand, Principal and sixteen teachers attended the sessions.

MEETINGS

Foster Care State-Level Stakeholders Meeting

Foster Care Programme, BOSCO Bengaluru organized a State Level Stakeholders' Meeting at BOSCO Yuvodaya, Bengaluru, on April 05, 2024. Mrs Manju, Member, Karnataka State Commission



for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR), said that every child deserves to grow up with a family and to be loved and cared for by his/her parents. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director,

BOSCO Bengaluru, shared BOSCO's activities and milestones of the Foster Care Programme. He discussed about the ICPS permission letter and standard operating procedures. Fr. P S George, Executive Director, BREADS, referred to the stakeholders as children's friends. Mr. Chowdappa, Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee, Kolar, said that through the guidance of BOSCO, two children had been placed in the Kolar District. Mrs. Bharathi, Member, Child Welfare Committee, Bengaluru Rural, said that when a child enters the institution, the staff must identify his or her relatives and parents. She observed several parents submitting foster care applications through the BOSCO Foster Care team. Mr. Umesh, Director, Veerabhadra Educational Society, Tumkur, spoke on the occasion

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram explained about the responsibilities of the stakeholders. Two of the participants came forward to foster children. Nagaveni, DCPO, Bengaluru South, was present at the meeting. Eighty-one stakeholders from Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Kolar, Chikkaballapura, Tumkur, and Ramanagara participated in the meeting.

Adolescent Girls' Meetings

BOSCO Nivas, Nilaya and CRISP Project met with the adolescent girls in their intervention areas and schools during the quarter. The teams covered topics such as menstrual hygiene, nutritious food, and sufficient potable water intake, healthy lifestyle, choosing good friends, online safety, saying no to drugs, and personal safety. The meeting primarily aimed to create awareness of personal hygiene and peer group influence. Around three hundred and fifty girls benefited from the meetings



SJPU Organizes Consultation Meeting

The Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), BOSCO, Bengaluru, organized a consultation meeting with parents of children in conflict with the law of West and South Divisions at BOSCO Mane on April 20 and May 25, 2024 respectively. Fr. John Peter, Director, BOSCO SJPU Project, explained in detail the SJPU project and the roles and responsibilities of the social workers. He said that helping the children correct their mistakes and bringing them to the righteous path becomes essential for the parents and the caretakers. Ramaswamy, Coordinator, SJPU, BOSCO, Bengaluru,

briefed the parents on their roles and responsibilities. He explained child protection, child rights, the POSCO Act, child marriage, and child trafficking. He informed the gathering about the vocational courses and the counselling services for the youth at BOSCO. The life after coming out of the observation homes was also discussed. Eleven parents and seven children from West Division and ten parents and six children from South Division participated in the discussions.



Meeting with APF Programme Lead

A meeting was conducted with Mr. Aditya - Program Lead APF, and the Directors and Coordinators of CCIs at BOSCO Mane on April 30,

2024. Following the self-introductions, Mr. Kevin, Project Manager, presented an overview of the project. Individual presentations were made by coordinators from various CCIs. Mr. Balaraj, Manager Family Restoration and After Care, presented a detailed report.



The meeting served as a comprehensive platform for assessing the progress and challenges within the CCIs supported by APF. The presentations and discussions provided valuable insights into the various initiatives to rehabilitate and support vulnerable children and families. Seventeen Directors and Coordinators of BOSCO Rainbow Home, Vatsalya Bhavan, Yuvakendra, Sumanahalli, Yuvodaya, Mane and Vikas, and the Project Department team participated in this meeting.

Meeting with Government Officials

BOSCO Foster Care team met the Government officials at the CDPO Office, Hosakote, Bengaluru Rural on May 17, 2024. Obalesh, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Foster Care Programme briefed about BOSCO activities. He also introduced them to the concept of Foster Care and Adoption. He explained about the eligibility of children and parents, legal procedures, follow up procedures, documents required, role of CWC and DCPO. He sought the support of the officials in identifying the prospective parents and children for the programme. Ms. Vidya Vastrad, CDPO, Hosakote and eight Government Officials were present in the programme.



Parents' Meetings

BOSCO Nivas met with the parents of children attending tuition classes at Sagayapuram on April 18, 2024. The team guided the mothers on rearing their children, understanding and accepting them as they are, encouraging and motivating them to pursue their goals, being role models, having mutual respect, being responsive and interactive, and caring for their health and education. Twenty-two mothers attended the meeting.



BOSCO Yuvakendra organized a meeting for the parents of the youth on May 14, 2024. Sr. Silvy, Director, BOSCO Yuvakendra, spoke about the activities of the centre and how the youths are engaged in different tasks throughout the day. Ms. Geethamala, Counsellor, BOSCO Yuvakendra, addressed the parents and sought their support in returning the youths to mainstream society. Mr. Sathish ASI, Mr. Sritesh, Head Constable and Mr. Kempanna, PC, KP Agrahara Police Station and Fr. Dominic, Salesian In-charge, BOSCO Yuvakendra, were present in the meeting. Nineteen youths and sixteen parents attended the meeting.



BOSCO Nilaya conducted a meeting for the parents of the children attending tuition classes at Vyayaam Shaale Tuition centre on June 14, 2024. Bhagyalaxmi, Social Mobilizer, BOSCO Nilaya briefed the parents about the importance of education, tuition timings, sending the children regularly to the tuition classes, hostel placements, substance abuse and its ill effects, new Government schemes, BOSCO activities and re-enrollment of school dropouts. Parents were interested in knowing more about Sukanya Yojana, a Government Scheme. Twenty parents participated in the meeting.



BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan conducted meeting for the parents/guardians of the children residing in the centre on June 30, 2024. Ms. Tulasi, Teacher gave orientation on the work of BOSCO and exclusively about the center and its activities. Ms. Ajantha, Coordinator, briefed the parents about the key services provided for the benefit of their children and the rules and regulations followed in the centre. She also emphasized the parents' obligation to their children and the center. The most important things are to maintain their children's documents for academic purposes and to take advantage of government benefits. Thirty-four parents/guardians attended the meeting.



Annual Evaluation Meeting at BOSCO Bengaluru

We are excited to share that BOSCO successfully conducted its annual evaluation on June 18 and 19, 2024. This two-day event was a time of deep reflection and strategic planning as we reviewed the various programs we have implemented over the past year. We celebrated our successes, analyzed our challenges, and discussed innovative solutions to overcome them.

Our achievements include successful educational initiatives and impactful community support programs. Through brainstorming

sessions, we've developed plans to enhance our programs' effectiveness and reach more needy individuals. This evaluation was not just about looking back but also about setting a clear, actionable path forward. Our dedicated team members showcased their unwavering commitment, creativity, and resilience, proving that together, we can turn challenges into opportunities for growth.

Here's to another year of making a difference, overcoming challenges, and driving positive impact!



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Capacity Development Programmes on Aftercare



The second and third round of training was organized for the Coordinators and Caretakers of the Child Care Institutions by BOSCO Bengaluru at BOSCO Mane on April 18 and 30, 2024. The sessions were facilitated by Mrs. Ramya, Chief Executive Officer, We Live Foundation.

During the second session, participants engaged in both individual and group activity, where they were tasked with identifying issues (physical, social, emotional, intellectual) and societal

perceptions associated with them. In the third round of training a video featuring Suvin, a success story from We Live Foundation was screened, which got everyone thinking about the importance of support in children's lives. There was a discussion on the topic 'CCI Expectations and Society's Expectations from a Child.' The importance of tailored support based on children's ages was made known through a group activity. Seventeen participants attended the training sessions.



Training for KSRTC Officials

The outreach team working in KSRTC and BMTC Bus Stands organized a training for the KSRTC Officials at KSRTC DC Office, Terminal-02 on May 24, 2024. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru and Mr. Shivamallu, Coordinator, BOSCO Foster Care programme explained about BOSCO, child laws, foster care concept, procedures involved in foster care and the process of adoption. S N Arun, DC, KSRTC explained about the present situation of children and child related issues. Ms. Vijaya, Coordinator, Bus Stand team spoke about the activities carried out by the team in bus stand. She presented the statistics of the rescued children during the year and the support of the KSRTC officials in rescuing the children. Mrs. Bhagya Lakshmi Avati, Divisional Traffic Officer, Mrs. Prabha Javali, Assistant Traffic Manager



and Mrs. Prema, Accounts Officer were present. Seventy-six Officials participated in the programme.

Training for Child Rights Club Members

CRISP, BOSCO, Bengaluru organized first level training for the members of Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) in schools of Bengaluru Urban and Rural during June 2024. CRISP team members briefed about BOSCO, CRISP, and CHILDLINE. Children were told about the four major child rights. Children's opinion was collected and CHILDLINE (1098/112) mechanism was explained. They also explained the importance of CRC and the rules and regulations to be followed. Thereafter, the CRC was formed. The interactive gathering included a session on gender equality and leadership qualities. Around seven hundred children attended the training sessions.



Training for District Directors

Foster Care, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized training for District Directors at Don Bosco Provincial House, Bengaluru, on June 25, 2024. Mr. Shivamallu, State Project Coordinator, Foster Care shared the statistical data of eleven months. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO, Bengaluru presented future thrust of the Foster Care project. Fr. George P S, Executive Director, BREADS shared about the placements done in Kerala and Tamil Nadu and said that CCI is a temporary place for children to stay, we need



to provide a family for the children who are in need of family love and care. Directors and staff need to focus more on placements. He elaborated on the monitoring systems, visibility about the

programme in the media, networking and advocacy with the state agencies and documentation. Directors from seventeen districts of Karnataka participated in the training.

Training on Model Foster Care Guidelines

Foster Care, BOSCO Bengaluru, organized one day training for 20 Districts' Project Staff at BOSCO Mane, Bengaluru, on June 29, 2024. Fr. K J Joseph, Director, BOSCO Mane, Bengaluru, emphasized the importance of being like children when working with children.

A session on Model Foster Care Guidelines 2024 and Future Thrust of the project was presented by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram. Shivamallu, State Coordinator presented placement details of children in foster care in twenty districts. Around twenty two members from twenty districts participated in the meeting.



Orientation Programme



Students from Smt. VHD Central Institute of Home Science (Autonomous), Bengaluru visited BOSCO Bengaluru on June 27, 2024 as part of their course requirement. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru briefed about the history, vision and mission, programmes, projects, activities, challenges, structure and systems of BOSCO. Students wanted to know the rehabilitation, rescue process, job opportunities, possibilities of volunteering services, funding and financial management processes. Fourteen students were part of the orientation.

HEALTH CAMPS

Health Camp at Yuvodaya and Nagarabhavi Community

BOSCO Yuvodaya in collaboration with BOSCO Health Care Department organized a health camp for the children of the Open Shelter on May 23, 2024. Dr. Abraham M.D, Senior Consultant, St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru and his team conducted the camp. Forty-five children benefitted from the camp.

BOSCO CSN Project, in collaboration with the Labour Department and Mobile Clinic Unit, organized a health camp at Nagarabhavi community on April 27, 2024. Dr. Prakash and two staff nurses conducted the camp. Twenty-five parents and children availed of the medical camp services.



Eye Screening Camps

Eye screening camps were organized at BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, Rainbow Home, Nilaya and Nivas for the center children and people of Vinobha Nagar and Sagayapuram, in association with The Eye Foundation, Bengaluru and Retina Institute of

Karnataka during May 2024. Fifty-five children and their parents from Vatsalya Bhavan, forty children and ten staff from Rainbow Home and fifty children, fifty-one adults from Vinobha Nagar and more than hundred and fifty people from Sagayapuram attended the camps.

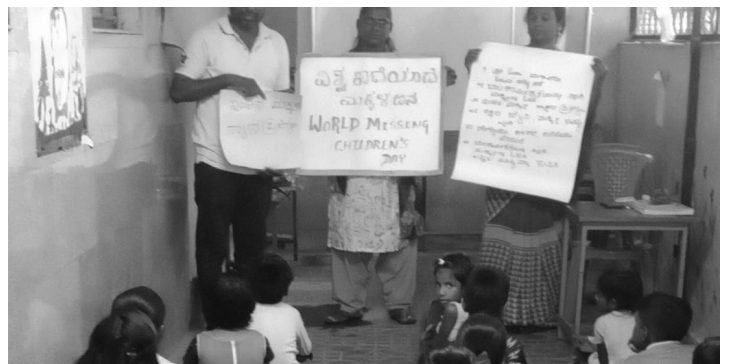


» CAMPAIGNS «

International Missing Children's Day

BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli observed International Missing Children's Day at the centre on May 25, 2024. An awareness regarding missing children was given to the trainees. They were told about the Child Helpline 1098/112 in case of finding a child in distress. The trainees pledged to help out children in distress at all times and do their bit in reducing the number of missing children. The session was facilitated by Mr. Antony Dass, Staff, BOSCO Sumanahalli. Thirty-one trainees and the staff of the centre were part of this activity.

The team working in Magadi Road area conducted awareness programmes on International Missing Children's Day for the children in Nagammanagar and at BOSCO Yuvakendra on May 25, 2024. The team explained about the rights of children, the issues they face, the importance of education, how to choose good company and follow a disciplined life. They were informed about the child helpline. Twenty-five children from Nagammanagar and seventeen children from other areas of Magadi Road participated in the sessions.

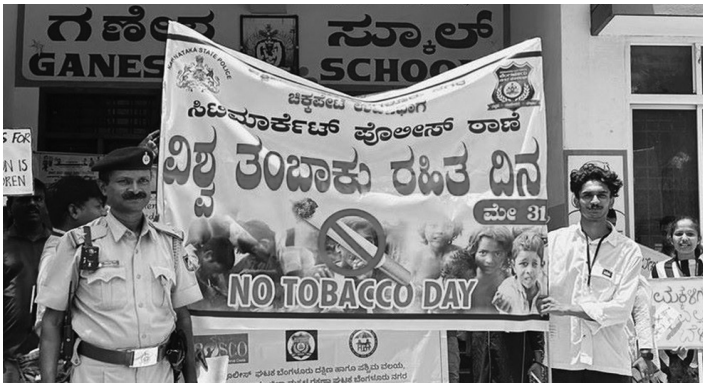


World No Tobacco Day

World No Tobacco Day was observed by BOSCO Nilaya, CRISP and SJPU projects at Ganesha School on May 31, 2024. The children of the school were made aware of the ill effects of the use of tobacco and its products on themselves and others. A jatha was held around the KR Market area creating awareness about the importance of the day. Sixty-two children, teachers and staff participated in the jatha.

BOSCO CSN project in collaboration with Upparpet Police Station conducted awareness to the public regarding the negative impact of the use of tobacco and its products. The various types of cancer which are caused due to tobacco use were mentioned. A rally was taken from Upparpet Police Station, passed through Dhanvanthri Road, Kapali Galli, SC Road, and culminated at ACP

Office, Chikkapet, Bengaluru. Mr. Maruthi, Police Inspector, Upparpet Police Station was present in the programme. Around hundred people were reached out to through the rally.



World Environment Day Celebrated

BOSCO Vikas, BOSCO Mane, BOSCO Sumanahalli, BOSCO Nivas, Vatsalya Bhavan, Rainbow Home, BOSCO Yuvakendra, CSN, and CRISP Project celebrated World Environment Day on the theme, "Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience" at their centres and areas on June 5, 2024. The concerned Directors

inaugurated the programme at the respective centers and spoke about the importance of the day and highlighted the crucial role we play in protecting the earth. The children and the youth were told, 'Grow trees and save the Earth'. They were exhorted to be more nature friendly and sensitive.





Children staged programmes showcasing the importance of the day. Posters and slogans were displayed and saplings were planted to help children realize the importance of protecting mother earth. The children and youth were told about the necessary steps to be taken towards preserving nature and greenery. Children pledged to take care of nature in their daily life. Centre and tuition children, St. Xavier School children, Government schools' staff and children, the staff and the students of Padma Law College, Bengaluru, police personnel along with BOSCO staff and volunteers participated in the programme in the different centres, areas and schools.

Shaale Kade Nanna Nade

BOSCO Nilaya, Nivas, CRISP, CSN, ARSP Yuvakendra, and Gandhinagar Projects organized the Shaale Kade Nanna Nade campaign in their areas of intervention during May last week and June first week of 2024. The campaign included awareness rallies, door-to-door awareness, and awareness in the communities by children. The Police Personnel of Upparpet Police Station, highlighting the importance of education, informed the children to call up the toll-free number-112 whenever they face problems.

Rallies were taken out in Nagammanagar, Keshavnagar, Ashwathanagar, Himalaya Community, Pillahalli, Veerabhadranagar Gudda, City Market, Anandapuram, Cement Huts, Ramanna

Garden, Vinobhanagara, Giripuram, Satya Nagar, Tungabhadra Colony and Gandhinagar areas of Bengaluru Urban and Ambedkar Nagar, Nelamangala, Bengaluru Rural. The area police personnel, children, HMs and teachers of the Government schools and St. Xavier School, Anganwadi Workers, tuition teachers and staff of BOSCO were involved in the awareness campaigns. More than one thousand people who were reached out to during the campaign pledged their support in enrolling and re-enrolling the children in their communities into schools. As a result of the campaign **eighty-six children** were enrolled and re-enrolled in schools of Bengaluru Urban and Rural.



Breaking the Chains

World Day Against Child Labour with the theme, 'Let's act on our commitments: End Child Labour' was observed by BOSCO Bengaluru by participating in the programme organized by the Department of Labour on June 12, 2024 at MG Road, Bengaluru. The programme included a formal inauguration by Mr. Santosh Lad, Minister, Labour Department, Government of Karnataka, a skit on child labour, and a rally which was flagged off by Ms. Ragini Dwivedi, Actor, Kannada Film Industry. The rally took off from MG

Road and culminated at KR Circle. The children and staff of BOSCO further continued the rally to the Freedom Park, shouting the slogans against child labour and creating awareness to the public on child labour. A Signature Campaign was organized where the public and the participants pledged to eradicate child labour. Government officials, college students, Scouts and Guides children, Directors from BOSCO were present in the campaign. Hundred and ten children from BOSCO Child Care Centres and areas, ninety staff and

volunteers under the leadership of Fr. Johnson, Director, BOSCO Bengaluru participated in the campaign.

On the occasion, BOSCO SJPU Project conducted an essay writing competition on the theme in SLN Public School, Kalasipalya. Fifty-two children children wrote the essays on child labour.

BOSCO CSN organized an awareness programme for the shop keepers and the public at Kalasipalya and Sumanahalli areas. The team gave awareness through announcements, shouting slogans and conducting signature campaign. Smt. Anupama, Senior Labour Inspector was present on the occasion. Around hundred people were reached out to by way of distributing pamphlets.



International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

BOSCO Bengaluru observed World Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on June 26, 2024 to create awareness about drug abuse, illegal trafficking, child rights, child protection, and prevention of child labour for the school

children. The teams explained the harmful effects of drug abuse, signs of drug abuse, the role of parents and teachers, and how they have to be vigilant towards the behaviour of the children.



International Yoga Day celebrated at BOSCO Bengaluru

Embracing the spirit of unity and mindfulness on International Yoga Day with children at the centre. Together, they stretched, breathed, and found peace in the flow of yoga. Their enthusiasm

and joy lit up the room, reminding us all of the power of yoga to connect and uplift, fostering wellness and harmony, one pose at a time.



RESULTS

PUC Results

BOSCO Sumanahalli

1. Sai Krishna-79%
2. Rahul- 86%
3. Ganesh- 79%

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan

1. Hemalatha-65%
2. Preethi - 60%

Kudos to the children who passed SSLC exam!

BOSCO Sumanahalli:

1. Manjunath- 77.44%
2. Jeevan Babu-54.56%
3. Muneshwar-52%
4. Sudeep-51.68%
5. Ajith- 44.96%
6. Shivappa-43%
7. Abi-2nd class
8. Abhishek - Pass

BOSCO Rainbow Home

1. Prabhavathi - 69.83%
2. Srisha - 60.05%
3. Sathyashree -51.16%
4. Priya - 42.33%
5. Muskan - 41.83%

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan

1. Hema -71%
2. Puttamma- 40%

BOSCO Yuvakendra

1. Malatesh -61%
2. Vinith- 51%
3. Edwin -50%
4. Dhabush P - 53%
5. Kowshiq- 51%

BOSCO Vikas

1. Hanumantha - 47%
2. Hanumesh- 43%
3. Sunny - 47%
4. Chandan - 57%
5. Tarun. U- 54%

SUMMER CAMPS

Summer Camp Organized

The summer camps were organized for the children and youths of the BOSCO centres and the children attending the tuition classes in the areas during April and May 2024 at the centres, Don Bosco, Makkalaya, Mysore, Don Bosco Mitra School, Horamavu. MCT Quarters, Pillahalli, Magadi Road, Veerabhadranagar gudda,

Dodda Basti and Chikka Basti, St. Xavier School and BOSCO Yuvaspandana

The activities included sessions on goal setting, agreements, time management, understanding life, helping them to discover their talents, treasure hunt, life skill classes, indoor and outdoor sports,





skits, handcrafts, story-telling, campfire, different styles of painting, painting a wall, karate, yoga, meditation, mimicry, pencil sketches, writing poems and songs, sessions on food and nutrition, hygiene, child friendly games, dance, drawing sessions, action songs, fashion show, quizzes, speech competitions, doll-making, cut outs using rug materials, making wings, night Olympics, training on NCB and street plays, shramdaan, farming, screening of documentaries, one-day picnic and trekking

The activities helped the children to work in a team, learn discipline, develop confidence, and identify hidden talents. The camps helped the children learn discipline, leadership skills, team spirit, cooperation, and mental and physical strength. The camps also helped in enhancing the talents of children and in making constructive use of the time during the summer vacation. All the children and youth of the centres and the children attending the tuition classes participated in the summer camps.



VALUE EDUCATION AND LIFE SKILL SESSIONS

Value Education Session on Leading a Noble Life

BOSCO Nilaya organized a value education session on 'Leading a noble life' for the children attending tuition classes in Rajagopal Garden on April 5, 2024. Two MSW Volunteers from TISS, Guwahati, explained the importance of values in life. They asked the children to always remember and use the three golden words—Sorry, Thank you, and Please. They spoke about respecting elders and being kind and supportive. They conducted activities and screened videos to explain the concept. Twenty-seven children attended the session.



Value Education for the Tuition Children

A value education session was conducted for the children attending tuition classes at Cement Huts by the BOSCO Nilaya team on May 16, 2024. Ms. Archana and Ms. Bhagyalakshmi, Outreach Workers, Education for the Children in the Slums of Bengaluru (ECSB) project explained the importance of education, children's right to education, career planning, respecting the parents and teachers and leading a noble life. Several activities were conducted and motivational videos screened highlighting the values to lead a noble life. Forty children attended the session.



Session on Team Work

BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli organized a life skill session on 'Team Work' for the trainees at the centre on April 16, 2024. Ms. Saleena, Centre Coordinator, conducted the session. The session started with an ice-breaking activity. The trainees were divided into pairs and were made to play the 'Land Mine' game. Paper pieces and balls were spread on the floor. One among the pair would be blindfolded, and the other had to lead the way without touching the balls or paper pieces. Through this game, she explained the importance of teamwork. Thirty trainees were a part of this session.



Skit on Importance of Life



On May 23, 2024, Ms. Malathishree of Mysore and her team performed a skit at the BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre. The skit was designed to raise awareness among the trainees about the importance of thinking, being alert, and listening to their elders. Through the skit, the team communicated the importance of avoiding bad habits, vices, and bad company. They also cautioned the trainees about the consequences of pursuing immediate pleasures that could lead to mishaps in their lives. In addition to the skit, the trainees showcased their talents in singing and dancing. Thirty-one trainees watched the skit.

PICNICS AND OUTINGS

Children's Day Out

The children attending the tuition classes from BOSCO Nivas, Nilaya and Yuvaspandana were taken out for a one-day picnic to Fun World, Bengaluru, on April 30, 2024. One hundred and forty-three children from Nivas, Nilaya, and Yuvaspandana, as well as thirty-three staff and tuition teachers led by Fr. Jude Anand, Director, were part of the one-day outing.



Picnic for Tuition Children

BOSCO Sumanahalli took the tuition children of Devaraj Urs, Sumanahalli and Sajjepalya areas for an outing to Bannerghatta National Park and Art of Living International Centre, Bengaluru, on May 4, 2024. Ms. Manjula, Tuition teacher, explained the importance

of the national park to the children. Apart from enjoying walks and exploring the ashram, they also learned about the numerous residential courses on meditation and *satsang* at the Ashram. Thirty-nine children, led by six staff had an outing.



Outing for the Tuition Children

The children attending tuition classes in Pillahalli community were taken for a one-day outing to Cubban Park, Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technical Museum and Vidhan Soudha by the Child Safety Net (CSN) team on May 21, 2024. The outing proved to be informative as the children were exposed to different instruments, sky observation, science demonstration, Wright Brothers Aeroplane, different galleries, etc. Children enjoyed playing and taking a stroll in the Cubban Park. The staff briefed the history of India, Vidhan Soudha and the great freedom fighters and BR Ambedkar. A total of thirty-six children benefitted from the outing.



Exposure Visit for Tuition Children

BOSCO ARSP team took the tuition of the children of MCTC Quartets, MCTC Anganawadi and Thungabhadra colony areas for an outing to ISKCON temple by Namma Metro Bengaluru, on May 18, 2024. Mr. Shekhar, Coordinator, ARSP Project told the history of ISKCON temple, explaining the importance of the temple to the children. Forty-two children and nine staff led by Fr. Johnson, Director, ARSP Project had an outing.



An Outing to Shoolin Resort



An Outing to Shoolin Resort BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre arranged an outing for the trainees of the centre to Shoolin Resort, Tavarekere, Bengaluru on May 20, 2024 for enjoyment and relaxation. The trainees enjoyed playing in the swimming pool and adventurous games. They took a round of the resort and enjoyed the nature. They had a sumptuous breakfast and lunch with variety of foods. It was a pleasant change from the routine work. They felt refreshed. Thirty-one trainees along with nine staff visited the resort.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Certificate Distribution

BOSCO Yuvaspandana organized a programme to distribute the course completion certificates to the computer trainees of the centre on April 8, 2024. In his introductory words, Fr. Jude Anand, Director BOSCO Yuvaspandana congratulated the youths for successfully completing the course. Addressing the trainees, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director, BOSCO Bengaluru, briefed them about the various skill training courses available at BOSCO. He encouraged them to refer more and more youths to avail the benefits of the skill training. Computer students shared their

opinions. Certificates were distributed to eighteen trainees. Around thirty-five tuition children, teachers, and staff were in the programme.



Ugadi Celebration



BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, celebrated Ugadi on April 9, 2024. The centre was decorated with flowers, neem, and mango leaves, and special dishes were prepared for the day. Fr. Joseph Dandavathi, Assistant Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, explained the importance of the day and wished all the inmates a happy and prosperous New Year ahead. He explained the significance of the Ugadi festival and blessed the youths. Twenty-three trainees and staff were part of the celebration.

Ambedkar Jayanthi

BOSCO Rainbow Home and BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre, Sumanahalli, celebrated Ambedkar Jayanthi to commemorate the 133rd birthday of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar at their respective school and centres on April 14, 2024. The celebrations began with the garlanding of the photo of Dr. Ambedkar. The Directors and the staff spoke about the great personality – the recipient of Bharata Ratna, India’s highest civilian award, Champion of Social Freedom, who argued for legal freedom and social liberties for the oppressed. Dr. Ambedkar is the Architect of our Constitution and is known as the “Father of Indian Constitution”. The children and youth were encouraged to follow his principles and



values. Fifty girls from Rainbow Home and thirty-two trainees from Sumanahalli centres participated in the celebration.

Basketball Coaching at BOSCO Mane

BOSCO Nilaya organized a basketball coaching camp for the children of their intervention areas in collaboration with the CROSSCOVER mission at BOSCO Mane from April 24 to 29, 2024. The team briefly explained Equality, Leadership, Communication, Teamwork, and Gender equality.

The children were made to go through rigorous training dexterous with the basketball. They were made to practice the exercises of passing the ball between the legs, chest pass, shooting, fingertips,

behind the back, etc. The team also spoke about, BEEF – Balance, Eye, Elbow, Flow through, taught memory games to teach values such as helping each other, hard work, kindness, etc. T-shirts and Basketballs were distributed to the children. The team included Mr. Shaun, Ms. Hannah, Ms. Kirby and Mr. Adam from CROSSOVER, USA, Ms. Sanjana and Mr. Hemanth from Bengaluru and Mr. Tanmay from Mumbai. Fifty children from the communities underwent the training.



THE COURAGE TO DREAM: KRITI AND SANYA'S ESCAPE FROM A LIFE OF LABOUR

The story of Kriti and Sanya (Names Changed) serves as a reminder of the importance of protecting the rights and dignity of every child, regardless of their circumstances.

Kriti and Sanya, two young sisters from Bihar, were rescued from child labour in Bengaluru by the Jayanagara police following a complaint from concerned neighbours. Their parents, seeking work opportunities, had moved from their native Bihar to Mysore and then to Bengaluru, where the girls, along with their four siblings, were left to fend for themselves.

The girls' parents, both being alcoholics, struggled to support their large family. After a dispute with a farm owner in Mysore, they moved to Bengaluru and worked in another farm. Due to poverty, they sent Kriti to work first, followed by Sanya, with the father collecting their earnings each month.

Despite their challenging circumstances, Kriti, aged 10, displayed remarkable bravery and a desire to become a Police Officer. Having never attended school, she took on responsibilities beyond her years, caring for the farm owner's wife who had fractured her bones from an accident. Her duties included domestic work, cooking, laundry, cleaning, and tending to the wife's healthcare needs.

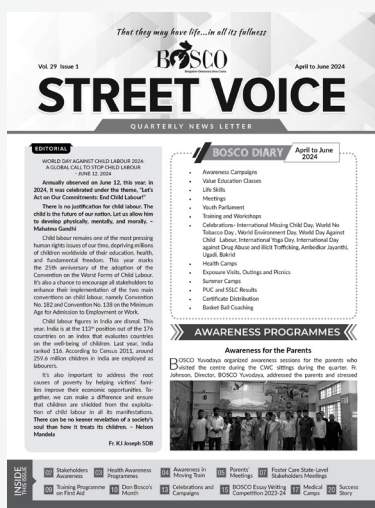
Sanya, aged 8, on the other hand, was timid and shy but harboured a dream of becoming a Teacher. Having attended school until the 2nd standard, she joined her sister in working for the farm owner, taking on similar domestic tasks.

The farm owner and his wife, who had two children of their own, treated Kriti and Sanya well. They provided for their needs, celebrated their birthdays, and even took them to Hyderabad for a family function. However, they discouraged the girls from attending school, promising to provide education at home if they continued working for them. Despite this promise, it was noted by the staff of BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan that Kriti lacked even basic writing skills. Kriti and Sanya, while deeply attached to their parents and the farm owner's family, were made to believe that disclosing their work situation would lead to their loved ones' arrest.

Initially placed in a government girls' home after the rescue, Kriti and Sanya faced challenges due to their age and the older girls in the home. Consequently, they were transferred to BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan under the jurisdiction of the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). Here, they received temporary care, protection, and education in an environment more suitable for children their age by providing a bridge-course programme to equip them with the skills and knowledge required to study in the regular schools and actively involving them in activities, and games.

Despite these challenges, both girls adapted well to their new environment at BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, participating in various activities and showing resilience in the face of adversity. Through the support of the right intervention at the right time by officials and BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, these sisters have the opportunity to break free from the cycle of poverty and exploitation, pursuing their dreams of a better future.

“
**“FOR YOU I STUDY
 FOR YOU I WORK
 FOR YOU I LIVE
 FOR YOU I AM READY
 EVEN TO GIVE MY LIFE”**
 DON BOSCO
 ”



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