

DON BOSCO MAKKALALAYA



IMPACT CHRONICLE



Edited by AnCIA Ivin, DBM Staff

JULY 2025 | VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

INDEX

1. Director's Message	03
2. Rescue and Rehabilitation Project	
Street Presence Programme	04
Don Bosco Makkalamane	05
Open School Programme	06
Skill Training Programme	07
3. Don Bosco Summer Camp	13
4. Foster Care Project	14
5. Child Safety Net Project	15
6. Impact Lounge	18
7. Gallery	20



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends of Don Bosco Makkalalaya,

It is with great joy and a deep sense of responsibility that I pen my first message as the newly appointed Executive Director of Don Bosco Makkalalaya. I consider it a special grace and privilege to be part of this vibrant mission that stands at the service of the poor, the marginalized, and the voiceless.

Don Bosco Makkalalaya has been a beacon of hope for many, and I am humbled to walk this path of service, inspired by the Salesian spirit of love, compassion, and commitment to the young and the needy. I look forward to working closely with our dedicated staff, partners, benefactors, and the communities we serve.

At this juncture, I place on record my heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Siju Thomas, my predecessor, for his meticulous leadership and committed service over the past four years. His vision and dedication have strengthened the foundation of this mission, and I stand on the solid ground he has helped build.

“The measure of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members.” – Mahatma Gandhi

This powerful quote reflects the very heart of Don Bosco Makkalalaya. In a world where the voiceless are often ignored, we are called to respond with compassion and action. Our mission is to uplift the vulnerable, especially children and youth, by creating spaces of care, education, and empowerment.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our benefactors and well-wishers whose generous support continues to sustain our work. A special word of appreciation to BREADS Bangalore for their constant guidance, collaboration, and encouragement. Your partnership strengthens our resolve and helps us dream bigger for those we serve.

Let us continue journeying together—bringing light where there is darkness, and hope where it is most needed.



FR. JIM JOSE SDB
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DBM



RESCUE AND REHABILITATION PROJECT STREET PRESENCE PROGRAMME

Street Presence is a proactive initiative by Don Bosco Makkalalaya aimed at protecting vulnerable children found in public spaces across Mysuru. Full-time staff are stationed in key areas of the city to monitor and intervene in cases involving children at risk—such as those engaged in child labour, child marriage, begging, school dropouts, or living without family support. The project works closely with government officials including the District Labour Officer, Labour Inspectors, Sub Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) Police Officers, and Childline staff to rescue and rehabilitate such children. Once identified, the children are referred to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) for immediate care and long-term protection, aligning with the objectives of the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS).

Awareness programs were conducted across various community platforms including Asha workers, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Anganwadi centres, Panchayati Raj

Institution (PRI) meetings, and with school teachers. These sessions aimed to strengthen community-level child protection by educating key grassroots stakeholders on the objectives of the Project and essential child safety measures.



CHILD RIGHTS VOLUNTEERS

As part of its outreach efforts, awareness sessions were held for students from the Department of Social Work (MSW) of Mahajana College and St. Philomena's College. The staff of DBM introduced the Projects and addressed key child-related issues such as child labour, child marriage, rag picking, migration, orphanhood, and conflict with the law, while also explaining relevant laws and government support systems. MSW students actively participated, expressing commitment to support and report cases of children in need of care and protection.

DON BOSCO MAKKALALAYA HONOURED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO CHILDREN IN MYSURU

Don Bosco Makkalalaya, under the leadership of Fr. Jim Jose SDB, has been recognized at the district level for its unwavering commitment to safeguarding child rights in Mysuru.

As part of the World Day Against Child Labour observance on June 12, 2025, Mr. Emmanuel, District Coordinator of the Child Safety Net Project at Don Bosco Makkalalaya, was honoured with a special award by the Labour Department of Mysuru District, Government of Karnataka.



This recognition is a proud moment for the entire Don Bosco Makkalalaya team and a reflection of our deep-rooted dedication to protecting and promoting Child Rights.

DON BOSCO MAKKALAMANE

Don Bosco Makkalamane serves as a caring home for children in need, providing them with a secure and encouraging atmosphere. In addition to fundamental education, the community dedicates itself to the comprehensive growth of each child offering nurturing, emotional guidance, and chances to enhance their confidence, character, and skills. It is a space where children experience not just learning but also genuine care, aiding them in creating a hopeful and dignified future.

We joyfully kicked off our new academic year on June 3rd with fresh energy and enthusiasm. This year, we have a lively group of 18 boys, each contributing their own distinct talents and spirit to our community. Among them, there are 4 in PUC, 1 in 10th grade, 4 in 9th grade, 1 in 8th grade, 5 in 7th grade, 1 in 6th grade, and 2 in 5th grade. The boys have been enrolled in a nearby school where they excel in their studies while also engaging in extracurricular activities, demonstrating their well-rounded development. One proud moment for us all was when our boys participated in a Kho-Kho match and earned a prize, bringing honor to our school and the institution.

A memorable day was celebrated when we marked the birthday of Fr. Jim, whose inspiring and energetic presence greatly influences our lives. On that same day, filled with gratitude and a bit of sadness, we said goodbye to Fr. Siju, who has been a cherished figure among the boys recognized for his friendly demeanor, affection for children, and sportsmanship. It was a day brimming with celebration, memories, and togetherness, perfectly illustrating how our institution prioritizes not only education but also the importance of relationships and holistic growth.

With the ongoing guidance and opportunities provided by Don Bosco Makkalamane, these boys have thrived in academics, sports, and cultural activities. Supported by this continual encouragement, they are on the path to achieving more success and becoming positive role models in their communities.



OPEN SCHOOL PROGRAMME



In a society where education is the foundation for personal and social progress, school dropouts face not only lost opportunities but also social exclusion and economic hardship. Every dropout represents a potential unfulfilled life that, with the right support, could contribute meaningfully to society. Understanding the gravity of this issue, Don Bosco Makkalalaya (DBM) has taken a transformative step through its Open School Programme.

This initiative is more than just an academic alternative; it is a lifeline for countless young individuals who had been pushed to the margins. By offering flexible education, vocational training, and emotional support, DBM is not only helping students re-enter the world of learning but is also reshaping communities, one life at a time.

Through tailored academic support, vocational training, and holistic development programs, we empower these individuals to either reintegrate into mainstream education or pursue meaningful career paths. The commitment and guidance of our faculty play a crucial role in helping each learner realise their potential.

As one journey ends, another begins! In the month of March and April, we bid an emotional farewell to our beloved SSLC and PUC students in a memorable Send-Off Programme at Don Bosco Makkalalaya. wishing them well in their future endeavours. Following this, we inaugurated and welcomed a new academic batch of SSLC and PUC students, marking the beginning of another chapter in our journey to transform lives through education



SKILL TRAINING PROGRAMME

In a world where opportunity often hinges on access to knowledge and the right skills, Don Bosco Makkalalaya stands as a beacon of hope for underprivileged and unemployed youth. Through its transformative three-month Skill Training Programme, the institution opens doors to new beginnings—turning potential into power and dreams into achievable goals.

With a well-rounded curriculum designed to meet the demands of today's job market, the programme trains youth in Basic Computer Skills including MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Tally ERP 9, Nudi, Photoshop, and Typing. Classes in Spoken English and Life Skills build confidence, improve communication, and foster personal growth.



Job Placement Assistance connects students with potential employers, helping them transition from classroom to career. And for those with the drive to study further, guidance is offered to continue education through correspondence, evening college, or full-time courses—depending on their circumstances.

INAUGURATION OF 39TH SKILL TRAINING BATCH

On April 12th, Don Bosco Makkalalaya held a vibrant event to inaugurate the 39th skill training batch. The programme began with a prayer and ceremonial lamp lighting by esteemed guests. Fr. Siju Thomas SDB, Executive Director, welcomed the gathering and shared three success mantras: delay gratification, say no, and avoid procrastination. Chief Guest Mr. Ravichandra, Chairperson of the CWC, spoke on the importance of education, skill development, and lifelong learning. The event included cultural performances and reflections by two SSLC students. The programme ended with snacks and refreshments, leaving everyone motivated towards their learning journey.



SESSION ON MEDITATION

As part of our holistic development efforts, we conducted a calming meditation session led by Ms. Savitha, former Child Welfare Committee (CWC) member, and her team. The session began with an introduction to the true purpose of meditation, encouraging reflections on life and self-awareness. Students from the Skill Training 39th Batch, SSLC, and PUC actively participated in the guided meditation, creating a serene and focused atmosphere. Many students shared that the experience was enriching, offering a much-needed moment of introspection, clarity, and inner peace.





Don Bosco Makkalalaya celebrated World Environment Day with great enthusiasm and purpose, uniting students and staff in a meaningful initiative to protect and preserve nature.

Keeping in mind the theme for this year #BeatPlasticPollution, the programme began with inspiring words by Fr. Jim Jose SDB, Executive Director of DBM and Mr. Emmanuel, staff member, who reminded everyone of their shared responsibility toward the environment.

One of the highlights of the day was a fun and educational plant exchange puzzle game, where staff and students arranged plant-themed puzzles and exchanged plants and tree saplings that they swore to take care and nurture.

All participants took a solemn oath to protect the environment, pledging to make sustainable choices every day.

Along with the Child Safety Net (CSN) team, we also organized a large-scale tree plantation drive aimed at promoting environmental sustainability and green practices.

Over 100 fruit-bearing and oxygen-producing trees were planted across multiple locations, including the Government Boys Home, Government Girls Home, Vijayanagar Police Station and two Government Schools. The event was graced by the presence of District Child Protection Officer Mr. Yogesh (DCPO), along with unit staff, Superintendent Mr. Basker and his team, as well as students and teachers from participating schools. Members of the CWC—Mr. Ravichandra, Mr. Swaraj Jain, Mr. Mahadev Kote, Miss Saraswathi, and Miss Rani—also actively participated in the initiative. Teachers and students from Gumchi and Pulakeshi schools joined the plantation efforts enthusiastically. Vijayanagar police officers, including Mr. Suresh Kumar SD, Mr. Prasanna Kumar, and others, supported the campaign, demonstrating a strong collaborative spirit.

The event served as a platform to raise awareness about environmental responsibility and involved participants in practical action by planting and pledging to care for the trees. This initiative not only contributed to enhancing green cover but also fostered community engagement and youth participation in protecting and preserving the environment.

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Self Confidence and Goal Setting

We organized a seminar on self-confidence and goal setting for the Summer Camp and Skill Training 39th Batch, led by Mr. Mahadev Kotte, Member of CWC Mysuru. He highlighted the flaws in rote-based education, encouraged students to believe in themselves, set clear personal goals, and take responsibility for their future. Emphasizing financial discipline, skill development, and respect for all professions, the session empowered students to embrace challenges and lead purposeful, self-driven lives with confidence and clarity.



Child Rights

A workshop on child rights was organized for the students led by Mr. Raghu, District Coordinator of Childline Mysuru. He explained the five stages of child development and stressed that rights are natural and non-negotiable. Interactive role-play helped students internalize key rights. He also emphasized responsible technology use and personal boundaries. The session boosted students' awareness, empowered them to recognize abuse, advocate for themselves, and make informed, respectful choices in their daily lives.



Women Empowerment and Gender Equality

We organized a workshop on Women Empowerment and Gender Equality, led by Mr. Prasanna Kumar from SJPU. Addressing key gender issues, he encouraged open dialogue on patriarchy, discrimination, and gender-based violence. Through role plays and skits, students explored societal norms and legal protections, including the POCSO Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, and One Stop Centres. The session empowered students—especially young women—with legal awareness, confidence, and the courage to stand up for their rights, fostering resilience and commitment to gender justice.



Online Safety and Cyber Crimes

A workshop on Online Safety and Cyber Crimes was held, led by Fr. Prasad Xavier SDB who in the session addressed threats like app traps, cyberbullying, hacking, and fake news, while offering practical safety tips and legal guidance. The session empowered students to navigate the digital world responsibly and confidently. Many shared their concerns, gaining awareness on tools to protect themselves, creating a stronger, safer online culture among youth.





CULTURAL DAY

Cultural Day celebrated the diverse talents of the 39th batch skill training students, offering a vibrant platform for creative expression, team bonding, and confidence-building. The event featured engaging competitions like rangoli, vegetable carving, debates, solo and group singing, dance performances, and a “cooking without fire” challenge to which students participated enthusiastically.

Winners were recognized with certificates and thoughtful gifts, encouraging their efforts. The celebration allowed students to step aside from rote learning and to explore their hidden talents.

The day contributed to several aspects of their overall development—boosting confidence, improving communication, and fostering a strong sense of community. It was a meaningful and memorable event at Don Bosco Makkalalaya, reinforcing the importance of holistic learning and personal growth.



EDUCATIONAL EXCURSION

The students of the 39th batch skill training went on an educational excursion to BR Hills and Dhondenling Monastery, which proved to be an enriching and refreshing experience. The trip began with a visit to the scenic viewpoints of BR Hills, where students got the chance to witness the beauty of nature firsthand. Traveling through the forest and hills, the group enjoyed the serenity and greenery, which offered a welcome break from routine. The next stop was the Dhondenling Tibetan Settlement, where students explored the temples, admired the unique architecture and art, and visited the local marketplace to understand the culture and lifestyle of the Tibetan community.

This educational trip had a strong impact on the students, helping them learn beyond the classroom. Experiencing a new environment enhanced their understanding of nature, culture, and community life. The visit to the monastery exposed them to spiritual practices and values of peace and harmony, while the interaction with the Tibetan settlement provided insight into a different way of life. It encouraged curiosity, cultural respect, and personal reflection among the students, and strengthened their sense of unity and appreciation for diversity. Overall, the trip was both educational and memorable, further contributing to the students' holistic growth.

PARENTS-TEACHERS CONFERENCE

A Parents-Teachers meeting was organized for the 39th batch of Skill Training students.

During the event, parents had the opportunity to interact with the teachers and the Executive Director, Fr. Jim Jose SDB, who shared his observations and remarks on the students' performance over the past few months. The meeting also included a common gathering that began with a prayer song by Arbiya Shifa, a student of the same batch, setting a reflective and respectful tone. Following this, a dedicated session was held where parents could openly share their suggestions and feedback. The parents appreciated the positive changes and overall growth they've observed in their children after enrolling in the training. This meeting played a crucial role in strengthening the relationship between parents, teachers, and the institution. It fostered a sense of collective responsibility and support, encouraging parents to be more involved in their ward's learning journey.



CERTIFICATION AND CONCLUSION OF THE 39TH SKILL TRAINING BATCH



The concluding ceremony for the 39th batch of Skill Training students was held at Don Bosco Makkalalaya. Fr. Jim Jose SDB, the Executive Director, delivered the opening address, appreciating the journey of the outgoing batch and welcoming the new students who have just begun their educational path at DBM.

Chief guest Mr. Shibu A Joseph, Managing Trustee of Grace Open School, delivered an inspiring speech encouraging students to never stop learning and emphasized the value of doing things differently to achieve success.

Chief Guest Mr. Swaraj Jain Babu, member of the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), in his speech highlighted how challenges in life build strength, and creatively compared the DBM experience to tailoring one's own garment — now ready to be worn with pride in society.

Fr. Devassy SDB, Director of Don Bosco Makkalamane, particularly motivated the female students to strive for financial independence and self reliance. Two students from the skill training batch shared their experience about the journey of honing their skills in their three months of training. The programme also featured a variety of cultural performances, including dances, songs, and a ramp walk. A heartwarming “Golden Memories” video was screened, reminiscing the students' journey. Course completion certificates were awarded to the skill training students. Prizes were presented to the winning groups with blue team taking the grand prize and green and red team winning second and third respectively. The programme concluded with a hearty lunch for all attendees.



DON BOSCO SUMMER CAMP



Don Bosco Makkalalaya successfully conducted an impactful one-month summer camp for children aged 15 to 18 years—a highly impressionable age group. The initiative aimed at empowering the young from disadvantaged areas and slums across Mysuru, where the dedicated social mobilizers from Don Bosco Makkalalaya worked tirelessly to identify and motivate young individuals to participate.

The summer camp focused on holistic development through daily classes in spoken English, including vocabulary-building and conversation practice. Additionally, engaging classes were held everyday on vital life skills topics such as public speaking, stress and anger management, time management, creativity, teamwork, environmental awareness, health and hygiene, etc.

To broaden the children’s perspectives and ideas, expert resource persons were invited to conduct interactive workshops on topics like child rights, gender equality and women empowerment, the role of youth in nation-building, online safety and cybersecurity, yoga and meditation, and laughter yoga. Daily games and activities were integrated into the programme to reinforce the topics covered.

A highlight of the camp was an enriching one-day educational excursion to Namdroling Monastery, Kaveri Nisargadhama, and the Harangi Elephant Camp in Kushalnagar, Madikeri. This outing provided the campers with exposure to relaxing environments in the nature, taught them about different cultures, and conservation and care for wildlife.

The concluding day of the summer camp was marked with a vibrant programme attended by distinguished guests, including CWC members Smt. Saraswathi and Smt. Rani. Fr. Siju Thomas, the then Executive Director of Don Bosco Makkalalaya, delivered the opening message, reflecting on how the camp helped children discover their hidden talents, make new friends, and encouraged them to seize every opportunity they have in the future.

The programme featured cultural performances by the campers, including dance and singing. Certificates of participation were awarded to all the campers, and special gifts were presented to the winning teams. The event concluded with the distribution of snacks and refreshments for all attendees, marking a joyful end to a camp that left a lasting impact on everyone involved.



FOSTER CARE PROJECT

Foster care offers temporary, family-based support for children who are orphaned or lack adequate family care. As outlined in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act of 2015, it serves as a crucial alternative to institutional care. Don Bosco Makkalalaya's Foster Care Project has significantly advanced this mission by conducting extensive training and awareness programs for key stakeholders — including government officials, Gram Panchayat members, Child Welfare Committees, District Child Protection Officers, school teachers, Women Self Help Groups, college students, Anganwadi workers, mothers, helpers, ASHA workers, and Child Care Institution heads — across Mysore and Chamarajanagara districts.

The project supports and guides prospective foster parents through the application process via the DCPO or CWC and ensures regular follow-ups. After placement, the foster care team conducts family and school visits to aid smooth integration. As a result, the project has not only strengthened community-based child care systems but also successfully placed children in nurturing family environments, giving them renewed hope and stability.

- **Identification of prospective parents:**
Mysuru: 11, Chamarajanagara: 03
- **Adoption:**
Mysuru: 01, Chamarajanagara: 12
- **Placing children in foster care:**
Chamarajanagara: 02
- **Follow up of placed children (Home Visit):**
Mysuru: 09, Chamarajanagara: 04
- **Follow up of placed children (School Visit):**
Mysuru: 04, Chamarajanagara: 02
- **Prospective Parents and Children's meeting:**
Mysuru: 01, Chamarajanagara: 01
- **Meeting with individual NGO staff:**
Mysuru: 01, Chamarajanagara: 04

Programs (April 2025 - June 2025)	Programs	Participants	Programs	Participants
	Mysuru		Chamarajanagara	
	Public Awareness	21	2750	30
Awareness for PRI Leaders	03	46	03	50
Awareness for Anganwadi mothers	03	53	03	71
Awareness for College Students	01	30	01	48
Awareness for SHG groups	03	66	03	83
Training for Anganwadi Teachers/helpers	04	84	03	96
Training for Asha Workers	03	31	03	46
Training for Primary Teachers	09	70	02	88
Advocacy meetings for Government Departments	01	09	02	24

List of programs covered by DBM Foster Care (April 2025 - June 2025)



PROSPECTIVE PARENTS AND CHILDRENS MEETING

We hosted a Prospective Parents and Children's Meeting with Gram Panchayath President, Secretary and Director along with the staff of DBM to provide insights into the adoption process and available support systems. The gathering created space for meaningful dialogue between prospective families and child welfare professionals, fostering clarity and connection.



CHILD SAFETY NET PROJECT

Child Safety Net Project (CSN Project) aims at creating a child safety net to safeguard at-risk children living in vulnerable conditions on the streets, slum areas, marketplaces, and transit points by employing a presence in key vulnerable locations through constant patrolling and by fostering community involvement.

CARING COMMUNITY GROUPS



Caring Community Groups were established at Hanchya and Nachanahalli Palya. Community and department leaders, including a youth leader, a School Headmaster, an Anganwadi teacher, an ASHA worker, an SHG president, Child Welfare Officer, SJPU police, and Childline members, participated in the CCG. The CSN staff gave a detailed explanation of the Child Safety Net Caring Community Group's formation. The group's primary objective is to rescue and rehabilitate vulnerable children, including those affected by child labour, child marriage, child begging, rag picking, migration, orphanhood, conflict with the law, school dropouts, and runaway children.

Also discussed in the CCG were key pieces of legislation, including the Juvenile Justice Act, labour acts, and POCSO Act, as well as various government schemes. Attendees were also informed about government mechanisms, such as the CWC, DCPU, Child Helpline (1098), Emergency (112), and SJPU. A WhatsApp group was created for effective communication among the members. The participants expressed interest in supporting vulnerable children by becoming socially responsible and promised to help every child in difficulty.

CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS THROUGH STREET PLAY AND SUMMER CAMP FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN



We organized a powerful street play at Yellamma Colony to raise awareness on child labour, child marriage, child begging, and school dropouts. The event was a joint effort by the CSN team, children from Yellamma and Saibaba Colonies, JSS College MSW volunteers, Don Bosco staff, and Mandi Mohalla Police. Fr. Siju Thomas, Director, delivered an inspiring message on the importance of education and child rights. The street play vividly portrayed the dangers of child exploitation. Awareness sessions for children and parents focused on child protection laws and government support. Children held placards, distributed pamphlets, and made announcements to engage the community. Nearly 150 people participated.

Following this, CSN staff and MSW volunteers conducted a month-long summer camp for 75+ children in Yellamma and Saibaba Colonies. The camp featured games, songs, physical activities, and counselling to prevent child labour and begging, offering a safe space for learning and growth.

CHILD RIGHTS AWARENESS



The CSN team launched dynamic child rights awareness campaigns by setting up kiosks at key public locations, providing essential information on issues such as child marriage, child labour, begging, school dropouts, and child protection laws. CSN staff and MSW student volunteers actively engaged with the public, distributing over 2,800 pamphlets as part of the overall outreach effort. To further extend their reach, the team conducted an "Awareness on Wheels" campaign using an auto rickshaw to raise awareness in various neighborhoods. In addition to public engagement, focused awareness sessions were organized for key community stakeholders: school teachers (4 programs), ASHA workers (4), SHGs (6), Anganwadi teachers (5), PRI leaders (1), and community leaders (1). These comprehensive efforts have sparked vital conversations, empowered citizens to recognize and report child rights violations, and strengthened community participation in child protection.

RESCUE AND RAIDS

From April to June we have conducted intensive field visits to high-risk areas across Mysuru. These locations include public spaces, transportation hubs, street corners, railway stations, bus stands, highways, marketplaces, exhibition zones, and other vulnerable areas.

These field visits were part of our ongoing efforts to identify and reach out to children at risk. We collaborated with key government departments such as the Labour Department, Childline, DCPU, and the SJPU to carry out rescue and intervention activities.

Through our outreach, we were able to reach street children, child labourers, child beggars, school dropouts, migrant children, and those affected by substance abuse.

Our intervention aims to protect these children, raise awareness, and connect them with support systems that promote safety, education, and long-term well-being.



WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR



On the occasion of World Day Against Child Labour, Don Bosco Makkalalaya, under the leadership of the Executive Director, Fr. Jim Jose organized a Children's Rally and Public Awareness Program at the Government High School. The program was inaugurated by SJPU Officer Mrs. Shoba, who addressed the alarming child labour issues in Mysuru. Mr. Suresha, Headmaster of Kailaspuram Govt. School, emphasized the need to end child labour and promote education, while HM Kanchana Madam spoke on the importance of education and the urgent need to stop both child labour and child marriage. Mrs. Meenakshi, Child Rights Protection Officer from the Education Department, and Ms. Divya from Childline highlighted child rights and the role of community in eradicating child labour and child marriage. Over 300 children actively participated in the rally, raising slogans and carrying placards to spread awareness among the public. As part of the district-wide campaign, a large Children's Rally was also organized in collaboration with various government departments including District Legal Service Authority (DLSA), Childline, CWC, DCPU, Women and Child Development Department, Health Department, District Administration, and Zilla Panchayat.



In Don Bosco Makkalalaya, all students from the Skill Training 39th Batch, SSLC, and PUC actively participated in taking a pledge to stand against child exploitation and to promote education for all.

These programmes created a significant impact by sensitized the students and the local communities, about the importance of education, the legal and moral urgency to eliminate child labour and child marriage and instilled in them a deeper sense of empathy and the motivation to become advocates for child rights in their communities.

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

On the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, The CSN staff organized a meaningful awareness session for the SSLC, PUC, and 39th batch skill training students. The event was graced by Fr. Jim Jose SDB, Executive Director of Don Bosco Makkalalaya, and Mr. Emmanuvel, staff member, who delivered impactful speeches on the rising concern of drug use and its devastating consequences on individuals, families, and society. They spoke about the importance of understanding the difference between use and abuse, and how even occasional use can lead to dangerous addiction. The speakers also highlighted the role of youth in creating a supportive and drug-free environment, encouraging students to look out for one another and guide those in need towards help. Practical steps on how to assist someone battling addiction were discussed, along with a strong message on the value of self-control, awareness, and informed decision-making.



The session served as a powerful reminder of the significance of this global observance, leaving a lasting impact on the students by deepening their understanding of the issue and inspiring them to take a stand against substance abuse in their own lives and communities.

IMPACT LOUNGE

Mother's Voice:



Dr. Mary Fathima
DBM Staff

Shravana – Manana – Nididhyasana: A Path to Inner Transformation

In the rich tradition of Indian philosophy, the triad of Shravana, Manana, and Nididhyasana forms a timeless process for acquiring and internalizing knowledge.

Shravana, or listening, is the first and most vital step. The power of listening is a divine gift. In communication, its true strength lies in its ability to build trust and strengthen relationships. Listening with attention and openness lays the foundation for deeper understanding.

Manana means reflection. After listening attentively, one must pause to contemplate the message received. Reflecting, pondering, and meditating on what we hear transforms information into insight. It is in this silent inward journey that knowledge begins to take root.

Nididhyasana refers to deep assimilation and practice. To truly practice Nididhyasana, one must repeatedly reflect on the teachings absorbed during Shravana and Manana. This step is about integrating those insights into one's daily life, allowing them to shape our understanding and experience. It is not mere repetition, but conscious internalization that leads to transformation.

Together, Shravana, Manana, and Nididhyasana offer a profound methodology—beginning with hearing the truth, then reflecting on it, and finally living it. This path not only deepens our knowledge but elevates our being.

SUCCESS STORIES:

A Life Rebuilt: Christopher's Story of Resilience

Christopher Yesudas learned responsibility early, growing up in a large family after losing his father. With limited education and no work experience, he struggled in a low-paying library job, barely managing to support his wife and three children.

At 32, determined to change his future, Christopher turned to Don Bosco Makkalalaya. He bravely resumed his education and completed his SSLC, a milestone that opened new doors. Soon after, he secured a stable job as a driver.

Today, with a steady income, he can provide for his family with confidence. What was once constant worry is now replaced by hope and gratitude. Christopher credits Don Bosco Makkalalaya for giving him a second chance and the tools to rebuild his life.



Empowered at 18: Ashmiya's Rise Through Skill Training

At just 18, Ashmiya was engaged—a path often taken by many young women from underprivileged families in her community. Though she wanted to support her family, she lacked both skills and job opportunities.

Her turning point came when she joined Don Bosco Makkalalaya's three-month skill training program. With determination, she embraced the learning process, gaining not only practical skills but also a renewed sense of purpose and confidence.

Today, Ashmiya works as a Data Annotator at ZST Company, earning a stable income. Her journey reflects the impact of accessible skill training and stands as a powerful example of how resilience and the right support can change lives and futures.



A LEGACY OF LOVE, A PROMISE OF LEADERSHIP

Celebrating a Journey of Compassionate Leadership



Don Bosco Makkalalaya bid an emotional farewell to our beloved Executive Director, Fr. Siju Thomas SDB, marking the end of his remarkable four-year journey of compassionate leadership and dedicated service. A heartfelt programme was organized to celebrate his tireless work for the Young at Risk, which left a profound and lasting impact on the lives of countless children and youth.

The event began with a graceful welcome dance by MSW volunteer Ms. Manasa, followed by the formal welcome of esteemed guests including Mr. Dhanajaya, Mr. Yogesh (DCPO), Mr. Ravichandra (CWC), Mrs. Divya Kumari (Childline), along with former staff, youth group members, and well-wishers. The guests paid tribute to Fr. Siju's unwavering commitment and transformative leadership.

The farewell was further enriched with vibrant cultural performances, a touching video montage, and a heartfelt speech by DBM Staff - Dr. Mary Fathima, who reflected on Fr. Siju's inspiring journey. He was formally honoured for his immense contributions.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Fr. Siju for his selfless service and visionary guidance.

Passing the Torch: A Warm Welcome to Fr. Jim Jose



As we bid farewell to one leader, we joyfully welcomed another. The newly appointed Executive Director, Fr. Jim Jose SDB, was introduced to the gathering and warmly received with a traditional lighting of the lamp ceremony—symbolizing hope, new beginnings, and the continuation of our shared mission.

Fr. Jim brings with him a deep commitment to the vision of Don Bosco and a passion for working with the marginalized Young at Risk. We are confident that under his leadership, Don Bosco Makkalalaya will continue to thrive and expand its impact in the lives of vulnerable children and communities.

We look forward to this new chapter with great anticipation and renewed purpose.

GALLERY



PROTECT. EMPOWER. TRANSFORM-
MEETING WITH CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE



PARTNERING WITH LEADERSHIP FOR
CHILDREN'S WELFARE



COLLABORATION FOR CHANGE,
COMMITMENT FOR CHILDREN-
DC MEETING.



DCPO & MAKKALALAYA - UNITED FOR YOUNG LIVES



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