

DON BOSCO MAKKALALAYA



IMPACT CHRONICLE



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Edited by Ancia Ivin, DBM Staff

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends of Don Bosco Makkalalaya,

I am pleased to present this message as we conclude another purposeful quarter in our shared mission of serving the young and the marginalized.



FR. JIM JOSE SDB
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DBM

This period marked the successful inauguration and completion of the 40th Skill Training Batch, during which our trainees engaged in structured learning and developmental activities, including a cultural presentation and a community-building outing. Their growth stands as a clear sign of what consistent guidance and opportunity can achieve.

Our staff also benefitted from a two-day picnic to Ooty, which strengthened team spirit and renewed our collective resolve to serve with dedication and compassion.

We conducted orientation programs for college students, providing them with insights into the realities faced by vulnerable children and enabling them to appreciate the value of social engagement.

A major advancement this quarter was the launch of the “Child Friendly City – Mysore” Project, aimed at supporting rescued children through counselling and follow-up interventions to prevent their return to street life, begging, or exploitative labour. This initiative reaffirms our commitment to child protection and holistic rehabilitation.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the various Government Departments and officials whose cooperation remains essential to our mission. Their partnership enables timely and effective intervention on behalf of the children we serve.

My sincere gratitude also goes to BREADS Bangalore for their continued guidance, and to all our benefactors and well-wishers for your generosity and trust. Your support strengthens our work and widens the reach of Don Bosco Makkalalaya.

As we move forward, I humbly seek your continued collaboration so that together we may sustain and advance this mission of hope, dignity, and transformation.



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 Mysore. 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 and children without family support.

In collaboration with government departments including the Labour Department, SJPU, Childline, and CWC members, these children are rescued, rehabilitated and referred to the Child Welfare Committee for immediate care and long-term protection, in line with the objectives of the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS). Awareness programs were also conducted across various community platforms through kiosk installations in different areas of Mysore.



CHILD RIGHTS VOLUNTEERS



As part of its outreach efforts, awareness sessions were held for students from the Departments of Social Work (MSW) at JSS and St. Philomena's College. The staff introduced the projects and addressed key child-related issues such as child labour, child marriage, rag picking, migrant children, orphaned children and children in conflict with law, while also explaining relevant laws and government support systems.

MSW students actively participated, expressing their commitment to support and report cases of children in need of care and protection.

AWARENESS PROGRAMMES

Awareness programs were conducted across various community platforms, including ASHA workers, Self-Help Groups, Anganwadi teachers, Panchayath Raj Institution (PRI) leaders and school teachers. These sessions aimed to strengthen community-level child protection by educating key grassroots stakeholders on the objectives of the projects and essential child safety measures.



DON BOSCO MAKKALAMANE



Don Bosco Makkalamane is a community dedicated to providing a caring, secure and nurturing home for children in need. The organization focuses not only on offering shelter but also on ensuring that the children receive a holistic education and emotional support in a safe and encouraging environment. This year, the institution housed 17 students, ranging from 5th standard to 1st PUC. The boys have shown commendable progress in their academics and have also excelled in extracurricular activities, showcasing their talents and dedication.

The students actively participate in school activities and are especially known for their involvement in sports teams. Notably, many of the boys are part of the Kho-Kho team and have proudly represented their school in various competitions. Their participation in both school and inter-school Kho-Kho competitions has helped build their confidence, discipline, and teamwork.

This year was a remarkable one for Don Bosco Makkalamane marked by important and inspiring visits. We were honored by the visit of the Economer General of the Salesians of Don Bosco. During his visit, he interacted warmly with the boys. His encouraging words and guidance were a great source of motivation for both the students and the caretakers.



Additionally, the institution received the visitation from the Provincial of the Province of Bangalore. Father visited the community and held a conference with the boys. The boys seized this opportunity to showcase their talents by performing different cultural and artistic items. These performances reflected their creativity, teamwork and enthusiasm. The interaction with the visiting dignitaries helped instill values of gratitude, discipline and inspiration in the students.

Don Bosco Makkalamane also welcomed students from various colleges during the year. These visitors spent time with the boys, engaging in conversations, playing games, and sharing academic and personal experiences. These interactions positively influenced the boys, encouraging them to develop a stronger interest in studies, build meaningful relationships and dream of a better future. The exposure to well educated and motivated youth inspired the boys to focus more on their academic goals and personal growth.

OPEN SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Every child deserves a chance to learn, grow and dream again. At Don Bosco Makkalalaya, we believe that a pause in education should never mean the end of one's learning journey. Many young people are forced to leave school during their secondary or PUC years due to personal, social, or financial hardships. Understanding these struggles, our Open School Program offers them a new beginning through flexible and supportive learning opportunities. With compassion at its core, Don Bosco Makkalalaya creates an inclusive environment where learners rediscover confidence, rebuild hope and realize their true potential. Guided by dedicated teachers who provide personalized academic support, skill training and mentorship, students are empowered to continue their education or pursue fulfilling career paths with renewed determination and self-belief.



As part of the Open School Program, Don Bosco Makkalalaya held a Parent-Teacher Meeting for students of SSLC and PUC. The meeting gave parents and teachers a chance to talk about the students' studies and overall progress. It helped build better understanding and cooperation between home and school. Parents were happy to see their children's growing interest in learning, while teachers shared useful advice and support to help each student do better. The meeting turned out to be a positive and encouraging experience, strengthening the bond between families and the institution, and reminding everyone that learning becomes stronger when parents and teachers work together.

A PROUD MOMENT FOR DBM: ROOHI BANU SECURES THIRD RANK IN KOS SSLC (2024-25)

The Open School Program at Don Bosco Makkalalaya (DBM) continues to foster excellence, and this year, it proudly celebrates one of its brightest achievers—Roohi Banu, who secured the Third Rank in the KOS SSLC Examination (2024-25). Her dedication and hard work have brought remarkable honor to DBM and have set a new benchmark for academic success.

Roohi's achievement was recognized at the Meritorious Student Award Ceremony, held during the 110th Jayanti Mahotsav of His Holiness Jagadguru Dr. Sri Shivaratri Rajendra Mahaswamy. The event took place on Friday, 29th August 2025, at Sri Suttur Math, nestled at the foothills of the Chamundi Hills, Mysore.



At this prestigious gathering, Roohi was presented with a cash prize making it a truly memorable and cherished moment for her, her family, and the entire DBM community. Her accomplishment not only highlights her academic excellence but also serves as a powerful inspiration for her peers in the Open School Program, encouraging them to aim higher and pursue their goals with confidence and commitment.



SKILL TRAINING PROGRAMME

In a world where access to knowledge and skill-building can shape a young person's future, Don Bosco Makkalalaya remains committed to uplifting underprivileged and unemployed youth. Through its impactful three-month Skill Training Programme, the organization provides a lifeline of opportunity—helping young people unlock their potential, build confidence, and envision a brighter future.

The programme features a holistic and employment-oriented curriculum that includes Basic Computer Skills such as MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Tally ERP 9, Nudi, Photoshop, and Typing. Alongside these technical skills, training in Spoken English and Life Skills empowers participants to communicate effectively, grow personally, and navigate real-world challenges with dignity and resilience. Through this initiative, Don Bosco Makkalalaya continues to transform lives—one young person at a time.

INAUGURATION OF 40TH SKILL TRAINING BATCH

The inauguration of the 40th Batch of Skill Training was held on 14th August with much enthusiasm.

The Chief Guest, Mr. Srinivas T from the Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), expressed his appreciation for DBM's consistent contributions towards the welfare of young people at risk. He also highlighted pressing social issues such as child marriage, urging students to be aware and proactive in combating such evils, and stressed the vital role of education in shaping a brighter future.



TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION



Teachers' Day was celebrated with great joy and gratitude at Don Bosco Makkalalaya. The programme commenced with a prayer song and a graceful prayer dance, followed by the lighting of the lamp by the teachers. Students showcased their talents through cultural programmes including dance and singing, which added colour to the event.

To make the day more memorable, students organised fun games for the teachers, with prizes awarded to the winners. Gifts were presented to the staff members as a token of love and appreciation. The celebration concluded on a joyful note with cake cutting, marking a fitting end to the day dedicated to honouring teachers.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION



Don Bosco Makkalalaya joyfully celebrated the 79th Independence Day, honouring the spirit of unity and freedom. The celebration began with the hoisting of the tricolour by Fr. Jim Jose SDB, Executive Director of DBM, together with the day's esteemed guest, Mr. Deepak Singh, followed by the soulful rendition of the national anthem.

In his address, Fr. Jim Jose SDB reflected on the vital role of today's youth in shaping "Nava Bharat"—a new India built on hope, responsibility, and shared purpose.

SWACHH BHARAT IN ACTION: GANDHI JAYANTHI CLEAN-UP DRIVE



As part of the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations, the students of Don Bosco Makkalalaya, along with the staff and MSW student volunteers from St. Philomena's College and Bangalore North University, Kolar, actively participated in a cleaning campaign. Inspired by the values of Mahatma Gandhi, the initiative aimed at promoting cleanliness, responsibility, and care for the environment.

For the participants, it was not just an activity but also a valuable learning experience. Students developed a sense of teamwork, discipline, and social responsibility. By engaging in hands-on cleaning, they realized the importance of keeping their surroundings tidy and how small individual actions contribute to a larger change. It also fostered dignity of labor and encouraged them to respect all kinds of work.

For the environment, the campaign brought about immediate positive change. The cleaned spaces became more hygienic, safer, and aesthetically pleasing. Removing waste and litter also created awareness about sustainable practices such as reducing plastic use and proper waste disposal. The activity highlighted how collective action can help maintain a cleaner, greener, and healthier environment.

In essence, the cleaning campaign served as a meaningful tribute to Gandhi's vision of cleanliness and truth in action, leaving a lasting impression on the participants while making a visible difference in the community's environment.

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Career Guidance Workshop

A career guidance session was held led by resource person Mr. Jayasheelan. He shared key insights on career opportunities, essential professional skills, and how to face interviews with confidence.

The session highlighted the importance of the right attitude, discipline, preparation, and positive body language. To make the learning interactive, an activity was conducted that encouraged participation and helped students overcome hesitation and stage fear.

Overall, the session was highly beneficial, providing practical guidance and boosting the students' confidence as they prepare for their career paths.



Time Management

A Time Management workshop for the 40th batch of skill training students was led by Fr. Devassy SDB, Director of Don Bosco Makkalamane. The session highlighted the value of organizing time to boost productivity, reduce stress, and balance responsibilities. Students learned to prioritize tasks, set goals, and meet deadlines—skills vital for workplace readiness. The workshop encouraged punctuality, discipline, and professionalism, equipping students to handle work pressure and maintain a healthy work-life balance.



Conflict Management

A Conflict Management workshop was organized for SSLC, PUC, and Skill Training Batch 40 students by Don Bosco Makkalalaya. The session, led by Sr. Jennifer, a legal field expert, covered internal and external conflicts, emotional triggers, and healthy resolution methods through real-life law case examples. Students learned the value of self-awareness, empathy, emotional control and clear communication to handle disagreements calmly and responsibly, fostering harmony in academic and social spaces.



Environment Protection

A workshop on Environment Protection was organized for SSLC, PUC, and Skill Training Batch 40 students at Don Bosco Makkalalaya. Led by Mr. T.C. Devnath, the session focused on climate change, pollution types, and their impact. Students were encouraged to adopt sustainable habits like waste reduction, resource conservation, and eco-friendly practices. The interactive session inspired environmental responsibility and awareness.





CULTURAL DAY

We celebrated Cultural Day with great enthusiasm and joy for the 40th batch Skill Training students. The event showcased the talents and creativity of the students through a series of competitions such as Rangoli, solo singing, solo dance, group singing and dance, vegetable carving, quiz competition, and cooking without fire. The celebration provided a platform for students to express their artistic abilities and explore their creative potential. Participating in these events encouraged teamwork, as students collaborated and coordinated effectively during group performances and competitions. It also helped them enhance their time management and organizational skills as they balanced preparation along with their regular training sessions. Furthermore, the event fostered social interaction and confidence among students, helping them develop essential interpersonal skills. These qualities are particularly valuable as they prepare to enter the workforce, where creativity, collaboration, and effective communication play a crucial role. Overall, Cultural Day was not just a celebration of talent and tradition but also an opportunity for holistic learning, equipping students with life skills that will benefit them in their professional and personal growth.



EDUCATIONAL EXCURSION

A one-day educational excursion was organised for the PUC and 40th Batch Skill Training students to provide experiential learning beyond the classroom. The trip covered key locations in and around Kushalnagar, including Namdroling Monastery, Kaveri Nisargadhama, Harangi Dam, and the Harangi Elephant Camp.

The excursion encouraged teamwork, responsibility, curiosity and respect for cultural and environmental diversity. It provided a refreshing break from routine and strengthened students' motivation for learning. Overall, the trip was both enjoyable and informative, allowing students to connect classroom lessons with real-world experiences.

PARENTS-TEACHERS CONFERENCE



The Parents-Teachers Meeting for the 40th batch of skill training students was held at Don Bosco Makkalalaya, providing a meaningful platform for interaction and reflection. Parents, teachers, and institutional leaders came together to reaffirm their shared commitment to the students' overall development.

Parents interacted directly with faculty members to understand their children's learning progress. The meeting was addressed by the Executive Director, Fr. Jim Jose SDB, who shared his observations on the students' performance, attitude and growth during the training program, highlighting their positive progress in both academic and personal skill areas.

During the common session, parents shared feedback and suggestions, expressing appreciation for the visible improvements in their children's confidence, communication skills, discipline and interpersonal abilities. The meeting went beyond routine assessment, strengthening trust and collaboration between families and the institution.

CERTIFICATION AND CONCLUSION PROGRAMME



The Conclusion and Certification Programme for the 40th Batch Skill Training was held on 5 November. In his introductory address, Fr. Jim Jose SDB congratulated the students on successfully completing the three-month training and encouraged them to make the best use of their talents and life's opportunities. He also appreciated the teaching staff for their dedication and guidance throughout the course.

The Chief Guest, Fr. Devassy SDB, Director of Don Bosco Makkalamane, highlighted the importance of having a clear purpose in life and urged students to stay focused and become self-reliant. The Guest of Honour, Fr. Francis Antony SDB, Parish Priest of Infant Jesus Church, Mandya, motivated the students to work hard toward a better standard of living and wished them success in their future endeavors.

Two student representatives shared their training experiences, expressing gratitude for the learning, support, and guidance received. The programme featured cultural performances such as singing, dance, and a ramp walk, along with a video montage of memorable moments. Certificates of completion and prizes were distributed and the event concluded with snacks and refreshments.

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.

List of programs covered by DBM Foster Care (Aug 2025 - Oct 2025)

Programs (Aug 2025 - Oct 2025)	Programs	Participants	Programs	Participants
	Mysuru		Chamarajanagara	
Public Awareness	21	2950	38	2870
Awareness for PRI Leaders	03	50	03	48
Awareness for Anganwadi mothers	03	53	02	42
Awareness for College Students	03	120	01	64
Awareness for SHG groups	03	63	03	63
Training for Anganwadi Teachers/helpers	03	57	03	72
Training for Asha Workers	03	36	03	41
Training for Primary Teachers	01	32	01	32
Advocacy meetings for Government Departments	02	30	03	65
Identification of potential children	-		05	
Identification of prospective parents	03		03	
Adoption	05		10	
Follow up of placed children (Home Visit)	02		03	
Follow up of placed children (School Visit)	06		03	
Prospective Parents and Children's meeting	-		01	



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

Over the past three months, two Caring Community Groups were established at A.G. Block and Yellamma Colony. Community and department leaders—including a youth leader, a school headmaster, an Anganwadi teacher, an ASHA worker, an SHG president, a Child Welfare Officer, SJPU police personnel and Childline members (42 participants in total) took part in the CCGs.

The CSN staff provided a detailed explanation of the formation of the Child Safety Net Caring Community Groups. The primary objective of the groups is to rescue and rehabilitate vulnerable children, including those affected by child labour, child marriage, child begging, rag picking, migration, orphanhood, children in conflict with law, school dropouts and runaway children.



The CCGs also discussed key legislations such as the JJ Act, POCSO Act, Child Marriage Act, and Child Labour Act, along with government mechanisms including the CWC, DCPU, Childline (1098) and emergency services (112). A WhatsApp group was created to report and respond to cases of children in need of care and protection. Members committed themselves to becoming socially responsible citizens and extending support to children who need help.

CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS THROUGH KIOSK INSTALLATION AND AUTO CAMPAIGNS



The CSN team conducted child rights awareness activities by setting up kiosks at key locations, providing essential information on issues such as child marriage, child labour, child begging, school dropouts and child protection laws. CSN staff and MSW students were actively involved and distributed a total of 4,420 pamphlets.

Child Rights on Wheels: Awareness on child rights was created using auto rickshaws to reach various areas such as Halle Kesare, Bambubazar, Gandhinagara, Bharathnagar, Bibi Keri, and B.M. Shreenagar. Through this initiative, 3,900 pamphlets were distributed.

This direct community engagement helped encourage citizens to recognize, prevent, and report violations of child rights.

RESCUE AND RAIDS

The CSN staff conducted intensive field visits to high-risk areas across Mysore. These visits were part of ongoing efforts to reach out to children at risk. The team also collaborated with key government departments such as the Labour Department, Childline, DCPU, and SJPU to carry out rescues and raids.

Through this outreach, the team identified and supported street children, children engaged in labour and begging, school dropouts, migrant children, and children affected by substance abuse.



AWARENESS TO COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS



The CSN staff conducted focused awareness sessions for key community stakeholders. These included 2 programs for school teachers, 3 programs for ASHA workers, 5 programs for PRI leaders, 11 programs for SHG members, and 4 programs for Anganwadi teachers and mothers. These focused awareness sessions were important in strengthening community-level understanding and responsibility, as they equipped key stakeholders with the knowledge and skills needed to identify issues early, respond effectively, and collectively promote the safety and well-being of children and families.

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON ADDRESSING SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN MYSORE



The CSN Project Director and Coordinator attended a meeting at the SJPU office regarding substance abuse and drug addiction in Mysore, formally raised by the Member of Parliament Mr. Yaduveer, the scion of Mysore. The meeting was attended by ACP CCB Mr. Sandesh Kumar, Mr. Shariff from CID-CCB, Labour Department Project Director Mr. Mallikarjuna, Fr. Jim Jose, Director of Don Bosco Makkalalaya, CSN Project Coordinator Mr. Emmanuel and police officers from local stations in Mysore. The discussion focused on coordinated efforts to curb drug-related issues in the city.

COLLABORATION MEETING ON CHILD PROTECTION AT RAILWAY STATIONS

CSN staff attended a meeting with Railway Police and GRP officers in collaboration with DCPU and Childline. The meeting focused on the installation of a Child Help Desk at Railway Platform No. 1 and strengthening measures for the protection of children at railway stations. The meeting was significant in strengthening inter-agency coordination to ensure the timely identification, rescue, and protection of vulnerable children at railway stations through the establishment of a dedicated Child Help Desk.



NGO NETWORK MEETING ON CHILD RIGHTS AND PROTECTION



CSN staff attended an NGO network meeting at SNEHA NGO to collaborate and coordinate efforts with partner organizations in strengthening child rights and child protection in their respective working areas. Six NGOs participated in the meeting. The NGO network meeting was important in fostering collaboration and shared responsibility among partner organizations, enabling coordinated efforts to strengthen child rights and child protection across their respective areas of work.

SUCCESS STORIES: Rising Beyond Limits: Roopa's Story

Roopa, a young woman from Ramabai Nagar, Mysuru, was married at the age of 19. Responsibilities arrived early, leaving her education incomplete. While supporting her husband in managing their vegetable stall in the local market, Roopa also began conducting yoga classes to contribute to the family.

However, her passion for learning never faded.

With a strong desire to rebuild her academic journey, Roopa enrolled at Don Bosco Makkalalaya with the goal of completing her education through the Direct SSLC Open School Programme. With remarkable dedication and the guidance of the director along with the constant motivation from the teaching staff — Roopa soon began to shine.

Her hard work brought outstanding results:

2022–23 — Passed Direct SSLC Examination (Karnataka State) with First Rank

2023–24 — Successfully completed Direct PUC in First Class

Today, Roopa stands tall as an inspiring example of courage, persistence, and empowerment. She dreams of pursuing higher education and continues to motivate other young women to believe in second chances.

“Education gave me a new direction in life. Don Bosco Makkalalaya helped me discover my true potential and confidence.” – Roopa



CHILD FRIENDLY CITY PROJECT

The Child-Friendly City, Mysore initiative, launched in the first week of September 2025 by Don Bosco Makkalalaya, aims to ensure that every child in the district grows up in a safe, nurturing and supportive environment. Rooted in child rights and holistic development, the programme focuses on strengthening child protection systems and empowering institutions and communities involved in child care. In response to concerns raised by the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Mysuru particularly the shortage of qualified counsellors in several Child Care Institutions (CCIs) Don Bosco Makkalalaya has appointed two trained counsellors to provide consistent psychological and emotional support to children across CCIs under the guidance of the DCPO and CWC. Alongside counselling, the initiative works to improve the child-care ecosystem by training CCI staff in basic counselling methods, offering capacity-building sessions for government school teachers on behaviour management, and supporting the DCPU, CWC, and Childline in cases requiring specialised intervention. Together, these coordinated efforts reflect a strong commitment to building a compassionate, inclusive and truly child-friendly Mysore.

INAUGURATION OF CHILD FRIENDLY CITY PROJECT, MYSURU



The Inauguration of Child Friendly City, Mysuru was held at Maharani's Arts College for Women, marking a major milestone for Don Bosco Makkalalaya's mission to build a safer and more child-centric city. The initiative was officially inaugurated by Mr. Yogesh N.T., DCPO, who stressed the urgent need for structured psychosocial support in Child Care Institutions and commended Don Bosco Makkalalaya for leading this transformative effort. The programme highlighted various child protection frameworks, with Mr. M. Ravichandra explaining the JJ Act, Mr. Raghu A.S. discussing the POCSO Act, and Mr. Shreenivas T. elaborating on police roles in child safety. Fr. Jim Jose, Director of Don Bosco Makkalalaya, addressed students on digital safety and responsible online behaviour. Supported by the Criminology Department, Youth Red Cross, and POSH Cell, the inauguration set the foundation for creating a truly child-friendly Mysuru through community collaboration and awareness.

ONE-DAY TRAINING PROGRAM FOR DISTRICT-LEVEL JUVENILE JUSTICE FUNCTIONARIES

Staff of the CFC Project attended a one-day training program organized by the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) at Boys' Home, Vijayanagara. The training focused on strengthening knowledge of the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, the POCSO Act and ethical guidelines for working with children. Dr. K. Raghavendra Bhat explained the provisions and implementation of the JJ Act, while Advocate Arundhati provided insights into the legal procedures and protections under the POCSO Act.



Former JJ Board Member Mr. Biju Joseph highlighted essential ethical principles, including confidentiality, child participation, and trauma-informed care. The session enhanced the counsellors' understanding of child protection mechanisms and reinforced the importance of coordinated efforts among DCPU, CWC and child welfare professionals. This training further strengthens the Child-Friendly City initiative's commitment to ensuring child safety, rights, and wellbeing in Mysuru.

COORDINATION MEETING BETWEEN CHILD-FRIENDLY CITY COUNSELORS AND DCPU



Counsellors from Don Bosco Makkalalaya held a discussion meeting with the DCPO to plan the implementation of the Child Friendly City, Mysuru initiative. The meeting focused on collaboration, child protection mechanisms and key project activities.

Counsellors will prepare an official letter seeking approval for the project. It was agreed to design and issue ID cards for counsellors under the heading “Don Bosco Makkalalaya and District Child Protection Unit.” The team will visit schools and CCIs to assess needs and prepare an action plan.

They will also strengthen their understanding of the JJ Act, POCSO Act, Child Marriage Act, and recent child protection policies. The counsellors will attend a DCPU-led training at Boys' Home on child rights and teenage pregnancy. The meeting provided clarity on responsibilities and strengthened coordination between Don Bosco Makkalalaya and the DCPU.

COUNSELLING OF STUDENTS AT DON BOSCO MAKKALALAYA



The Child-Friendly City counsellors conducted counselling sessions for 45 students studying at Don Bosco Makkalalaya. The sessions focused on academic stress, emotional wellbeing, behavioural challenges and family-related issues. Students were encouraged to express their concerns, develop coping strategies and improve concentration and confidence. Follow-up plans were made for students requiring continuous support. The initiative helped create a supportive environment, promoting better mental health and overall development among the students.

FIELD VISITS AND COUNSELLING SUPPORT BY CHILD-FRIENDLY CITY COUNSELLORS



The counsellors from the Child-Friendly City, Mysuru initiative conducted field visits to the Boys' Home, Girls' Home and other Child Care Institutions (CCIs) as part of their ongoing child protection outreach. During these visits, they interacted with children in need of care and protection, assessing their emotional and psychosocial needs. A total of 37 children were counselled, including several who were recently rescued from vulnerable situations and were provided with immediate psychological support to ensure emotional stability. Individual counselling sessions addressed anxiety, trauma, behavioural challenges and adjustment issues, with a focus on building coping skills, self-confidence, and a sense of safety within the institution. The counsellors collaborated with CCI staff to monitor each child's progress and plan necessary follow-up interventions. They also engaged with families wherever possible to support reintegration and strengthen parent-child relationships. Additionally, caregivers received guidance on fostering supportive, non-violent home environments. These visits significantly contributed to the children's mental well-being and supported their smooth transition toward family or community reintegration.

ORIENTATION VISIT TO CHILD CARE INSTITUTIONS



As part of the Child Friendly City initiative, CFC counsellors, along with the Director of Don Bosco Makkalalaya, the District Child Protection Officer, and members of the CWC, undertook an orientation visit to four CCIs in Mysuru. The institutions visited included the Government Girls' Home, the Adoption Centre at Nadanahalli, Jeevodaya Children's Home, and Ashakirana Children's Centre.

The orientation visit provided CFC counsellors with valuable exposure to institutional systems and strengthened their understanding of interdepartmental coordination, collaboration with statutory authorities, and multidisciplinary approaches to child care and rehabilitation. This experience enhanced their capacity to plan effective psychosocial interventions and contribute to the holistic well-being of children within the Child Friendly City framework

IMPACT LOUNGE

Embracing the Whole Truth

True seekers of truth are not afraid of where their search may lead. They understand that truth is not always gentle or comforting; it often reveals harsh and unsettling realities. The world is a blend of opposites—beauty and ugliness, good and bad, sweetness and bitterness—each inseparable from the other.

We often recognise the divine only in what is pleasant and uplifting. Yet an unprejudiced and detached mind learns to see truth present even in what is hard, painful, and uncomfortable. To acknowledge this is not to deny hope, but to embrace a fuller understanding of life.

Only when we accept truth in all its forms do we grow in wisdom, compassion, and maturity.



Dr. Mary Fathima
DBM Staff



Santhosh C.J.

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GALLERY



BUILDING SKILLS FOR LIFE: LIFE SKILLS ACTIVITY



EMPOWERING VOLUNTEERS FOR A CHILD FRIENDLY SOCIETY



OUR RIGHT, OUR RESPONSIBILITY: INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRACY DAY



DIGITAL SKILLS TRAINING FOR SOCIAL IMPACT



CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR STAFF



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