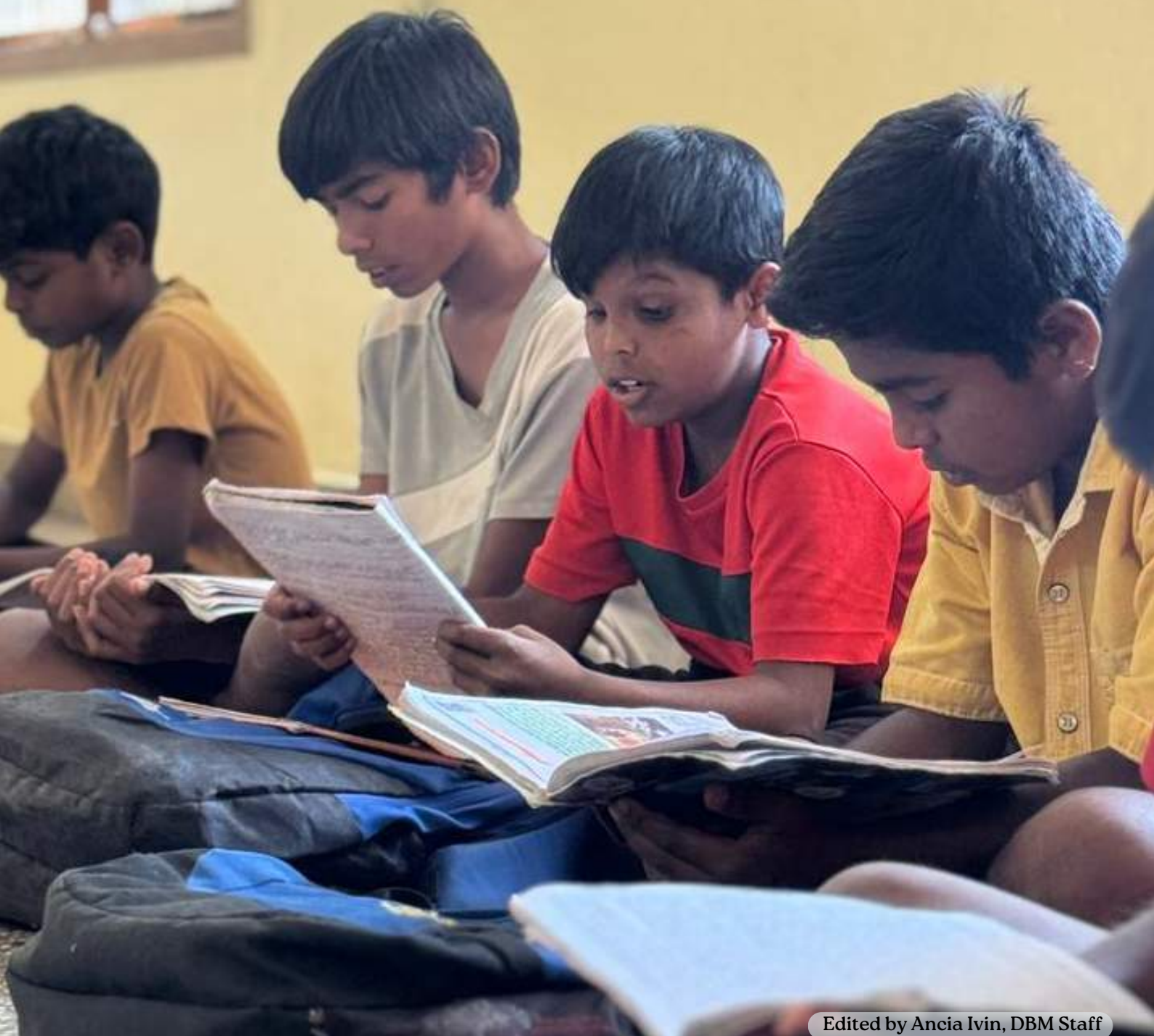


DON BOSCO MAKKALALAYA



IMPACT CHRONICLE

ALL RIGHTS FOR ALL



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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



FR. JIM JOSE SDB
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DBM

Dear Friends of Don Bosco Makkalalaya,

I am pleased to share this message as we reflect on a fruitful and grace-filled period from November to February in our common mission of serving the young and the marginalized.

During this time, we successfully inaugurated and concluded the 41st batch of our Skill Training Programme. It has been encouraging to witness the growth, confidence, and commitment of our trainees as they prepare themselves for a better future. We also joyfully celebrated Christmas and the Feast of our Founder, Don Bosco—moments that renewed in us the spirit of hope, service, and dedication to young people, especially those most in need.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to our committed staff, whose tireless efforts continue to sustain and strengthen our mission. My heartfelt thanks to our students for their enthusiasm and openness to growth, and to all our stakeholders and benefactors for your constant support and trust.

I also extend my appreciation to the various Government Departments working in the field of child rights for their valuable collaboration, and to the colleges that send their students for field experience, your partnership enriches both learning and service.

As we move forward, let us continue to work together with renewed commitment to create opportunities, uphold dignity, and build a future of hope for every young person we serve.



RESCUE AND REHABILITATION PROJECT

STREET PRESENCE PROGRAMME

The Street Presence Initiative by Don Bosco Makkalalaya safeguards vulnerable children in public spaces across Mysuru. Staff are strategically stationed in busy areas such as streets, markets, and railway stations to identify children at risk of child labour, begging, school dropout, or lack of care. Using a child-friendly and rights-based approach, children are counselled, rescued when necessary and provided immediate support. The initiative works closely with the Labour Department, Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), Childline, and Child Welfare Committee (CWC) to ensure proper rehabilitation. Aligned with the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), it facilitates family reintegration or institutional care. Awareness programmes, kiosks and auto campaigns further strengthen community participation in protecting children.



COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

As part of the initiative, awareness programmes were conducted across community platforms to strengthen grassroot child protection. Key stakeholders including ASHA workers, SHG members, Anganwadi teachers, PRI leaders, and school teachers were engaged and trained on child rights, protection issues and early identification of risks. Sessions addressed concerns such as child labour, child marriage, trafficking, dropout and neglect, while clarifying roles in safeguarding children. Participants were guided on identifying warning signs, responding appropriately, and reporting cases to authorities like CWC, Childline and SJPU. Interactive methods enhanced practical understanding. These efforts empowered communities, strengthened local networks and promoted a safer environment for children.



CHILD RIGHTS VOLUNTEERS

As part of its outreach efforts, the initiative engaged MSW students from JSS College and St. Philomena's College through awareness sessions to build a network of Child Rights Volunteers. The sessions highlighted key issues such as child labour, child marriage, migrant and orphaned children, rag picking and children in conflict with the law. Students were also oriented on child protection laws and mechanisms, including the roles of the Child Welfare Committee, Childline services, and the Special Juvenile Police Unit. Interactive discussions, case examples and experience sharing encouraged active participation and deeper understanding.

The programme had a positive impact by enhancing students' knowledge, building their confidence to respond to child protection concerns and motivating them to act as responsible volunteers. Their involvement is expected to strengthen early identification, reporting and community-based protection systems for children.



DON BOSCO MAKKALAMANE



Don Bosco Makkalamane is a caring and nurturing home where boys are provided with guidance, education, and a supportive environment for their overall development. At present, the community consists of 17 boys studying from 5th standard to PUC. The house functions not only as a residence but also as a place where the boys are encouraged to grow academically, socially and spiritually.

December was a joyful and active time for the boys as they prepared for Christmas. They showed great enthusiasm in making the Christmas crib, decorating the house and organizing the celebration. Their creativity and teamwork were reflected in the beautifully designed crib. The festival was celebrated with prayers, shared meals, and a warm, festive spirit that brought happiness and togetherness to the entire community.



In January, the community celebrated the Feast of Don Bosco, the founder and inspiration of the Salesian mission. To mark the occasion, various competitions such as drawing, singing and other activities were organized to encourage participation and talent. The boys actively took part, showcasing their creativity and skills. The celebration not only provided enjoyment but also helped them understand the life, values and teachings of Don Bosco in a meaningful way.



February brought another special occasion, the birthday of Fr. Devassy, the Director of Don Bosco Makkalamane, which was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm. Fathers from different communities and sisters joined the celebration, making it a memorable event. The gathering created a warm and cheerful atmosphere, strengthening the sense of unity and belonging among everyone present.



Towards the end of February, the PUC boys appeared for their final examinations and later returned home to spend time with their families. Their stay at Don Bosco Makkalamane has been an important part of their educational and personal growth. Meanwhile, the high school and lower primary boys are currently preparing for and writing their examinations. The community continues to support and encourage them, ensuring a peaceful and focused environment for their studies.

OPEN SCHOOL PROGRAMME



For many young people, education is not a straight road but a journey of pauses, struggles and second chances. At Don Bosco Makkalalaya, we understand that life's challenges can interrupt a child's learning, but we firmly believe these interruptions should never define their future. Many students are compelled to leave school during their secondary or PUC years due to financial hardships, family responsibilities or social barriers. Instead of allowing these setbacks to become permanent, our Open School Program offers them a meaningful opportunity to return and continue their education.

Designed with flexibility and care, the program creates a welcoming and supportive space where learners can re-enter education with confidence. It goes beyond academics, focusing on rebuilding self-belief, restoring hope and nurturing the courage to dream again.

With the guidance of dedicated teachers, students receive personalized academic support and consistent mentorship, helping them rediscover their strengths and chart their path forward.

To further strengthen learning and ensure exam readiness, the program also included preparatory exams and focused revision classes. These sessions allowed students to consolidate knowledge, clarify doubts, and build confidence in a structured and supportive environment. As a result, learners approached their final examinations with greater preparedness, resilience, and self-belief, ready to take the next steps in their educational journey.

SEND OFF PROGRAMME FOR SSLC AND PUC STUDENTS



The Send-Off Programme for 10th and PUC students at Don Bosco Makkalalaya was a heartfelt celebration of perseverance, achievement and new beginnings. Hall tickets were formally distributed, marking an important milestone in their academic journey. Fr. Jim Jose and the chief guests encouraged students to approach their exams with confidence, determination and a positive mindset. The programme recognized the students' hard work and resilience, leaving them feeling motivated, supported and ready to face their examinations and future opportunities.

SKILL TRAINING PROGRAMME

In a world where access to knowledge and skill development can transform the future of young people, Don Bosco Makkalalaya continues its mission of empowering underprivileged and unemployed youth. Through its well-structured three-month Skill Training Programme, the organization creates meaningful opportunities for young individuals to discover their abilities, strengthen their confidence and move towards a more secure and hopeful future.



The programme offers a comprehensive and employment-oriented curriculum designed to equip participants with practical and relevant skills. Training includes Basic Computer Skills such as MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Tally ERP 9, Nudi, Photoshop and Typing. In addition to technical learning, the students also receive guidance in Spoken English and Life Skills, which helps them communicate more effectively, develop self-confidence and face everyday challenges with responsibility and resilience.

By combining technical training with personal development, we continue to create pathways for growth and self-reliance. Through this initiative, the organization remains committed to transforming lives and opening doors of opportunity, one young person at a time.

INAUGURATION OF 41ST BATCH

We had the inauguration of the 41st Skill Training Batch on 13 December 2025. The programme began with a prayer song by the DBM staff, followed by a welcome address by Mr. Tony Clifford and the lighting of the lamp.

Fr. Jim Jose SDB, Executive Director of DBM, addressed the gathering and congratulated the students for taking a positive step by joining the training, encouraging them, especially the female students to become confident and self-reliant. The programme was enriched by singing and dance performances by the students. The event concluded with the distribution of ID cards, followed by snacks and refreshments.



PARENTS-TEACHERS CONFERENCE



A Parents–Teachers Meeting was organized to review the students’ progress and strengthen communication between parents and the institution. During the meeting, 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 and progress over the past few months. A dedicated session was also arranged where parents were encouraged to openly share their suggestions and feedback regarding the training programme.

The parents expressed their appreciation for the positive changes and overall development they had observed in their children after joining the training. The meeting played a significant role in strengthening the relationship between parents, teachers and the institution. It also fostered a sense of shared responsibility and support, encouraging parents to take an active role in their ward’s learning journey.

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Career Guidance



A Career Guidance session was conducted for the 41st batch of skill training students, led by Mr. Jayasheelan. He interacted with students about their goals and guided them to set realistic career plans. The session highlighted the importance of a positive attitude, practical salary expectations and workplace readiness. An activity boosted students' confidence and communication skills. Overall, the session helped students gain clarity, build self-belief and prepare for future job challenges.

Time Management

A time management workshop was conducted by Fr. Devassy SDB, the Director of DBMM. The session included an activity to track daily routines, helping students identify time wastage. Practical strategies like setting priorities, planning and self-discipline were discussed. Emphasis was placed on workplace expectations such as punctuality and meeting deadlines. The workshop helped students build essential skills and encouraged positive habits for a smooth transition into professional life.



Conflict Management

A workshop on Conflict Management was conducted for the students, led by Sr. Jennifer UFS. The session explained the concept and types of conflict, using practical examples to highlight causes like misunderstandings and communication gaps. Students learned strategies to handle conflicts effectively and maintain professionalism. The workshop emphasized the importance of positive workplace relationships and equipped students with skills essential for teamwork, productivity and career growth.



Laughter Yoga

A laughter yoga session was conducted for the 41st batch skill training students by CFC staff, Mr. Santhosh, to promote mental well-being and stress management. Students learned about its concept, benefits, and practiced laughter exercises with breathing techniques. The session created a relaxed and energetic atmosphere. It helped reduce stress, boost confidence and encourage a positive attitude, preparing students to handle career pressures and transition smoothly into the workforce.



CULTURAL DAY

Don Bosco Makkalalaya organized a vibrant Cultural Day for the 41st Batch Skill Training students, creating an atmosphere of excitement, unity and creative expression. The programme offered students a valuable break from routine training and a platform to showcase their talents. Events included Rangoli, solo singing, solo dance, group performances, vegetable carving, quiz and cooking without fire. These activities highlighted creativity, originality and cultural appreciation. Group performances, in particular, strengthened teamwork, coordination and mutual understanding among students.

Balancing event preparation with regular training improved students' discipline, time management and sense of responsibility. The celebration also helped students overcome stage fear, interact confidently and express themselves freely.

Overall, the competitions significantly enhanced students' self-confidence, communication skills, leadership and collaboration, contributing to their holistic development and preparing them to face professional environments with confidence.



EDUCATIONAL EXCURSION

Educational excursions play a vital role in the holistic development of youth by providing experiential learning opportunities beyond the classroom and fostering social, emotional and practical skills.

Don Bosco Makkalalaya organized a one-day educational excursion for SSLC, PUC and 41st Batch Skill Training students to promote such meaningful learning experiences. The trip offered students valuable exposure to culture, nature and community life.

During the excursion, students visited Namdroling Monastery, where they experienced Tibetan architecture. At Kaveri Nisargadhama, they explored the natural environment. The visit to Harangi Elephant Camp included group activities that strengthened teamwork and leadership skills.

The excursion fostered unity and social interaction among students from different batches, while also encouraging a sense of responsibility. It enhanced their observation skills, curiosity and environmental awareness, making it a refreshing and enriching break from routine learning.



INDUSTRIAL VISIT

The 41st Batch Skill Training students of Don Bosco Makkalalaya visited Technotask Pvt. Ltd. along with staff and Executive Director, Fr. Jim Jose SDB, to gain exposure to a corporate work environment and understand industry expectations.

Students observed workplace culture, infrastructure and teamwork. The HR Manager shared insights on the company, career growth, employee benefits and the importance of financial independence. Interviews were also conducted, giving students real recruitment experience.

The visit boosted students' confidence and readiness for employment. It helped them overcome fear, understand employer expectations and motivated them toward career growth, making it a key step toward meaningful employment opportunities.



CONCLUSION AND CERTIFICATION

Don Bosco Makkalalaya organized the Concluding and Certification Programme for the 41st Skill Training Batch. The programme began with a prayer, followed by an address by Fr. Jim Jose SDB, encouraging students to face exams confidently. Chief Guest Mrs. Mariya Bertilla appreciated DBM's work and motivated students, while Fr. Devassy SDB highlighted financial independence. The event included cultural performances, student testimonies, a memory video, certificate distribution and awards, concluding with refreshments and marking a hopeful new beginning.



DBM SUCCESS STORY

HARSHITHA'S PATH TO CONFIDENCE AND CAREER

Growing up in a family of three, Harshitha always hoped to stand on her own feet and support her loved ones. Her mother is a housewife, and her brother works as an auto driver. After completing her SSLC and a paramedical course, she began looking for opportunities to start her career. One day, she was motivated by the staff of Don Bosco Makkalalaya for the Skill Training. She learnt Spoken English, Computer skills and Life skills in the course. She took part in every activity with interest and made the most of the learning opportunities given to her.

During the training, she gradually started transforming. She improved her communication skills, gained confidence, and became more comfortable interacting with others. The practical sessions, regular feedback, and motivating environment at Don Bosco Makkalalaya played a key role in helping her discover her strengths and prepare for the workplace.

Today, Harshitha is working at Techno Task, where she earns and supports her family. Her journey shows how the right guidance and a little encouragement can make a big difference in someone's life. Harshitha's story is a simple yet powerful example of how Don Bosco Makkalalaya helps young people grow in confidence, learn new skills and move towards a better future.



CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

The Children's Day celebration at Don Bosco Makkalalaya was more than just a day of fun, it was a vibrant opportunity to inspire, engage, and uplift students. Through lively games, team activities and spirited staff dance performances, children not only experienced joy but also built confidence, collaboration skills and a sense of belonging. Heartfelt messages from Fr. Jim Jose and Mary Fathima emphasized the importance of childhood, learning and self-belief. Rita and Deekshith, students of SSLC class were recognised and awarded for their active participation in the District-Level Children's Rights Parliament 2025. The event fostered motivation, celebrated effort, and reinforced the idea that every child has potential worth nurturing. Ending with snacks and cheerful interactions, the celebration left a lasting impact, filling students with happiness, pride and renewed enthusiasm for learning.

Child Safety Net Project staff, in collaboration with seven schools in Mysuru St. Anne's School, Good Shepherd School, Government Higher Primary School Adijambava, Jalpuri, Gumchi High School and Government High School N.R. Mohalla, organized a program to promote children's Right to Participation. Around 600 children actively participated in the event. The program provided a platform for students to express their views, share their ideas and engage in meaningful discussions. The initiative also served as a tribute to the efforts initiated by the former Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru, who strongly believed in the importance of children's voices and their role in nation-building. The event encouraged children to take part in decision-making processes affecting them and reinforced the importance of participation, confidence and leadership among young people.



NATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY

National Girl Child Day was observed at Don Bosco Makkalalaya on 24 January to raise awareness about the rights, safety and empowerment of girls. The programme aimed to sensitize students and staff on gender equality and the importance of protecting the well-being of girls. Staff members from various projects, including CSN and CFC, participated in the event. Speakers highlighted the history and significance of the day, the challenges faced by girls, and the importance of education and empowerment. They also created awareness about laws and policies that safeguard girls' rights. The session was interactive, with students and staff sharing their thoughts and experiences. It helped build awareness, confidence, and a sense of responsibility among participants. The session concluded with refreshments, marking a meaningful step toward promoting the rights and empowerment of the girl child.



CHILD SAFETY NET PROJECT



The Child Safety Net Project (CSN) is dedicated to creating a protective network for children who are at risk and living in vulnerable conditions. These children are often found on the streets, in slum communities, marketplaces, and busy transit points where they face numerous dangers. The project works to safeguard these children by maintaining a consistent presence in key vulnerable locations through regular patrolling. This proactive approach helps identify children who may be in need of immediate support and protection. In addition to patrolling, the CSN Project actively encourages community participation. By fostering collaboration with local residents, shopkeepers, vendors, and community members, the project builds a stronger support system that helps identify risks early and ensures timely intervention. Through vigilance, community engagement and continuous outreach, the Child Safety Net Project strives to create a safer environment where every child has the opportunity to grow, learn and thrive free from harm.

CARING COMMUNITY GROUPS

Over the past four months, two Child Safety Net Caring Community Groups (CCGs) were established in A.G. Block, Japuri, Bandipalya, Mettagalli, Hale Kesare, Siddalingapura and Belvatha. A total of 149 participants took part in the meetings, including community and department leaders such as youth leaders, school headmasters, Anganwadi teachers, ASHA workers, SHG presidents, Child Welfare Officers, SJPU police personnel and Childline members. During the meetings, CSN staff provided a detailed explanation of the purpose and formation of the Caring Community Groups. Members were also oriented on key child protection legislations, including the Juvenile Justice Act, POCSO Act, Child Marriage Act and Child Labour Act. In addition, information was shared about important government mechanisms such as the CWC, DCPU, Childline (1098) and emergency services (112). A WhatsApp group was created to facilitate communication and ensure timely reporting and response to cases of children in need of care and protection. All members expressed their commitment to acting as socially responsible citizens and supporting children who require help and protection.



RESCUE AND RAIDS

The CSN staff conducted regular field visits to high-risk areas across Mysuru to identify and support vulnerable children. These visits were part of ongoing outreach efforts to ensure timely intervention and protection. The team collaborated with key Government Departments, including the Labour Department, Childline, DCPU and SJPU, to carry out rescue operations and raids in unsafe environments. Through these efforts, the team identified and supported street children, those engaged in child labour and begging, school dropouts, migrant children and children affected by substance abuse. Interventions included rescue, counselling and linking children to appropriate care services, ensuring their safety, rehabilitation and overall well-being.



AWARENESS TO COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS



The CSN staff conducted focused awareness sessions for key community stakeholders. These included 1 program for school teachers, 2 programs for ASHA workers, 1 program for PRI leaders, 2 programs for SHG members, and 2 programs for Anganwadi teachers and mothers and also Orientation was given to MSW students from JSS MSW Department, Mahajana MSW Department and Government MSW Department, Tubinakere. 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.

CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS THROUGH KIOSK INSTALLATION AND AUTO CAMPAIGNS AND CHILD RIGHTS STICKERS



The CSN staff conducted child rights awareness activities by setting up kiosks at key locations. The initiative provided essential information on issues such as child marriage, child labour, child begging, school dropouts and child protection laws. CSN staff and MSW students actively participated in the campaign and distributed a total of 11,700 pamphlets. As part of the campaign, “Child Rights on Wheels” was organized using auto-rickshaws to reach various areas including Hale Kesare, Bamboobazar, Gandhinagar, Bharathnagar, Bibi Keri, B.M. Shreenagar, Kyathmaranalli, Belvatha, Bandipalya, Ganeshnagar, Padavaralli, Jayalakshimpuram, Bannimantap, Ambedkarnagar, Aleemnagar, Fountain Circle, Rajivnagar, Ooty Road, Meena Bazaar and the City Bus Stand. Through this mobile awareness initiative, 5,920 pamphlets were distributed. The campaign helped directly engage with community members and encouraged citizens to recognize, prevent and report violations of child rights.

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON ADDRESSING SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN MYSURU

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



COLLABORATION MEETINGS ON CHILD PROTECTION, CHILD RESCUE AND PREVENTION OF CHILD LABOUR AND BEGGING



A coordination meeting on child protection, rescue operations, prevention of child begging and child labour, and issues concerning migrant children was held with key stakeholders including the Railway Police, GRP, Deputy Commissioner's Office, SJPU, DCPU, Childline, Social Welfare Department, and Labour Department. The meeting focused on strengthening inter-agency collaboration to protect vulnerable children at railway stations. CSN staff participated alongside officials, while DCPU and Childline shared challenges faced during interventions. Discussions highlighted identifying children involved in begging, labour, and unaccompanied migration. A proposal to establish a Child Help Desk at Railway Platform No. 1 was discussed to provide immediate support. Participants emphasized coordinated rescue operations, monitoring migrant children, and linking rescued children to rehabilitation services.

CHILDREN'S RALLY AND PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAMME

On February 11, a Children's Rally and Public Awareness Programme on Prevention of Child Marriage was held at Kalamandir in collaboration with the District Child Protection Unit, Police Department, Women and Child Development Department, CWC, SJPU, and Labour Department, along with the Director and CSN team. Around 1,000 children and 650 officials participated, raising slogans to spread awareness and prevent child marriage. The rally was inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner, and the public programme by the Chief Judge. The event was attended by key officials, including police officers, KSPCR members, CWC representatives, education and health officers, NGO members, and children, highlighting strong collective commitment.



DBM IN NEWS





FOSTER CARE PROJECT

Foster care provides temporary, family-based support for children who are orphaned or unable to remain with their families. Recognized under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015, it serves as a vital alternative to institutional care. Don Bosco Makkalalaya's Foster Care Project has strengthened this approach through widespread training and awareness initiatives involving government officials, local bodies, educators, community workers, and caregivers across Mysuru and Chamarajanagara districts.

The project assists prospective foster parents through the application process and ensures consistent follow-up. Post-placement, regular home and school visits support children's adjustment. Through these efforts, the project promotes community-based care and helps children experience safe, nurturing family environments.

Programs (Nov 2025 - Feb 2026)	Programs	Participants	Programs	Participants
	Mysuru		Chamarajanagara	
Public Awareness	30	4250	35	3010
Awareness for PRI Leaders	03	51	05	130
Awareness for Anganwadi mothers	04	68	04	82
Awareness for College Students	03	124	02	143
Awareness for SHG groups	04	80	04	91
Training for Anganwadi Teachers/helpers	04	86	05	114
Training for Asha Workers	04	50	05	61
Training for Primary Teachers	03	111	03	122
Advocacy meetings for Government Departments	03	55	04	105
Identification of potential children	06		05	
Identification of prospective parents	09		04	
Adoption	04		06	
Follow up of placed children (Home Visit)	-		01	
Follow up of placed children (School Visit)	07		02	



CHILD FRIENDLY CITY PROJECT

The Child Friendly City (CFC) initiative implemented by Don Bosco Makkalalaya in Mysuru demonstrates a comprehensive and integrated approach to child protection through direct psychosocial interventions, institutional strengthening and community engagement. The initiative consistently addresses the emotional, behavioural, and developmental needs of children in institutional care, schools and vulnerable situations, while simultaneously building the capacity of stakeholders and strengthening coordination mechanisms within the district child protection system. Through a combination of individual counselling, group-based life skills interventions, awareness programmes and collaborative efforts with statutory bodies, the project contributed to improved emotional well-being among children, enhanced awareness on child rights and stronger convergence among child protection stakeholders.

COMPREHENSIVE COUNSELLING SUPPORT AND INDIVIDUAL CASE MANAGEMENT

The Child Friendly Project provided individual counselling to 151 children across Government Boys' and Girls' Homes, Don Bosco Makkalalaya, SJPU and KPV Convent, including follow-up cases. Interventions addressed emotional distress, trauma, behavioural issues, academic challenges and adjustment concerns among vulnerable children. Using a child-centred, trauma-informed approach, sessions ensured confidentiality, trust and emotional safety. Regular follow-ups and institutional visits supported continuity of care and effective case management, leading to improved emotional expression, better coping skills, reduced behavioural concerns and enhanced adjustment to institutional and educational settings.



STRUCTURED GROUP INTERVENTIONS FOR EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING AND LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

During this period, structured group interventions were conducted at the Juvenile Justice Board, Government Homes, Ashadayaka Child Care Institution and Don Bosco Makkalalaya, reaching over 220 children. The sessions focused on emotional well-being, mindfulness and life skills, using relaxation techniques, meditation, laughter therapy and participatory activities. Key life skills such as communication, teamwork, self-awareness and decision-making were integrated to help children manage daily challenges. The group setting offered a safe space for expression, sharing experiences and building peer relationships. These interventions led to reduced stress and anxiety, improved emotional regulation, increased confidence and better social interaction.



CHILD RIGHTS PROMOTION AND PREVENTIVE AWARENESS INITIATIVES

Awareness programmes at K.R. Mill High School and Don Bosco Makkalalaya, Mysuru, reached over 80 participants, including students, parents and trainees. Sessions covered child rights, the POCSO and Juvenile Justice Acts, issues like child labour, child marriage and child safety. Interactive methods fostered participation, improving awareness, understanding of legal protections and shared responsibility for child well-being.



STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CARE SYSTEMS AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Orientation visits and interactions were conducted across 11 Child Care Institutions (CCIs) in Mysuru, including Ashabavana Henu Makkala Tangudana, Juvenile Justice Board (JJB), Good Wish Children's Home, Vadanadi Children's Home, Open Arms Crisis Centre, Chayadevi Adoption Centre, Chayadevi Foster Care Centre, Shri Shakti Bhavana, Ajitha Nilaya, Hodalu Institution and The Lord's Home. These visits facilitated assessment of institutional practices, identification of psychosocial needs of children and understanding of operational challenges. Engagement with institutional staff strengthened coordination, promoted child-centric approaches and supported the planning of targeted psychosocial interventions, thereby improving the overall quality of care and protection services within institutions.



CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION FUNCTIONARIES

Capacity-building initiatives were undertaken to strengthen the competencies of stakeholders involved in child care and protection. During this period, over 260 stakeholders, including government officials, CCI caretakers, counsellors and police personnel, participated in structured training programmes conducted at Shri Shakti Bhavana and Ajitha Nilaya, as well as a training programme at the SP Office where CFC counsellors participated. These sessions focused on child protection laws, trauma-informed care, institutional roles and responsibilities, and safeguarding practices. The trainings enhanced stakeholders' knowledge, improved their ability to respond effectively to child protection concerns and promoted the adoption of child-friendly and rights-based approaches across institutions.



COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION AND ADVOCACY INITIATIVES



A large-scale community awareness campaign on prevention of child marriage was conducted in Mysuru, comprising both a rally and a workshop, with a total outreach of over 830 participants. The rally was organized from Maharani College to Kala Mandir, Mysuru, engaging approximately 230 students, which helped in raising public visibility and sensitizing the community on the issue. This was followed by a workshop conducted at Kala Mandir, Mysuru, where around 600 participants, including students, community members and stakeholders, took part in detailed discussions on legal provisions, the importance of education and the role of society in preventing child marriage. These combined efforts contributed to strengthening community awareness, promoting informed dialogue, and encouraging collective responsibility toward child protection and prevention of harmful practices.

STAKEHOLDER SENSITIZATION AND COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholder engagement activities were conducted with parents, teachers, Anganwadi workers, police personnel and Childline staff to strengthen early identification and response to child protection concerns. These sessions reached around 48 stakeholders, including prospective parents and school-based functionaries. The interactions focused on positive parenting practices, identifying psychosocial issues among children and strengthening referral mechanisms. As a result, stakeholders demonstrated improved understanding of their roles and contributed to creating a more supportive and responsive environment for children.



INTEGRATED COORDINATION AND CHILD PROTECTION CONVERGENCE MECHANISMS

Nine coordination meetings were held with the District Child Protection Unit, Mysuru, from November 2025 to February 2026 to plan and implement child protection interventions. Key focus areas included counselling services, institutional visits, case reviews, follow-ups and rehabilitation strategies. These meetings strengthened communication, improved inter-agency collaboration, ensured timely referrals and enhanced coordination in case management, monitoring and support for children in institutional and community settings.



Intervention Area	Key Outputs	Overall Impact
Comprehensive Counselling Support and Individual Case Management	151 children supported through individual counselling (including follow-ups) across Government Homes, CCIs, and community settings	Improved emotional well-being, behavioural stability, coping skills, and adjustment in institutional and educational environments
Group Interventions and Life Skills Development	220 children reached through structured group sessions across JJB, Government Homes, CCIs, and Don Bosco Makkalalaya	Enhanced emotional regulation, confidence, peer interaction and essential life skills such as communication and decision-making
Child Rights Promotion and Awareness	80 students, parents and trainees reached at K.R. Mill High School and Don Bosco Makkalalaya	Increased awareness on child rights, legal protections and prevention of child labour, child marriage and school dropout
Institutional Strengthening	11 Child Care Institutions covered through orientation visits and interactions	Improved coordination with institutions, better identification of psychosocial needs and strengthened child-centric care practices
Capacity Building of Stakeholders	260 stakeholders trained including government officials, CCI staff, caretakers and counsellors	Strengthened knowledge on child protection laws, trauma-informed care and improved service delivery practices
Community Campaigns and Advocacy	230 participants in rally and 600 participants in workshop at Mysuru (Maharani College to Kala Mandir and Kala Mandir venue)	Increased community awareness on child marriage prevention and promoted collective responsibility toward child protection
Stakeholder Engagement	48 stakeholders including parents, teachers, Anganwadi workers, police and Childline staff engaged	Strengthened early identification, referral mechanisms and supportive environments for children
Coordination and Convergence	9 coordination meetings conducted at DCPU, Mysuru	Improved inter-agency collaboration, case management and effective implementation of child protection interventions



IMPACT LOUNGE

MOTHER'S VOICE



Dr. Mary Fathima
DBM Staff

The Sanskrit verse “Yatra naryastu poojyanthe ramanthe tathra devathah” from the Manu Smriti carries a timeless truth: where women are honoured, divinity flourishes; where they are not, even the noblest efforts lose their meaning. This profound idea is not merely spiritual, it is deeply social, reminding us that the well-being of any family, community, or nation is inseparable from the dignity and status of its women. Across history, societies that have uplifted women have thrived in culture, innovation and harmony. When women are respected, educated and empowered, they become catalysts of transformation, nurturing not only families but also shaping progressive and compassionate communities. Conversely, when women are marginalized or silenced, the very foundation of growth weakens, leading to imbalance and injustice. This verse urges us to reflect on our everyday attitudes and actions. Respect for women is not limited to grand gestures; it is reflected in equal opportunities, the freedom to make choices, safety in public and private spaces and the recognition of their voices and contributions. True honour lies in ensuring that women live with dignity, confidence and self-worth.

To every woman, this message carries a powerful reminder: do not wait for validation from the world. Your strength, resilience and potential are inherent. Rise beyond limitations imposed by society, challenge barriers and claim your rightful place. You are not merely participants in this world, you are leaders, creators and changemakers.

When women stand empowered, they inspire generations and redefine possibilities. A society that truly respects women does not just progress, it transforms. Let this ancient wisdom guide us toward building a world where equality is not an aspiration but a lived reality and where every woman's presence is celebrated as a source of strength and change.

DBM SUCCESS STORY

Pallavi comes from a humble family where her father works as a daily wage labourer and her mother is a housewife. She also has a younger sister. Due to financial difficulties, the family often struggled to meet their daily needs. After completing her PUC, Pallavi stayed at home without a job or clear direction for her future. Her parents were hesitant to send her outside for work because of social beliefs and concerns about society. During this time, Pallavi lacked confidence and had very little exposure to the outside world. She found it difficult to communicate with others and was not comfortable speaking or performing tasks in front of people, which made it hard for her to imagine working in a professional environment.



At this crucial stage, the staff of Don Bosco Makkalalaya, Mysuru identified her situation and encouraged her to join a three-month Skill Training Course. Though hesitant at first, Pallavi embraced the opportunity. With the supportive environment, practical sessions and constant encouragement from the teachers and trainers, she gradually began to overcome her fears and build confidence.

“With the continuous guidance and encouragement from the teachers and trainers at Don Bosco Makkalalaya, I was able to learn computer skills, improve my communication skills and build my confidence. The training helped me learn how to interact with people, face the public, and prepare myself for employment,” she tells.

Today, Pallavi works as a Telecall Assistant at Touch Point, Mysuru, where she is able to earn for herself and support her family. Her journey reflects the meaningful impact of Don Bosco Makkalalaya in empowering youth by helping them develop confidence, skills, and a brighter future.

GALLERY



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