

VEEDU

Venture for Education and Empowerment of Deprived & Under-privileged Children

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14



TRIVANDRUM DON BOSCO VEEDU SOCIETY
ACCOMPANYING CHILDREN AT RISK SINCE 1991

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear all, Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society's vision and mission have always centered on children in need of care and protection. We have provided help and support and intervened in the lives of over two thousand children in the last one year. Together with providing direct services, we also play a catalytic role in evolving a society which is child friendly and always keep children at the centre of every development. This has been made possible through the support of different Government Departments, NGOs and concerned individuals. I would like to place on record our sincere gratitude to each and every official and individual who have been instrumental in helping us achieve so much.

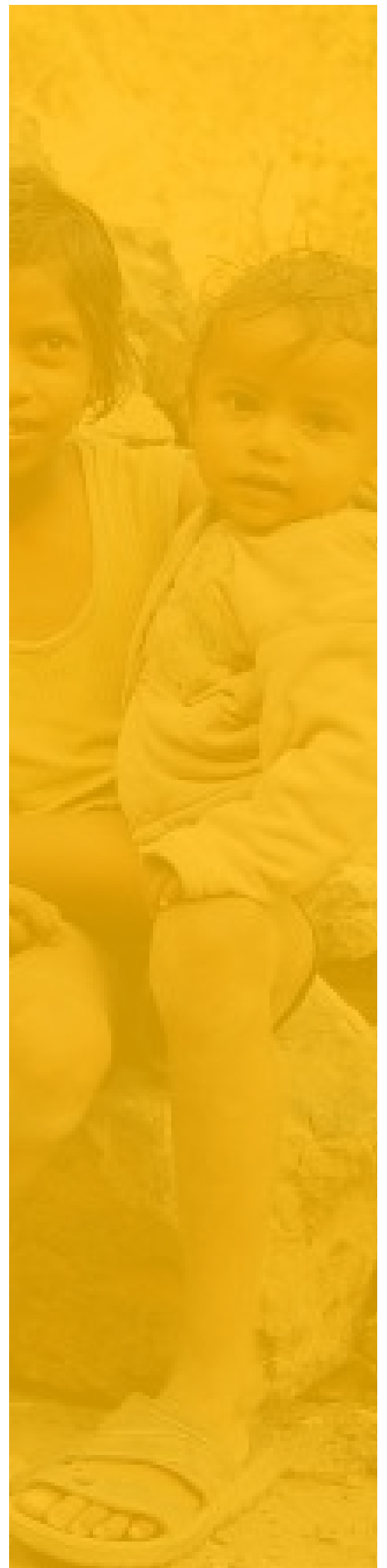
In spite of the many systems in place for the safety of children; there is increasing number of threats to the lives of children. Increase in substance abuse, mental health issues due to family problems, over exposure to media, internet and pornography, abusive home situation, academic pressure, influence of alcohol and other addictives, the gap between the gigantic technological advancements and lack of proper safeguards in accessing them are only some of the new age threats to the holistic growth of children.

So the road is long and we shall continue to hold hands and to realize the dream for a better world for our children.

Fr. PD Thomas
Director
Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society

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OUR INSPIRATION

Don Bosco was an Italian Roman Catholic priest, educator and writer of the 19th century. While working in Turin, where the population suffered many of the effects of industrialization and urbanization, he dedicated his life to the betterment and education of street children, juvenile delinquents, and other disadvantaged youth. He developed teaching methods based on love rather than punishment, a method that became known as the 'Salesian Preventive System'.

About a century and a half before the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child—which coined the immortal phrase 'best interest of the child'—came into force (1990), Don Bosco, the educator brought into being an educational practice in which the child is at the centre! His homes were full of migrant child workers, young delinquents, juvenile prisoners and orphaned and abandoned children. The kind of youngsters for whom Don Bosco spent his life were largely victims of neglect, exploitation, abuse and those who had been subjected to some form or other of inhuman and degrading treatment. For them life had been joyless, hard and painful; their psyche were damaged, unfortunately, by those close to them -- parents, family members, elders, teachers, and then, the exploitative wider world! Their wounded selves gave vent to their anger against society through destructive and violent actions. They would be on edge at every turn; instead of building they tore down; instead of valuing and nurturing, they disfigured! A century and a half ago, Don Bosco recognized that education is a matter of the heart. Hence he created a transformative climate that would restore trust in those for whom life had not been so kind.

In his own time in Italy, he transformed abandoned children, migrant child-workers and the youth of the 'correction homes' into 'honest individuals and contributing citizens' of the state. He achieved this by nursing and healing their damaged selves, on the one hand, and nurtured and brought forth their finer human qualities by re-creating a joyful and trusting family atmosphere around them, on the other. Creating this restorative and growth-producing ambience was at the core of the educative system of Don Bosco: the Preventive System or the Pedagogy of Presence.

As followers of Don Bosco, We too dare to dream for a more just and humane society for the young at risk of the present society and work towards achieving the same...

TRIVANDRUM DON BOSCO VEEDU SOCIETY

DON BOSCO VEEDU - AN OVERVIEW

As a part of the international Don Bosco network, the Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society is a Registered Charitable Society based in the State of Kerala, primarily operating in the District of Trivandrum to support and assist street children and youth; child labourers; child beggars; unaccompanied and lost children; children in conflict with the law; abused children; abandoned children; runaways; and children from dysfunctional family environments (children and youth at Risk).

V I S I O N

M I S S I O N

H I S T O R Y

VISION

To create a child friendly society by collectively acting as catalysts to transform people to think and act in favour of children especially those at risk.

MISSION

To reach out and rescue children and youth at risk: to protect them; to restore them; to inspire them towards a dignified life protected from abusive situations, to advocate on their behalf, to restore their rights and to be catalysts in the formation of a child friendly society.

HISTORY

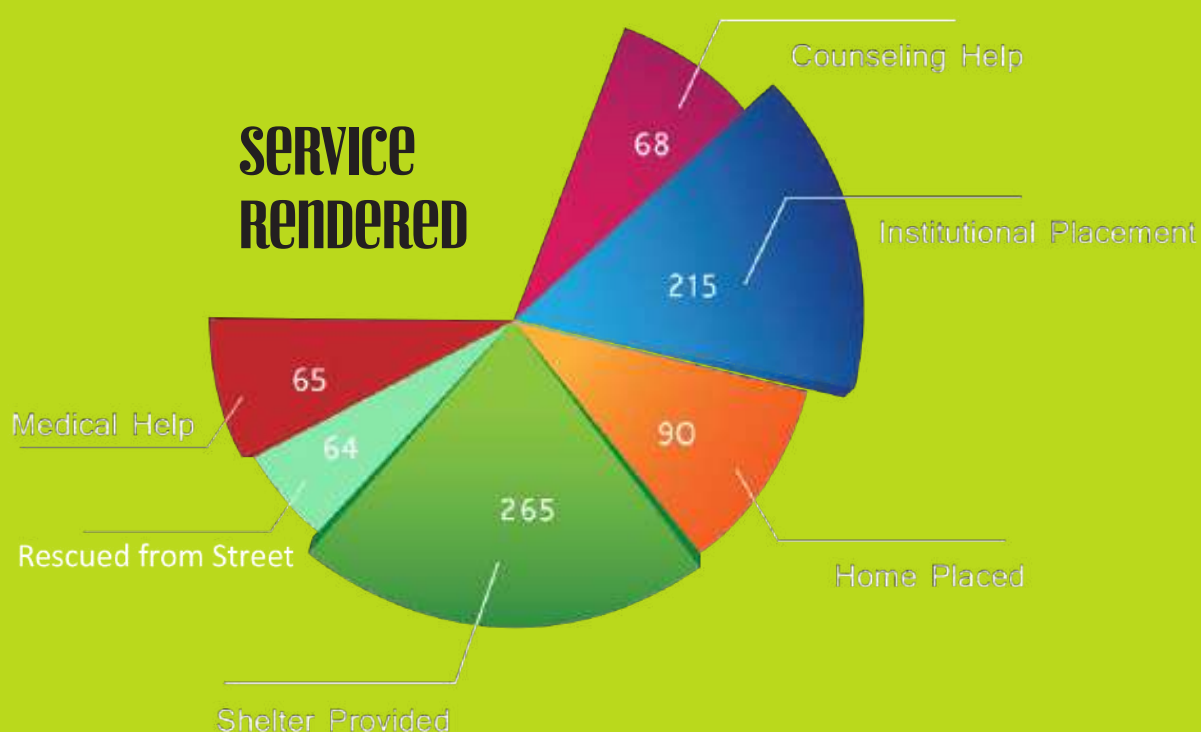
Don Bosco's work for street children in Trivandrum began in May, 1991. It started as a night shelter for street children and youth in rented facilities at Bishop Pereira Hall, Shankumugham, and later on in Chalai Market. A society was registered on 9th December 1991 under the name, 'The Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society'. In 1994, some land and a building were bought at Manacaud and the shelter home was shifted there with the name 'Don Bosco Veedu'. Later on, in collaboration with Latin Arch Diocese of Trivandrum, Don Bosco Centre, Manacaud was constructed and in 1999 some land was bought near railway station, Thampanoor, to build and shift the shelter home to a more accessible place for children. Don Bosco Nivas was inaugurated on January 31st, 2002.

SHELTER TO THE HOMELESS

Our shelter home for children and youth at risk is situated just 300 meters away from major hubs like Central Railway Station and Bus Station, Trivandrum

It is registered under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of children) Act 2000. Don Bosco Nivas shelters children rescued from streets and other dangerous circumstances across the district, supports them by providing them food, clothing, medical care, recreation, vocational training and life skill orientation. It functions as a short stay (transitional) home

We link children with their own families or long term serving institutions for care, protection, education and development



TOTAL - 1466



MAKE A CALL AND SAVE A LIFE

CHILDLINE is a toll free, 24 hour emergency telephone helpline service for children in distress under the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) in collaboration with NGOs, academic institutions, the corporate sector and concerned individuals.

The service is run by Don Bosco Veedu Society in Trivandrum District since its inception in the year 2000 as the first CHILDLINE in Kerala. The Society has taken great efforts to reach CHILDLINE to all the districts in Kerala. CHILDLINE is the tool through which we reach out to every child in need of care and protection in the district of Trivandrum.



NEGLECTED CHILD RESCUED!

The ring came at 4.50 pm, and the caller said that a three year old girl needed to be made human again as she had only dogs as friends. We went and saw that the child was playing, eating and sleeping with dogs!

Her mother goes to work every day leaving the child with her mother who is a mental patient and unable to look after little girl. Her father had not been looking after the family either.

We involved the police, the neighbours and the local ward counselor to act in favour of the child. They brought her mother to CHILDLINE center. The mother was given ample support to stop work and take care of the child. Now little Chinnu has become a child again and has humans as friends!

SHELTER

189

189

PROTECTION FROM ABUSE

SPONSORSHIP

189

189

MEDICAL HELP

RESTORATION

189

189

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

TOTAL NO OF CHILDREN HELPED

189

EDUCATION FOR EMPOWERMENT

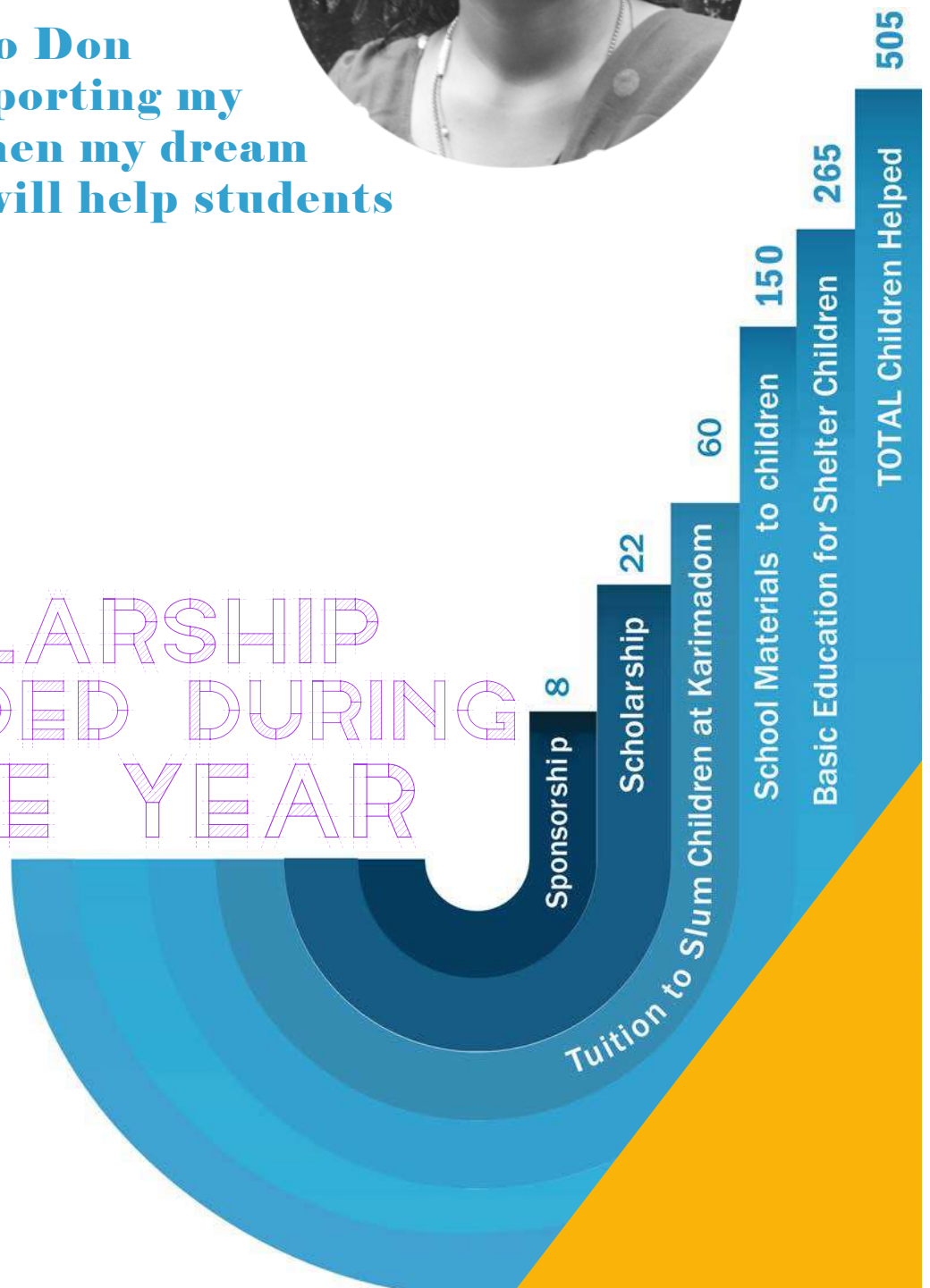
A Doctor in the Making... Dincy Davis is an inspiration to all less privileged children who aspire to succeed in life. Timely intervention through our Scholarship support from childhood has sustained her dreams to become a doctor. Possibilities were limited for the poor family to provide better education to Dincy. Don Bosco has been supporting her education since 2003. Her performance was very promising. She obtained 85% in tenth grade and 90% in higher secondary. Qualifying herself in medical entrance she is on her way to fulfilling her dream of becoming a doctor. A child qualified is a family saved!



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“ I am obliged to Don Bosco for supporting my education. When my dream is fulfilled, I will help students like me ”

SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDED DURING THE YEAR



COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

MEDICAL CAMPS AT KARIMADOM

Don Bosco Veedu Society conducted an Awareness Programme on Health Care cum Medical Camp at Karimadom Slum with the help of Arogya Keralam and Fort Taluk Hospital on 15 June 2013. On 28 July, 2013, we also conducted a free eye camp jointly with Chaithanya Sight Foundation. Over hundred poor people of Karimadom Colony benefitted from the Camp. Over 20 participants were provided new spectacles.



SUMMER CAMP

Don Bosco Veedu Society conducted one month long Summer Camp "Minnaminni" for the poor children at Don Bosco Center Manacaud from 11 April 2013 to 10 May 2013. More than 150 children attended the camp. School materials were distributed to the children during the valedictory function of the summer camp Minnaminni on May 10, 2013 at Don Bosco Center Manacaud. Mr. Sherry, Sub Inspector, Fort Police Station gave away the prizes. Another summer camp was conducted at Don Bosco Nivas for the local children. There were 53 participants and all were provided school materials at the end of the camp.



EVENING TUITION CLASSES

In order to reduce school dropouts among Karimadom slum children, We are conducting evening classes at Karimadom Community Hall every evening from 4 .30 pm to 6.00 pm. around 45 students attend the classes regularly.



An illustration of a man with dark hair, wearing a red long-sleeved shirt and blue pants, standing on a stack of ten books. He is holding a golden telescope to his eye and looking towards the right. The background is a solid dark blue. The text 'INTO A CAREER IN SIX MONTHS!' is written in a bold, orange, serif font across the middle of the image.

**INTO A CAREER IN
SIX MONTHS!**

Don Bosco Veedu, Manacaud, one of the centres of Don Bosco Veedu Society is a Skill Training Center working under the banner of DB Tech India, the leading NGO engaged in livelihood training in India. It is organized with the help of corporate giants like Accenture, Bosch, Taj Group of Hotels etc.

The DB Tech programme is a short term (3 months) skill training programme conducted by us at Don Bosco Veedu. The aim of the programme is to provide a skill and certify the same to those youth of the Trivandrum district who are less educated (minimum 10th grade pass) and are from poor and vulnerable back grounds. These youth often are not able to get into a career due to lack of education and due to lack of certified skills.

Courses offered from Don Bosco Veedu are :

- Hospitality Management
- Business Process Outsourcing (BPO)



“ Though I am a graduate, I had not been able to find a steady job. DB Tech has provided me a platform and now I have a career as a front office staff at CGH Earth Group of Hotels in Ernakulam - Miss. Revathy Prasad ”

COURSES

NO OF STUDENTS

BPO

57



73

Hospitality Management

120



62

TOTAL

177

135

RAILWAY CHILDREN



“ We had been searching for our child for the last four months all over our state. There is no media which has not carried the news. I am extremely grateful to Don Bosco for giving me back my lost child”

(Parent of a child who was rescued through railway booth)

“My only child is 11 years and Don Bosco's constant vigil at the railway station has saved her life. ”

(Mother of Asmi – a rescued child)



RAILWAY HELP BOOTH: Railway is the major mode of transport for street children and run away children. In order to prevent street children phenomena and to rescue, protect and rehabilitate them, a major intervention from Don Bosco Veedu Society has been a Women and Child Help Booth at Trivandrum Central Railway Station since 2009 in collaboration with RPE, GRP and CHILDLINE. During the year 2013-14 we were able to rescue 144 children through the rescue booth at the railway station. Our rescue booth is the only one of its kind in Kerala.

RESCUED CHILDREN

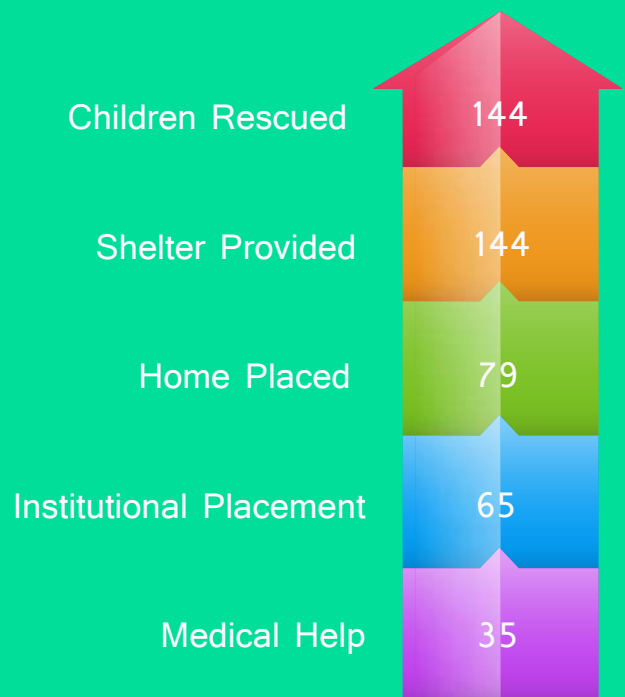


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16

SERVICES RENDERED



SUCCESS FOR SUCCESS



SMITHA EMPOWERED !

Seven year old Smitha (name changed) was all ears at the child abuse awareness class conducted by our 'Success for Success (S4S) team. Immediately after the class, Smitha came running to one of our team members and told her about the 'bad' dealing of her father towards her often after drinking. She herself said that she knew what to do the next time it happened. After the class, she asked her father to keep off whenever he advanced on her. She threatened him that she will inform police and CHILDLINE if he tried anything bad. He was shell shocked to hear that and he even stopped drinking!!

From the experience of working with children at risk and through our CHILDLINE experience, we have realized that there is a great need to empower children, parents, teachers, police and other stake holders in order to build a healthy child population and promote safety for children. Success for Success (S4S) is an integrated training package for the school students to cope, develop, encounter and solve day to day difficulties in growing age. It is devised to enlighten and

strengthen also parents, teachers, police, social workers and other stake holders to think and act in favour of children in a child friendly manner, keeping in mind the all round development of the child and uphold their rights. In the current year we have conducted over 100 sessions for various groups.

MAJOR TOPICS COVERED

- Personality Development
- Life Skill Education
- Study Method and Key to success
- Understanding Adolescence
- Sex Education
- Child abuse and prevention Methods
- Child rights
- How to be a good Teacher
- Good Parenting
- Mobile, Internet and Media Education
- Juvenile justice act for Police
- Laws and systems related to child protection Abolishing the killer (class on drug addiction) Network of relationship and strategies
- Special training for the children below 10 years

TYPE OF BENEFICIARIES	NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES
Children	4150
Parents	1015
Teachers	241
Adults	320
Police	260
Anganwadi Workers	350
Total numbers covered	6336

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Monitoring and Evaluation are important methodology to assess progress of any project or all activities of an NGO. Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society's focus of work and the target group at the beginning was primarily children and youth on the streets of Trivandrum city. At the start of our work for the street children we had made a survey of street involved children of Trivandrum city in order to understand the number of children on the streets as well as to assess their needs in order to cater to them. The results were published in the year 1995. It was the first study of its kind in Trivandrum and we were able to count over 2000 children and of them over 90 % were semi orphaned. After over 20 years of tireless work, we

dared to check the impact of our work. Another survey has been conducted with the help of the Social Justice Department, Govt of Kerala, The Don Bosco National forum for Young at Risk (YaR) and Don Bosco Reaserach Centre, Mumbai. The rapid assessment survey of Street involved children covered 100 wards of Trivandrum Municipal Corporation. The major findings are as below:

- *There were only 140 children found on the streets.*
- *44% children stayed with both parents, 20% with relatives and 13% with mothers suggesting majority were with families and not orphaned or abandoned unlike in the 1990's.*

- *There were almost no run away or abandoned children found on the streets.*

The findings are positive sign of the effectiveness of the society's work for children. There is over 90% reporting of begging children or abandoned children to our helpline and this has been achieved through years of sensitization process. The rescue booth at the railway station and shelter home is to be replicated to other districts of Kerala. This is the impact of the society's initiative and networking with the Government of Kerala.



SAFETY FOR ALL CHILDREN

Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society in collaboration with the Social Justice Department and the Educational Department has reached out to 38 lakhs of School children in the society of Kerala with ten different child safety messages. The themes include protection from sexual abuse, right to education, against child beggary and child labour, mental tension, neglect, and against physical and emotional abuse. The posters provide message to contact CHILDLINE to get help when children are in distress. On 26th February 2014, the official release of the posters took place at Government Model School auditorium at Thycaud, Trivandrum. Shri. M.K Muneer, Minister for Panchayat and Social Justice Department, released the posters and handed over the same to the children. Every classroom in the state will have one poster with CHILDLINE message which children can constantly see. The constant reminder will surely increase awareness among children to seek help when they are in danger. The impact of the poster campaign can be witnessed in increased reporting of children's issues to CHILDLINE and is a great leap in creating a child safety net across Kerala. This is creation of a society which is safe for children.



“ Excellent posters with clear message for all children. Keep up the good work ”

Dr. M.K Muneer
Minister for Social Justice, Govt of Kerala

FINANCIAL REPORT 2013-2014

INCOME	AMOUNT
Foreign Contribution	13,40,483.00
Local Contribution	5,95,822.00
Honorariums	1,95,300.00
Government Grants	00.00
Social Justice Department Govt. of Kerala	28,15,000.00
CHILDLINE INDIA Foundation	4,49,910.00
Open Shelter Home for Children	8,45,025.00
Bank Interest	56,662.00
TOTAL	62,98,202.00

EXPENSES	AMOUNT
CHILDLINE (1098) Services	3,92,408.65
Maintenance of the Rescued Children, Family Reunification and Follow Up	5,46,131.18
Rapid Assessment Survey about Street Children	5,44,504.00
Distribution of IEC Materials - Awareness Creation on 'Child Rights' in the Schools/Public Places etc	19,40,600.00
Health Care, Food & Maintenance of the Children	13,85,035.01
Talent Enhancement and Cultural Programmes	
Empowerment of slum women and education of slum children	2,58,342.79
Staff Salary, Capacity Building and Welfare	15,26,213.00
TOTAL	65,93,234.63

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN KIND	APPROXIMATE VALUE
Food & Provisions	Average twice a month sponsored food
Clothes	Twice in the year for 25 children
Furniture	Bunk Bedsteads 12
Vegetables	Sack weekly 1
Rice	One sack every month
Books and Stationery	Nil



THROUGH THE NEWSPAPERS

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram: 'Child three children from Karnataka them back to their homes on Th had run away from their resp due to various problems. The boys, 13-year-old Gautl 15-year-olds Rajesh and Punith placed before the Child Welfar (CWC) on April 9. Gautham bel while Raiesh is from Coorg at



Back in her mother's arms after a week at Ammathotttil

Back in her mother's arms after a week at Ammathotttil

Back in her mother's arms after a week at Ammathotttil



പട്ടികൾക്കൊപ്പം വളർത്തിയ രണ്ടര വയസ്സുകാരിയെ രക്ഷിച്ചു



Child helpline control room in Thiruvananthapuram on Saturday.

Child helpline control room in Thiruvananthapuram on Saturday.

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Initiative to tackle child abuse

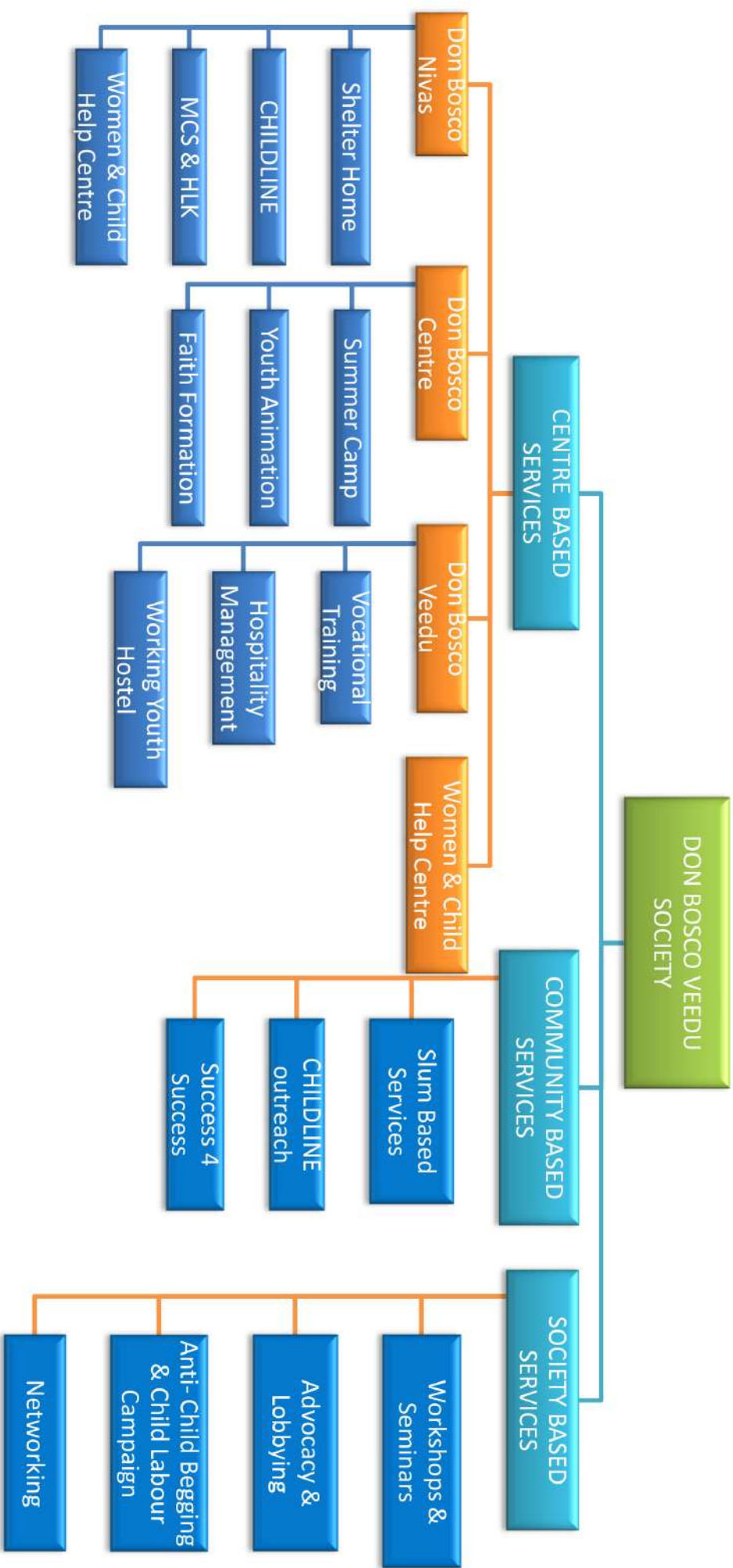
Will Provide Financial Support To Kerala Child Rights Observatory

Police data show

Police data show

Police data show

ORGANOGRAM



TRIVANDRUM DON BOSCO VEEDU SOCIETY

Don Bosco Nivas,

TC 25/913 (1), Thampanoor, Thycaud P.O

Trivandrum - 695 014, Kerala

Ph: (0471) 2326144, Mob: +91 949 600 3337

e-mail: dbcltvm@gmail.com, dbveedu@gmail.com

Web: <http://www.trivandrumdonbosco.org>