



# TRIVANDRUM DON BOSCO VEEDU SOCIETY

Safeguarding the Children at Risk since 1991



## Annual Report 2016 – 17

Don Bosco Nivas, Thampanoor, Thycaud, P.O., Trivandrum– 695014, Kerala

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# Our inspiration

**D**on 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 recreating 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...



# Director's Message



Trivandrum



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Dear Friends,

Greetings to you!

Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society has successfully completed another year of its meaningful existence. As you are aware children are at the heart of our work. Until every child is safe and are able to enjoy their childhood the society's services will have to carry on.

Together with the social progress in every society needs of different sections of the society also change. Looking back to the last six year's of our caring for children we find that issues faced by the present day children are varied and there is a need to change the strategies in keeping with this change. Ten years if street children were the focus of our work, presently every child in our state's homes is vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. The issue of street children is very much contained in our city but every child in every home in the district is vulnerable to abuse, neglect or growing issues. There is a need to say that our society is at a loss in giving a proper childhood to our children.

Different types of abuses, mental health problems, family break ups, peer influence, growing drug menace, teenage pregnancies, teenage turbulence, suicides, child marriages, lack of discipline in schools, gadget addictions are only some of the issues which we need to address. Our society is not sufficiently geared up to face the challenges posed by the extremely fast progress in the world of information and possibilities that are available to children. Our society is not on the same frequency with our young generation. Hence we are unable to catch up with them and also we lack sufficiently knowledge to guide them in the perils of the present world.

There is a need for a paradigm shift in our education system and in the way our families and society handle children so that we can influence our children to grow up to be responsible adults who can contribute to their family and nation. All stakeholders like parents, teachers and government needs to keep abreast of the times and intervene without delay into the lives of our children as they are the future generation and we are accountable if they do not grow into responsible freedom.

Fr. Thomas PD  
Director,  
Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society



**Fr. Thomas P.D**

**Director**

Trivandrum

Don Bosco

Veedu

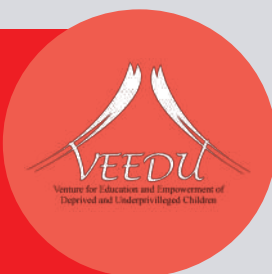
Society



## TRIVANDRUM DON BOSCO VEEDU SOCIETY

**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; migrant children, runaways; and children from dysfunctional family environments (Children and youth at Risk).**

Accompanying children at risk since 1991



### 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

In May, 1991, we 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 named, 'The Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society'. In 1994, a building was bought at Manacaud and the shelter home was named 'Don Bosco Veedu'. Later on, in collaboration with Latin Arch Diocese of Trivandrum, Don Bosco Centre, Manacaud was constructed and in 1999 a property was brought near railway station, Thampanoor, and built a shelter home accessible for children and named as Don Bosco Nivas which was inaugurated on January 31st, 2002.







# TRIVANDRUM DON BOSCO VEEDU SOCIETY

## What We Do



### CHILDLINE

Collaborative Organization



### Don Bosco Open Shelter Home

A shelter home for boys



### DB Tech

Skill Training Centre



### Community Services

District Level Outreach services



### Society Based Services

State level Advocacy and Networking Programs

MAKE A CALL



MAKE A DIFFERENCE



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

The service is run by Don Bosco Veedu Society in Trivandrum District since its inception in the year 2000

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.



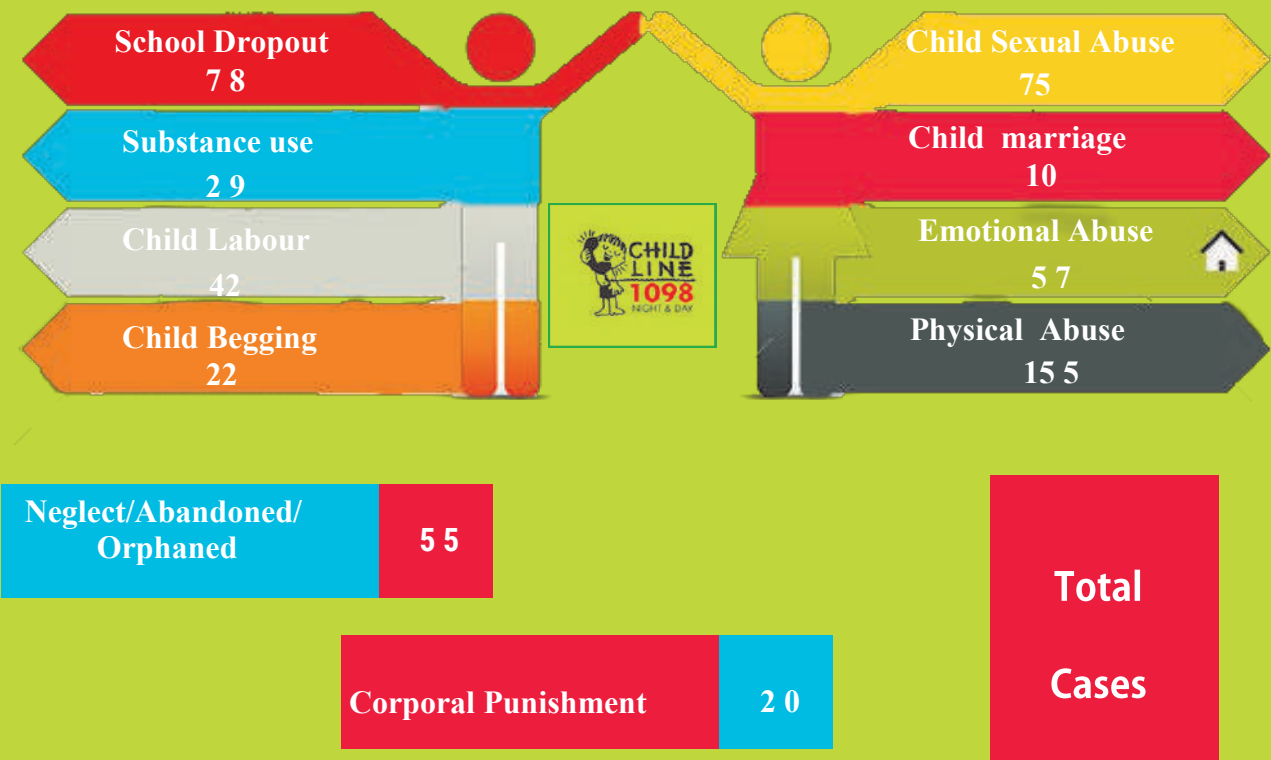
### MADE A DIFFERENCE

The ring came at 4 Pm, and the caller said that in his neighbourhood a boy was physically abused by his father. The child was tied to the window by the neck and bashed up brutally.

CHILDLINE team visited the house, rescued the child with the help of police. Provided medical care, temporary shelter and emotional support. On enquiry we found that the child was made to work at home and he was a child out of wedlock. He was treated like a servant.

This case was reported to the CWC, the parent was declared unfit and the child was given in foster care. Now the child is under the care of his foster parents and is happily living a life with foster parents.

# Protection from Abuse



## Case Study: Saving the Innocent from Fear



Akhila (Given Name) was the adopted daughter of Raman (Given name) and Leela (Given Name). Raman was a peon in a bank and Leela was a house wife. With their savings they decided to build a house. Their daughter fell in love with a construction worker who came to build their house. The child was abused by the worker. He was a married man deliberately deceiving the child. He also talked badly about the child and her neighbours started to tease the child because of this.

The child sought help from class teacher on this issue, and the class teacher reported this case to CHILDLINE. CHILDLINE rescue team conducted home visit and interacted with the mother. The team informed the mother about the mental stress faced by the child through the emotional blackmail that she received from the abuser. The team also educated the family about legal actions to be taken against the abuser under POSCO Act 2012. They came to office on the very next day, we produced the child and family before the Child Welfare Committee and the child was temporarily sheltered at Nirbaya home.

We referred this case to the Vellarada Police. The Vellarada police arrested the abuser. The child was send back with her adopted parents and child is now attending school without any mental stress.



## CHILDLINE SE Dosti



The CHILDLINE Se Dosti campaign 2016 was flagged off in Trivandrum on November 14, 2016. As part of a weeklong celebration we conducted different awareness campaigns at various parts of the city. Taking note of the rise in drug abuse cases among school children; the focus was on

making children aware of the ill effects of drug abuse.

Govt BHS Pettah was host to the inaugural ceremony of the CHIDLINE Se Dosti campaign organised by Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society. The ceremony was witnessed by more than 200 students of the school. Fr Thomas P.D, Director, CHILDLINE Trivandrum delivered the welcome speech; expressing the importance of the cause, and how to stay away from the drug trend. During the function, a poster by the CHILDLINE Trivandrum on 'Say No to Drugs' was released by the school principal Dr Sheeja and handed over to Smt. Sheelakumari, the school headmistress. Both of them spoke on the awareness campaign and the substance abuse issues among children. One of the interns at CHILDLINE, Mr Robin, a Swedish national also graced the occasion with his presence. After the official ceremony, a short video featuring actor Prithviraj called "Road Trip to Hell" by Bodhini was shown to the young audience. Later a quiz competition was conducted by the team, on the topic, with the active participation of the students; every one of them was given prizes too. The quiz focussed on the knowledge of children on drug menace, ill effects of drugs on the body, preventive aspects and legal dimensions of drug problem. Being a quiz programme interest of the children were sustained and providing prizes boosted their attention and more awareness was imparted.

## Open House



**No. Of Open House Conducted: 8**

### Major issues identified

- Child Sexual abuse
- information regarding sale of drugs
- Eve teasing reported
- Requested for play ground cleaning
- Beverages outlet problems
- School dropout cases reported from tribal area
- Outreach cases reported from the area

### Action Taken

- Provided emotional support and guidance/Arranged group counselling classes
- Police took emergency action related to drug abuse and eve teasing
- Ward Councillor noticed the issue
- Reported certain issues to Child Rights Commission

# Don Bosco Nivas Open Shelter Home

## SHELTER TO THE HOMELESS



Services Provided	
Counselling Help	59
Institutional Placement	155
Shelter Provided	283
Home Placement	123
Rescue from Street	118
Medical Help	32
Foster Care	1

**TOTAL: 778**

Don Bosco Nivas Shelter Home is situated close to the Central Railway Station and Bus Stand. Through its staff, we reach out to all those vulnerable children who reach the capital. All those unaccompanied children who are contacted by shelter staff, police, Railway Police, Railway Protection Force, Missing Child Search, CHILDLINE volunteers or any concerned persons are brought to the shelter home and provided with food, clothing, medical care, recreation, vocational training and life skill orientation. Don Bosco Nivas functions as a short stay (transitional) home and the children are linked to their own families or long term serving institutions for care, protection and development.

### Functional Literacy Classes

The children at the centre are provided with remedial non-formal numeracy and literacy classes (Malayalam, Maths, English, General Knowledge, Hindi and Life Skills Education )

### Vocational Training

Micro skill Training, paper bag making, flower making, craft jobs, decorations etc

### Counselling Services

Counselling is one of the major tools utilized for helping the marginalized youth and children. Counselling aims at helping children develop relationships, overcome fears and trauma, handle responsibilities and discipline in their lives. Shelter facilitates children with De-addiction meeting, therapeutic sessions, Career Counselling, Life coping skills and Personality development programs in order to make them grow into responsible individuals.

Nutritious Food  
Clothing  
Medical care  
Recreational Activities  
Home Placement  
Institutional Placement  
Restoration  
Rehabilitation

## Activities @ Don Bosco Nivas



**Educational Program**



**Therapeutic Activities**



**Vocational Training**



**Counseling Services**



**Recreational Activities**



**Talent Development**



# Activities @ Don Bosco Nivas Open Shelter Home

## Outreach Centre



Rescued through Booth	
Male	Female
315	55
<b>Total</b>	<b>370</b>

Women and Child help Centre was opened on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Platform of Trivandrum Central Railway Station in partnership with Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police to provide emergency assistance, care and protection to the needy women and children reaching Trivandrum. The centre has been helpful to hundreds of children and women

who sought emotional support, referral services and rehabilitation assistance. The centre also turns out to be a source of public awareness creation on child rights and child protection mechanism that exist in the State. Hundreds of children who have run away from home, wandering through the railway platform or engaging in begging have been rescued through this outreach centre and provided shelter at Don Bosco Nivas. Outreach staff are present throughout the day at this centre for rescue of children. They also do outreach to other parts of the city and District to identify and rescue such children.

## Participatory Action Research

The four rights of children enshrined in the UNCRC convention are survival, development, protection and participation. It is sad to say that participation as a



right of children has not got its importance throughout the world as everyone is used to a 'top-bottom' approach wherein the adult dictates to the child the 'how' and the 'ought' of behaviour.

The Participative Action Research (PAR) is game changer in this scenario of things. Here children are accompanied to grow into freedom and responsibility regarding the choices they make and the care administrators become agents of change in the process.

## Diwali Celebration



On 17th October Diwali was celebrated at Don Bosco Nivas. Director Fr. Thomas PD distributed Diwali sweets to the children. The children and staff at Nivas celebrated Diwali by bursting crackers-altogether a special day of happiness for the children at Don Bosco Nivas.

## Picnics & Film Show



The children are often given opportunities for picnics and watch movies in theatres which give them freshness and allow them to forget their gruesome past. Annual excursions are also arranged to give them a wider exposure and broader outlook.

## Onam Celebration



*Onam is a time to show off our vast cultural heritage and rich diversity for all the Keralites who celebrate it with much vigor than any other festival.*

Don Bosco Nivas Onam Celebrations were held on the 2nd of September 2016. At Don Bosco Nivas the preparations started a whole day ahead on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September afternoon itself. The staff were busy in purchasing food items in the market. The vocational teacher and the children engaged in preparing the backdrop for the celebration. There were 23 children and 20 staffs who participated in the celebration. On the 2nd September early morning everyone at Don Bosco Nivas gathered together to draw *pookalam* (traditional flower carpet) and decorate the same with flowers. The program was graced by the presence of Rector Fr. Stephen Mukkatil and director Fr. Thomas P.D. Cultural event was organised in which children and the staff participated, and was extraordinary day for all at Don Bosco Nivas. **Onasadya** was served in the dining hall. It was a traditional sadya with Parippu, Pappadam and two types of Payasam served on banana leaves. All children and staff enjoyed the tasty sadya.

## Christmas Celebration



Christmas was celebrated in a grand manner. Director Fr. Thomas P.D presided over the function. The whole program was a story about 'The Birth of Jesus' which had a fusion of over seven songs and dance accompanied by keyboard and violins. At the end of the program Santa Clause arrived and filled the entire crowd with joy and danced with everyone with great enthusiasm. All the children enjoyed to the beats of "Jingle Bells".



## SUMMER CAMP for Shelter Home Children

The Don Bosco Nivas Summer camp was conducted from 18th to 24th May 2016 at Don Bosco Nivas as holiday programme for inmates. It was titled **“Suryakanthi”** – Arise and Go”. The camp was officially inaugurated by Fr Thomas P.D, Director, Don Bosco Veedu Society. Welcome address was spoken by Ms Josna George. Words of appreciation were delivered by Mr. Pramod. And to conclude the official ceremony Ms Beena gave the vote of thanks.

**Suryakanthi** was a breath of fresh air for the inmates at Nivas. They welcomed the move with sincere participation and sheer focus. Each day of the camp was filled with both academic as well as recreational activities. And the organizers made sure that not even a single boy was left out. The daily routine for the camp began with prayer followed by a morning talk by the coordinators (Mr. Thampi, Ms Mary, Ms Beena and Ms Josna), which included a message for the children. The next 15 minutes were reserved for meditation led by the same team. From 10.30 AM classes were given to the children. Each day had a session on a relevant topic. The classes covered during the camp included: Personal Health & Hygiene, Awareness on Substance (Drug) Abuse, Communicative English, Essential Body Language Tips, and Importance of Education

Various games and co curricular activities were included in the daily sessions. Mainly energizers, action songs and fun games were a part. Some of the most entertaining among them were the following:- Paper fancy dress, Theme based Skit competition, Musical Chair, Elocution, Light Music and Story Telling

The concluding function was attended by Fr Thomas P.D (Director), Biju Simon (Coordinator), Josna George and report submitted by Beena Roy (Care Giver). A few of the children shared their experience and expressed their words of gratitude. The tagline of our camp Suryakanthi was “Arise and Go”. And we could inculcate this message into them. All the participants could introspect and realize their inner powers and strengths.

### Recreational Activities



### Awareness Classes



### Valedictory





## Good Practices @ Don Bosco Nivas

Biogas is called as the energy of the future, just as waste will become tomorrow's gold.



### Biogas Installation



A Portable Biogas Plants was installed in Don Bosco Nivas on 21<sup>st</sup> March not just to fulfill the purpose of managing food waste in Nivas hygienically and safely, but also to address the energy requirement. It has been proved that waste can be converted into energy in hours! The portable biogas plant presently takes care of 20 % of Nivas energy needs. Just toss in food scraps and animal waste and up to 2 hours of renewable cooking gas is produced in few hours.

### Terrace Farming

**Fresh, Healthy and Tasty:** The vegetables grown in our organic kitchen garden are fresh, healthy and organic i.e. free from pesticides. The children at Don Bosco Nivas are given chances to be close to nature through this and we inculcate in them eco-friendly values. Bio- gas slurry is the manure used in our organic garden.



*Organically grown with pride, without prejudice or pesticides!*

Fresh

&

Healthy



## DB Tech



Don Bosco Veedu, Manacaud, one of the centres of Don Bosco Veedu Society is a Skill Training Centre 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.



## Our Courses

Business Process Outsourcing

Hospitality Management

### Success Story: DB Tech A Key to Success

*One Little Decision Changed My Life Forever- "Prabin"*



Residing in Anjuthengu, a coastal town enroute Kollam, Prabin is part of a fisherfolk community. His family consists of four members. His father is a fisherman by profession and mother, a homemaker. He has a younger brother who is a high school dropout.

Soon after the graduating his higher secondary education in top honors, Prabin was forced to look for daily wage labour, for the sake of his family's sustenance. He took up different kinds of jobs such as plumbing and electrical works in and around his hometown.

A conversation with one of his friends, our alumni, about DB Tech Manacaud turned out to be a lifesaver for Prabin. The free skill training programme in Hospitality gave him the requisite skills to develop a prosperous career in the industry.

Now Prabin is an F&B associate with the KFC outlet at Pulimoodu, Trivandrum. His words are filled with gratitude and promise to make his alma mater proud.

Started Working



Pulimoodu





## Courses offered

## No. Of Students

Hospitality Management

35

Business Process Outsourcing

40

## Major Activities



### Inaugural Ceremony

For every batch an inaugural ceremony, a valedictory ceremony and a parent meeting were conducted. In the valedictory ceremony the course completion certificates were given to the prospective candidates. Efforts of the students are recognized during the event.



### Onam Celebration

*Onam is a time to show of our vast cultural heritage and rich diversity for all the Keralites who celebrate it with much vigor than any other festival.*

The Onam celebration for 2016 was held at Manacaud centre on 1st September, 2016. It was held along with the farewell for the 12<sup>th</sup> batch of hospitality Students.

The students prepared Pookalam with flower petals, and prepared a delicious onam Sadya in the centre. The students and the staff at the centre dined together and shared the joy of Onam season. Altogether onam brought a feeling of brotherhood among the trainees at DB Tech.



### Exposure Visits

Provides an opportunity to plan, organize & engage in active learning experiences both inside and out side the class room. The exposure visits to leading BPO's and Hotel industry helped the students gain first hand information regarding the functioning of the industry.



### Life Skills & Awareness classes

Organized various life skills and awareness classes for the students at DB Tech. These classes were organized in order to address the behavioural issues among the youngsters at the centre.



# Community Based Services

The Don Bosco Veedu Society as a child care organization is engaged in various child welfare and development activities and child rights promotional advocacy programmes. We are also the implementing agency (Collaborative Agency) for CHILDLINE in Trivandrum district. During the last one year we have provided variety interventions such as medical, shelter, repatriation, rescue, sponsorship, emotional support, and counselling to over 1200 children across the district. There were campaigns initiated against child begging and child labour in partnership with various Government Departments and NGOs. The street plays, vehicular campaigns, display of banners and posters, distribution of pamphlets, leaflets, stickers, etc. and visual and print media coverage have imparted awareness to thousands of people on issues faced by children and solutions for the same. We have reached missing children related and drug prevention posters across the district of Trivandrum.

## International Missing Children's Day



The Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society conducted a mass awareness programme on International Missing children's day on May 25, 2016 at Don Bosco Nivas, Trivandrum. The programme aimed at sensitizing the rickshaw drivers of Trivandrum city with the cooperation of Thampanoor police station and CHILDLINE Trivandrum. More than 70 auto rickshaw drivers registered for the innovative venture to trace missing children. A *Whatsapp* group named *autokootam* was inaugurated to provide information about found children while rickshaws ply the streets of the city

## New School Bags for New School Year



NEW BAGS

NEW HOPE

Don Bosco Veedu society distributed school bags and study materials among 300 underprivileged children who are from poor families at Karimadom and those identified through CHILDLINE across the district of Trivandrum.

These school children hardly have the financial solvency to buy school bag. Earnings made by their families meet basic needs and a school bag for them is a luxury. As a socially responsible society working tirelessly to making a difference in the Society, Don Bosco Veedu believes that we can help these children to dream bigger through proper education.

# International Anti- Child Labour Day



The Anti Child Labour day is observed every year on June 12. This year, the focus of the observance was on *child labour in supply chains*.



Trivandrum Don Bosco observed the day with three programs in three different schools; Govt. HS, Sreekaryam, Vidyasadan CBSE School, Marianad and Govt. HS Kamaleswaram. Shri. KG Valsala Kumar (The District Labour Officer), Fr. Thomas PD (Director CHIDLINe Collab) and ALOs were part of the event. Anti Child Labour day messages was also given by Mr. Jobi AP, District Coordinator CHIDLINe, Mr. Manuel George (CHIDLINe Team Member), Mr. Kiran (Coordinator, CHIDLINe) and Mr. Emmanuel Silas (CHIDLINe Team Member).



Awareness materials were distributed among children. Time table cards with CHIDLINe message were also distributed. All children took pledge against child labour and promised to help in eradicating child labour. Around 2000 were given awareness through this programme

There was awareness & announcement conducted at other venues as well; short film festival venue at Kairali theatre, Thampanoor bus stand, St. Xavier's High School Peyad and at Loyola College.

**“Life of Little Ones Are Destroyed**

**When Child Labour is Employed”**

## Success For Success

S 4 S



“Success for Success” (S4S) is a package from Don Bosco aimed at striking the roots to provides awareness and educate child rights to children, parents, teachers and other stake holders.

Providing awareness to all people who deal with children is the best way to protect and promote child rights. Personality development, Study Methods, Self Esteem, Self Confidence, Motivation, Leadership, Communication, Understanding Adolescence, Child Rights & Laws, child responsibilities, Handling child Abuse issues, Drug Addiction, handling stress and suicidal tendencies among children etc. are some of the topics covered under the scheme.



## Swacch Bharat Mission



Don Bosco Nivas organized Cleanliness drive under Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan Programme on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti in association with Thampanoor Police. The main purpose of this programme was to create awareness among the shelter home boys regarding Cleanliness and its benefits. During this programme, all the children in the shelter actively participated in the drive.

## Community Outreach Program



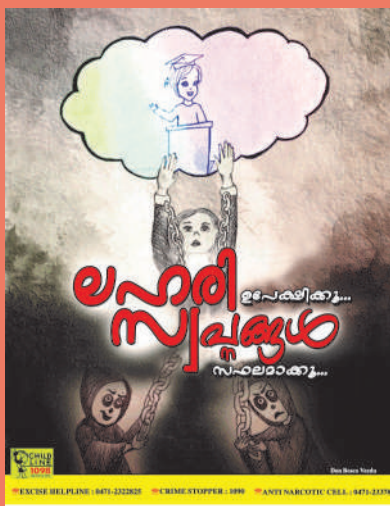
Outreach and awareness creation activities play an important role in the daily functioning of Don Bosco Veedu society

The community outreach program helps to reach out to many more people. We usually carry out community outreach program during the festival season where we are able to reach out to larger population.

## Survey on Drug Dependency Among School Children in Trivandrum

Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society in association with BREADS, Bangalore conducted a survey to find the prevalence of drug abuse among the school children. The survey was conducted in 60 different schools in Trivandrum District. The data were collected from three different zones ie, Rural, Urban and Coastal area. The survey covered 1800 students and it was found that 30% of children are addicted to drugs in the district of Trivandrum. Projects are being planned to thwart this menace.

### Posters on Drug use



### Orientation & Data collection



### Coding of Data





# DON BOSCO SUMMMER CAMP

Vismayam—2016

## Awareness Classes



## FUN TIME



## TIME MANAGEMENT

The summer camp helped children to master the skills in Time Management

## Open up World Of Creativity

Arts and crafts sessions in the summer camp allow children to use their imagination and practice creativity



# Vismayam- 2016

*Summer Camps have been a constant source of both relaxation and entertainment for the children from 1994. The participants are mainly children from Karimadom Slum and also other neighboring poor children. The initiative motivates the children towards education. Holistic development is the primary aim. School materials such as bags, books, pens, pencils, etc. are distributed to all the campers at the close of the one month programme.*

On 12th of April 2016, Don Bosco Veedu Society inaugurated its 23rd edition of its summer camp, 'Vismayam 2016'. The inaugural ceremony was held at Don Bosco Centre, Manacaud. Fr Thomas PD, Director, Don Bosco Veedu Society welcomed the dignitaries on the dais along with the eagerly waiting children & their parents. Adv V.K Prasanth, the honourable Mayor of Trivandrum City Corporation was the chief guest for the function. Prof Aliyar, national award winning dubbing artist and Smt Karthika Kannan, popular cine artist also graced the occasion with their presence. The dignitaries lit the lamp in unison to mark the beginning of *Vismayam 2016*.

In the inaugural address, the Mayor showered words of praise upon Don Bosco Veedu Society. On the other hand, Prof Aliyar shared a memory that he had the rare and blessed opportunity, 25 years back, to lend his voice for the iconic Don Bosco in a movie based on the saint. It was received with thunderous applause. He wished them all the best and flagged off the four teams, Red, Blue, Yellow and Green along with Karthika Kannan. Fr N.K George expressed words of appreciation.

The one month long summer fiesta was a treat for both children and parents alike. Various vocational training programs were mixed with interactive games and recreational sessions. All the modules were taken by expert facilitators who have proved their worth in the respective fields

*Vismayam 2016* - The Summer Vacation camp 2016 came to its glorious end on 9th May. The finale saw a colourful ceremony with tears in the eyes of 130 children and their parents. The chief guest at the function was Fr. Philip Parakkat, member, child rights commission, Kerala. Sruthy, a cine artist, and Simi Jyothis, Ward Councillor was also present as guests at the function. Fr. Mukkattil, Stephen, the rector of Don Bosco presided over the function. All the campers were provided educational materials and the four groups of the campers were provided prizes for their group activities. The invited guests handed over the same. It was also a great opportunity for the children to showcase their talents which they developed through the camp. Curtain came down on *Vismayam 2016* with a Happy Land picnic on 10th May 2016.





## Summer Camp at Sree Chithra Poor Home



Sree Chithra Home run by the Government of Kerala houses over 250 children. Through the intervention of the Child Rights Commission and the district administration Don Bosco kicked off a Summer Camp for the children of Sree Chithra Home inmates on 6th of April 2016. “*Mazhavillu (Rainbow) 2016*” was inaugurated by the district Collector Shri. Biju Prabhakar IAS. The welcome address was delivered by Smt Aliyamma Varghese, Superintendent of the institution. She expressed her heartfelt appreciation to Don Bosco for the great opportunity for children to learn life lessons through fun and frolic.

Fr. Thomas PD Director, Don Bosco Veedu Society presided over the inaugural ceremony. Shri. Biju Prabhakar IAS was extremely delighted to notice the number of smiling faces among the young crowd. He also lauded the efforts put forward by the Don Bosco Veedu Society in creating such a perfect ambience for the children towards holistic development. Words of felicitation were delivered by Ashok Kumar, Staff Secretary of Sree Chithra Home and the local councillor of the Corporation.

The Summer Camp has been designed to impart lots of knowledge and value based learning to children which otherwise is often not received by such children.

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**The amazing thing  
about the camp is that  
it truly brings out the  
best in every child in  
the home**





# VEEDU SOCIETY

## Outreach at Karimadom Slum

### Free 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. An average of 45 students attend the classes regularly.



### Sthreejyothi

It is an association of women folk especially that of Karimadom Colony formed to work towards the empowerment of women and transformation of society. Through the guidance and support of Don Bosco Society, the members organize literacy classes for illiterate women, form self help groups and run self employed business activities and generate income for their livelihood.



### Balajyothi

This is an association of children monitored and supported by the Society to enable and educate children to support each other in sustaining school education, create opportunity for personal growth and development, talent identification and development and to create healthy and hygienic environment. The children organize periodical cultural, recreational and talent promotional programs.



# Society Based Services

## Balamrutham



*Balamrutham* was a training program organized by the society in order to create child protection volunteers from nurses. Nurses often come across children in difficulty in hospitals. This training program conducted for the medical college nursing students will surely enable them to be better caring towards children and also spread the message across the state of Kerala wherever they work.

## Capacity Building Program for School Principals in Kerala



Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society along with SIE MAT organized a state level capacity building program for all the higher secondary principals across the state on child rights and JJ Act. The sessions were aimed at imparting knowledge to act in favour of children to make children grow into responsibility and protect their rights. Through these sessions veedu society was able to impact the lives of many children across the state of Kerala. The sessions were content rich and informative backed by question and clarification.

## Child Protection Message Posters on Trains



Southern Railway & Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu Society and CHILDLINE India Foundation combined to paste child protection message posters on trains that leave central station at Trivandrum. This program helped us to create awareness on child rights and child services to many across Kerala. Rail transport is common used mode of transport, and majority of children use this mode of transport. The poster contains message to contact CHILDLINE when a passenger finds a child in distress. Fr. Philip Parackatt, member, Child Rights Commission released the posters.

# Colouring the life of the Underprivileged Since 1991

## Our Media Presence



<http://childhoodforkids.blogspot.in/>



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<https://www.facebook.com/DonBoscoVeedu>



<https://twitter.com/dbveedu>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF9qMbBmcVdmaXmtILLXY8A>



[www.dbveedu.org](http://www.dbveedu.org)

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