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Empowering the Weaker Community



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FUTURE LEADERS...



ENHANCING EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENT DON BOSCO...



EMPOWERING THE WEAKER COMMUNITY



COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH INITIATIVE



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY TIES



EDITORIAL TEAM

EDITORIAL

Fr. Simolin, SDB
Director DBMS, Editor
boscomigrants@gmail.com

Fr. Lourdhu, SDB
Asst. Director DBMS,
Sub-editor

DESIGN

Praveen S
Graphic Designer,
90254 29153



Designed @
We Design,
Kilpauk, Chennai-10

FUTURE LEADERS: NIGHT SCHOOL ORIENTATION



On 01.07.24 a significant orientation session was held for the students of the night school, focusing on the transformative power of education. The gathering aimed to instill a deeper understanding among students about how education can shape their futures and provide them with better opportunities in life.

The session emphasized the critical role of education in personal and professional development, highlighting stories of individuals who have succeeded against odds through persistent learning and self-improvement. This orientation served not only as an inspirational event for the students but also as a motivational boost, encouraging them to pursue their studies with renewed vigor and dedication.



In recognition of the invaluable contributions of the teachers who tirelessly serve this community, a special acknowledgment ceremony was organized. Each teacher received a gift as a token of appreciation for their unwavering commitment and dedication. This gesture aimed to honor their efforts in nurturing the students and guiding them toward a brighter future.

The event underscored the collective effort needed to uplift and educate, with a strong focus on the pivotal role of educators in this mission. By recognizing the teachers' contributions and motivating the students, the orientation sought to build a more cohesive and supportive educational environment.



ENHANCING EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENT: DON BOSCO NIGHT SCHOOL TEACHERS' MEETING

14 JULY, 2024: Don Bosco Illam in Peravallur

J On the 14th of July 2024, the Don Bosco Illam in Peravallur hosted a significant meeting for the night school teachers, beginning at 10:00 AM. The meeting started with a prayer service led by Br. Ronald, setting a reflective and solemn tone for the day's discussions. Following the prayer, Br. Robin extended a warm welcome to all participants, outlining the importance of the meeting and the agenda ahead.

The core of the meeting was an "Animation for Teachers" session, facilitated by Br. Ronald. This session focused on the principles and philosophies that guide the educational approach within Don Bosco institutions. Topics covered included the unique aspects of the Don Bosco Preventive System, which emphasizes guidance, love, and proactive measures to support students. Br. Ronald also discussed the critical role of teachers in these setups, especially in prioritizing the needs of underprivileged students and nurturing their talents, whether in academics, sports, or the arts.



The teachers then presented a comprehensive report on the previous academic year, highlighting both achievements and areas needing improvement. This was followed by a forward-looking "Planning for 2024-25" session, led by Fr. Simolin and Br. Ronald. The planning included a detailed yearly academic and extracurricular calendar, a new system for rewarding students who excel academically or maintain perfect attendance, and a plan to organize various competitions to keep students engaged and motivated.

Fr. Simolin concluded the meeting with an inspiring

speech, reaffirming the mission of Don Bosco institutions to foster holistic development in students. His words served as a motivational reminder of the vital role teachers play in shaping the lives of young people. The meeting ended on a high note with the singing of the Don Bosco Hymn, fostering a sense of unity and commitment among all attendees. This gathering was a crucial step in aligning the educators' efforts with the broader goals of the Don Bosco educational mission, ensuring that the upcoming academic year would be productive and enriching for all.

SERVICES' MEETING WITH INTER AGENCY GROUP

Don Bosco Migrant Services hosted a pivotal one-day meeting with the Inter Agency Group (IAG), bringing together a wide array of agencies and stakeholders. This meeting aimed to discuss the critical need for enhanced coordination in addressing humanitarian issues, particularly in light of the evolving challenges posed by global warming, climate change, and increasing emergency frequencies.

Significance of Inter-Agency Coordination

Inter-agency coordination is essential for creating a collective response mechanism and amplifying bargaining power, especially in times of crisis. The meeting highlighted the increased frequency of emergencies and the new challenges brought on by global warming and climate change, which necessitate a more robust and coordinated approach among NGOs, corporate bodies, and the

State Government.

Key points discussed included:

Enhanced Coordination: The need for NGOs to work closely with the State Government to facilitate better access to resources during emergencies and disaster risk reduction (DRR) efforts.

Role of Corporate Bodies: As corporate social responsibility gains traction, there is a growing need for coordination between NGOs and corporate entities, leveraging their resources and networks for humanitarian causes.

Importance of Local Collaboration

The discussions emphasized the importance of collaboration among stakeholders in Tamil Nadu. Sharing and learning among local agencies have proven to be crucial in strengthening capacities and systems. This collaboration fosters sustainable mechanisms where local practices and systems embody collective action and resilience.

Local Systems and Processes: The focus is on building and enhancing local systems and processes, ensuring that the responses are contextually relevant and driven by local agencies. This approach promotes local leadership and ownership within the IAG, enabling a more effective and sustainable humanitarian response.

Conclusion

The one-day meeting hosted by Don Bosco Migrant Services highlighted the critical need for a renewed focus on inter-agency coordination to address humanitarian challenges effectively. The insights and strategies discussed are poised to strengthen collective efforts, enhance local capacities, and promote sustainable development and humanitarian response in Tamil Nadu. Through continued collaboration and commitment, the IAG aims to build a resilient and responsive humanitarian framework that can adapt to the evolving needs of the community.



EMPOWERING THE WEAKER COMMUNITY: INAUGURATION OF EVENING STUDY CENTER BY DON BOSCO MIGRANT SERVICES



Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) has initiated a transformative project aimed at uplifting the Weaker community by launching an Evening Study Center. This initiative underscores the organization's commitment to providing educational opportunities to underprivileged groups, recognizing education as a fundamental tool for social upliftment and empowerment.

Objective

The primary objective of the Evening Study Center is to provide educational support to Irular children, thereby enhancing their academic performance and overall personal development. By offering a structured learning environment, DBMS aims to bridge the educational gap faced by



these children and pave the way for a brighter future.

Inauguration and Activities

The Evening Study Center was inaugurated with the participation of community members and DBMS representa-

tives. The center is designed to cater to the educational needs of Irular children, providing them with a conducive environment for after-school learning and homework assistance.



CONCLUSION

The Evening Study Center by DBMS represents a significant step towards addressing the educational disparities faced by the Weaker community. By focusing on education and nutritional support, DBMS aims to empower these children to break the cycle of poverty and build a better future for themselves and their community. This initiative highlights the critical role of education in achieving social justice and equity, and DBMS remains committed to supporting the Weaker community in its journey towards progress and

Community Engagement and Impact

The establishment of the Evening Study Center has been warmly received by the Weaker community, who see it as a beacon of hope for their children's future. This initiative is expected to have a profound impact on the community by:

Improving Educational Outcomes:

With consistent support, the children are likely to show sig-

nificant improvements in their academic performance, which can lead to better educational and career opportunities.

Promoting Social Inclusion:

The center fosters a sense of belonging and inclusion among the Irular children, helping them integrate better into the broader societal fabric.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: CLEANLINESS AND HEALTH AWARENESS PROGRAM



Since On July 20, 2024, Don Bosco Migrant Services organized a vital awareness program in Pudupettai Village, under the Pudu Gumidipoondi Panchayat, focusing on cleanliness, decent living, and health issues. This initiative was part of a broader effort to enhance the well-being of the community by educating residents on essential aspects of daily life that contribute to a healthier environment and lifestyle.

The event saw active participation from 30 community members, eager to learn and implement the practices discussed. The session was led by Mr. Casimir Toppo and Mr. Adeep, resource per-

sons who brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the event. They emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness, both at personal and community levels, to prevent the spread of diseases. The speakers also highlighted the significance of decent living conditions, adequate sanitation, and access to clean water as foundational elements for a healthy life.

Additionally, the program addressed common health issues faced by the community and provided practical advice on preventive measures. This included guidance on nutrition, hygiene, and the benefits of regular health check-ups. The inter-

active nature of the session allowed participants to ask questions and share their experiences, fostering a collaborative learning environment.

To conclude the event, snacks were distributed to all participants, creating an opportunity for informal discussions and community bonding. This program not only educated the participants but also reinforced the importance of community engagement in tackling health and hygiene challenges. Don Bosco Migrant Services continues to play a crucial role in uplifting marginalized communities through such educational initiatives.

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH INITIATIVE: HIV SCREENING AND AWARENESS PROGRAM IN MAMBAKKAM

**19 JULY, 2024:
MAMBAKKAM, CHENNAI.**

On July 19, 2024, a comprehensive health initiative was conducted in Mambakkam, focusing on HIV screening and awareness. The program, a collaborative effort by the Tamil Nadu HIV Control Department, REIVAX, Real Charitable Trust, and the Social Welfare Department, aimed to provide critical health services and education to vulnerable populations, including migrants and adolescents.

HIV SCREENING

The event featured a rapid HIV screening for 50 migrants using the whole blood finger prick test, a quick and effective method for detecting HIV 1 and 2. The screening was conducted under the supervision of healthcare professionals, ensuring accuracy and confidentiality. Remarkably, no positive cases were identified during the screening, indicating a potentially low prevalence



of HIV among the tested individuals. This outcome underscores the effectiveness of ongoing preventive measures and the importance of regular health check-ups.

AWARENESS SESSIONS

In addition to screening, the program included targeted awareness sessions for different groups:

Adolescent Boys:

A session was conducted for 30 adolescent boys, focusing on sexual health education, including the transmission, prevention, and importance of early detection of HIV/AIDS.

The discussion aimed to equip them with knowledge and encourage responsible behaviors, thus reducing their risk of infection.

Female Migrants:

The Social Welfare Department, in collaboration with REIVAX and Real Charitable Trust, provided a dedicated awareness session for 13 female migrants. This session addressed the specific health challenges faced by women, particularly in migrant populations, and emphasized the importance of safe practices, regular health screenings, and the availability of healthcare resources.

CONCLUSION

The HIV screening and awareness program in Mambakkam successfully reached 93 participants, providing essential health services and education. The initiative highlighted the critical role of community health programs in

preventing the spread of HIV and supporting the well-being of vulnerable populations. The absence of positive results in this screening session was a positive outcome, reflecting the community's current health status and the

effectiveness of preventive strategies. This event was a significant step towards enhancing public health and empowering individuals with the knowledge and resources needed to lead healthier lives.



EMPOWERING THE MARGINALIZED: AWARENESS MEETING AND HEALTH CAMP IN MANALI

07 JULY, 2024: Manali,
CHENNAI

On July 7, 2024, an impactful awareness meeting was held in Manali, specifically aimed at marginalized women, persons with disabilities (PwDs), and migrant communities. This event was organized by Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) in collaboration with the Panchayat President of Manali. The program attracted 90 adult participants and 13 children, representing diverse groups including single women, PwDs, and migrants.

Key Focus Areas

Formation of Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

The meeting emphasized the formation of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) for different marginalized segments:

Single Mothers SHGs:

The session focused on empowering single mothers by forming SHGs, which can provide mutual support, collective bargaining power, and a platform for sharing resources. The importance of economic independence through small-scale entrepreneurship and cooperative savings was highlighted, aiming to uplift their socio-economic status.

Migrants SHGs: Migrants, often facing challenges in accessing local resources and services, were encouraged to form SHGs. These groups are crucial for building community networks, facilitating access to employment opportunities, and integrating more effectively into the local society. The program underscored the benefits of collective action and shared learning experiences.

PwDs SHGs: For persons with disabilities, SHGs are particularly vital in advocating for their rights and needs. The meeting discussed strategies to form these groups,



which would focus on skill development, accessible healthcare, and social inclusion. By organizing into SHGs, PwDs can better navigate the challenges posed by societal and physical barriers.

Medical Camp

Alongside the formation of SHGs, a medical camp was conducted to address the immediate healthcare needs of the participants. The camp provided free health check-ups, basic medical consul-

tations, and distributed essential medications. Special attention was given to the health concerns of single women, migrants, and PwDs, recognizing their often limited access to healthcare facilities. This initiative was crucial in promoting health awareness and preventive care among the attendees.

Sponsorship and Support

The event was generously sponsored by DBMS and supported by the Panchayat



President of Manali. Their involvement was instrumental in mobilizing resources and ensuring the successful execution of the program. The sponsorship covered the costs of the medical camp, refreshments, and materials distributed to the participants.

CONCLUSION

The awareness meeting in Manali marked a significant step towards empowering marginalized groups by providing them with the tools and knowledge to organize and advocate for their rights. The formation of SHGs for

single mothers, migrants, and PwDs aims to foster community resilience, economic stability, and social inclusion. The concurrent medical camp underscored the commitment to holistic support, addressing both the

social and health needs of the participants. The event exemplified a collaborative approach to community development, driven by local leadership and dedicated organizations like DBMS.

MEDICAL CAMP

13.07.2024 Volunteer done for migrants Medical camp at palnallore along with Meenakshi medical College and research centre, Yamaha and Myrtle social welfare network and from Don Bosco Migrants service we supported by

1. Audio advertisement coverage to invite all migrants in palnallore panchayat
2. Hindi pamphlet designing work for distribution
3. Volunteer done by myself and Mrs. Karthika by Blood pressure monitoring and organising all the beneficiaries to the concern doctors
4. Also went in the mobile van to remind the public
5. In metal company nearly 20 migrants were informed by us to participate in the camp by explaining the camp details to the HR
6. Totally 140 participants were benefited from this camp. With the help of Mr. John Bosco sir we can coordinate to our Service panchayat and villages in upcoming days

On 20.07.2024 medical camp service done for 280 migrants along with 109 Local people at palnallore colony , Sriperumbudur

1. Medicine distribution
2. Volunteer service done for migrants according to their problems
3. Basic vital signs like temperature, pulse checked
4. Height weight monitor
5. Those referred members treatment cost will be sponsored by Yamaha so 30 cases referred to Meenakshi hospital at kanchipuram

POSH AWARENESS SESSION AT ROOP AUTOMOTIVE LTD, SRIPERUMBUDUR

On July 22, 2024, Roop Automotive Ltd. in Sriperumbudur hosted a comprehensive awareness session on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) at the workplace. The session aimed to educate employees about their rights and responsibilities under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act and Rules, 2013. This initiative reflects the company's commitment to fostering a safe and respectful work environment.

A comprehensive awareness session on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) at the workplace



EMPLOYER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE A SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT

One of the core mandates under the POSH Act, as highlighted in Section 19(a), is the employer's duty to provide a safe working environment. This encompasses safety from any individual an employee might come into contact with at the workplace. The session stressed the importance of creating a culture of respect and safety, where employees feel secure and valued.

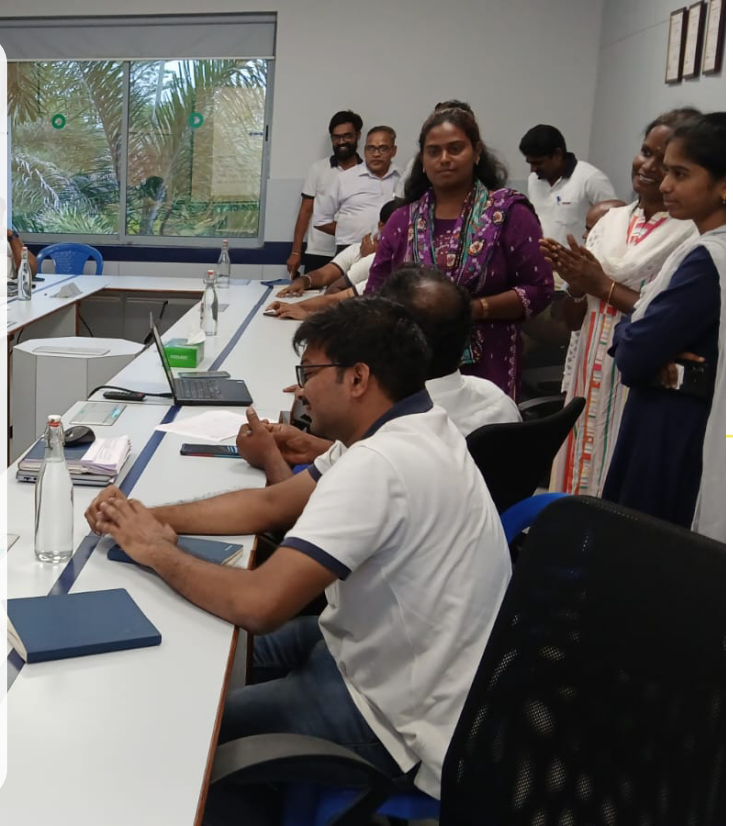
OVERVIEW OF THE POSH ACT AND RULES, 2013

The session provided an in-depth overview of the POSH Act, emphasizing its importance in preventing and addressing sexual harassment in the workplace. Key provisions

and the legal framework were discussed, including definitions of sexual harassment, the scope of the Act, and the obligations of employers and employees.

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS

The session underscored that all organizations, whether public or private, with 10 or more employees, are required to comply with the POSH Act. This includes not only permanent staff but also temporary, ad-hoc, consultants, interns, and contract workers, regardless of gender. The presentation outlined the specific requirements organizations must fulfill, such as forming an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) and conducting regular awareness programs.



PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK

A total of 48 employees, including two HR personnel, attended the session. Participants engaged actively, asking questions and discussing scenarios that helped clarify their understanding of the law and its application. The HR representatives expressed their commitment to implementing the session's teachings and enhancing the workplace environment..

REDRESSAL MECHANISM FOR COMPLAINTS

Employees were informed about the formal procedures for reporting sexual harassment, detailing how to file complaints and the process for their resolution. The ses-

session clarified the role of the ICC in handling complaints confidentially and impartially, ensuring that all cases are addressed with due seriousness and promptness.

CONCLUSION

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tatives expressed their commitment to implementing the session's teachings and enhancing the workplace environment.

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY TIES: RONGMEI LEADERS' MEETING IN COIMBATORE

22 JULY, 2024:
Coimbatore

On July 2, 2024, a significant meeting was convened in Coimbatore between Rongmei leaders from Chennai and Rongmei elders residing in Coimbatore. The purpose of this gathering was to provide essential guidance and support to the community members on various aspects of daily life and integration into the broader society.

Key Discussions and Guidance Lifestyle and Job Awareness

The leaders emphasized the importance of adopting a balanced lifestyle, which includes healthy living habits and continuous learning. Discussions focused on job awareness, highlighting the need for com-

munity members to seek out opportunities for employment and skill development.

Respecting Law and Order

The meeting underscored the importance of adhering to the state's laws and regulations. The leaders encouraged the community to be aware of legal requirements and to act as responsible citizens, ensuring harmonious coexistence with other communities.

Cultural Respect and Integration

An important aspect of the discussion was the respect for the culture of other communities. The leaders stressed the significance of understanding and appreciating cultural diversity, which is crucial for peaceful cohabitation and mutual respect.

Community Prayer and

Unity

The leaders advocated for regular community gatherings, suggesting that the Rongmei community come together at least once a week for prayer and fellowship, regardless of denominational differences. This practice aims to strengthen communal bonds and foster a spirit of unity and support.

Addressing Migrant Worker Issues

The meeting also addressed the growing concerns related to the increasing number of migrant workers within the Rongmei community. The leaders informed the attendees about the forthcoming initiative to register the names of Rongmei individuals from the North East, which will help in better management and support of community members.



PROMOTING HEALTHY CHOICES DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS



In an ongoing effort to promote healthy lifestyle choices and safeguard the well-being of students, a comprehensive drug awareness program was conducted. This initiative was facilitated by students from the Master of Social Work (MSW) department, who played a pivotal role in educating their younger peers about the dangers of drug use.

Program Overview

The drug awareness session aimed to address the increasing exposure of students to drugs, a concern that is particularly pressing during adolescence. At this stage, young individuals are more susceptible to peer pressure and may experiment with substances, often unaware

of the severe consequences that can follow. The program's primary goal was to provide students with the knowledge and tools they need to make informed decisions and resist the allure of drugs.

Key Activities and Content

Educational Presentations:

The MSW students delivered engaging presentations that covered the types of drugs most commonly encountered, the psychological and physiological effects of drug use, and the legal implications associated with drug possession and use. These presentations were tailored to be age-appropriate and relatable, ensuring that the information was accessible and impactful.

Interactive Sessions:

The program included interactive sessions where students could ask questions and participate in discussions. This interactive approach helped demystify drugs and dispel myths, while also providing a safe space for students to express their concerns and curiosities.

Preventive Strategies:

The students were introduced to practical strategies for resisting peer pressure and making healthy choices. This included role-playing scenarios, developing refusal skills, and understanding the importance of choosing friends who respect their decisions.

CONCLUSION

The drug awareness program underscored the importance of early intervention and education in preventing drug abuse among students. By leveraging the exper-

tise and relatability of MSW students, the program successfully conveyed critical messages about the risks associated with drug use. This initiative is a crucial compo-

nent of a broader strategy to promote health and safety in educational environments, equipping students with the knowledge and confidence to lead drug-free lives.



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT

On Saturday evening, a meeting was held with the youth of Kannagi Nagar to discuss the Central Government's Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan scheme, facilitated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Introduction to the Scheme:

Br. Ronald provided an overview of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan scheme, highlighting its aim to promote youth development through various sports and extracurricular activities.

Explanation of Benefits and Enrollment Process:

Mr. Gopal elaborated on the steps for joining the scheme, emphasizing the numerous benefits it offers, including skill development, leadership train-



ing, and community engagement opportunities.

During the discussion, there was a misunderstanding among a group of youngsters regarding the scheme and the youth club's role. This issue was addressed, and efforts were made to clarify any confusion.

Community Outreach

On Sunday, we conducted visits to several homes of children who attend local tuition classes. The visits were part of our ongoing effort to support educational initiatives and ensure a supportive learning environment for all students.