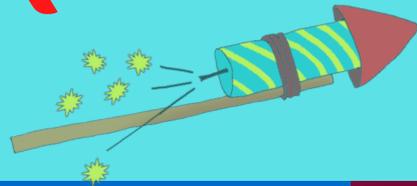




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OUTREACH AT SHELTER DON BOSCO

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STAFF & STUDENTS CORNER

HOW CAN YOU HELP!!!!!!!



be light to the world

**FR. LESTER FERNANDES SDB
DIRECTOR**

Shortly, the season of festivals will be upon us. Diwali, the festival of lights, and Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. Both festivals are celebrated with much food, festivity and fun.

Firecrackers are a big part of our Diwali celebrations. But behind this explosive happiness and gaiety, very few are aware that poverty-stricken children in our society form a major part of the labour force that manufactures these crackers; largely in Sivakasi in South India. This industry is rife with risk for the employees - children in particular - for a host of reasons. In the factories, there are poor safety practices. The owners and those in charge abuse the children's illiteracy, and their childlike innocent respect for elders and those in authority.



For the children slaving in these factories, there is little to celebrate and very little light in their lives. While some of us play with firecrackers, these children pay with their lives. Very few out in the world pay attention. After all, the show must go on.

This Diwali and Christmas, although I am all for celebrating our festivals that are rich in meaning, I invite you to remember the little known, dark side of these festivities. Diwali is not, and cannot be, the festival of lights unless we do what we can to illuminate and eliminate the darkness that is child labour in our society. In this newsletter, we will explain what we, at Shelter Don Bosco, are doing to illuminate the dark places that exist in the city through our outreach work.

May Christ, the Light of the World, lead us in bringing light to our world.



ठरवीत रड the young on the street

There are many young people on the streets who have different needs, most of which change with changing times. Before the lockdown, the young on the streets had different avenues to earn their daily bread which also included (for some) the “solution” (the sniff of which is a proven hunger killer). These youth are mostly rag-pickers frequenting railway platforms to pick up plastic and other valuable items which could be sold for money. With the lockdown enforced, all these places which were earlier easily accessible to collect the rubbish were now out of bounds. They then had to resort to lingering around places where they knew someone would come to distribute food packets which would very often be a pack of bland, soggy khichdi. But the young men and women of the streets have always been survivors and so a few who didn't have a family to return to, stayed on and survived.



Another group of vulnerables were families that live on pavements, in shanties, or under flyovers or in cement pipes. Those with children always lived in precarious situations. Education was never so much of a concern than food. Many took shelter in the BMC-run shelter homes where at least their three meals a day were assured. Regular supply of masks and sanitizers was also taken care of. But in reality they never used any these.

Shelter Don Bosco, Wadala, though a Child Care Institute with resident children to care for, strives in many ways to cater to the changing needs of the marginalized youth. When the lockdown initially began last year, the immediate need was food. With the help of another NGO and some of our past pupils, Shelter Don Bosco, Wadala delivered packets of Khichdi in the areas of Matunga, Dadar and Mahim. It was during this time that we realized the real plight of those on the streets. The closed shutters of shops became temporary shelters for the homeless and also served as landmarks for us to locate them. Some of them who would request for two packets of khichdi told us that this khichdi was the only meal they would have the entire day.



There were also a few migrants in these areas who were walking with their entire bag and baggage to the nearest Railway terminus to catch a train to their native village. At times we even offered to drop them off a certain distance so that they don't have to walk the entire length. Till date Shelter Don Bosco continues to reach out to many more youngsters who are in need of help especially during these pandemic times.



activities at a glance

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

15th August 2021, was celebrated with loads of fun and animated games in honor of Mother Mary and on the occasion of the 75th Independence day for India at Don Bosco Matunga. The evening began with a solemn procession in the campus followed by the inauguration by Fr. Lester Fernandes. With the inauguration began the animated games organized for the boys by Bro. Vishal and group of volunteers.



RAKSHABANDHAN @ SHELTER DON BOSCO

The women staff of Shelter Don Bosco celebrated the festival of Rakshabandhan on 21st August 2021. Traditionally a Hindu festival where in a sister ties a piece of sacred thread on the wrist of her brother thereby investing him with the responsibility of care and protection. The smiles on the faces of the boys does convey the fun and excitement that accompanies this festival yet maintaining the sacredness of this tradition.

STAY FIT, KEEP HEALTHY!!!

A general health check along with an eye and dental checkup was organized for our boys and staff on 4th September 2021. In collaboration with the Rotary Club of Bombay Pier & Rotract Club of Medicrow a team of medical doctors and students made their expertise available in helping the boys of Shelter Don Bosco stay fit and healthy.



SELF CARE WEEK

Shelter Don Bosco observed 23rd September to 29th September 2021 as Self Care Week with a strategic timeout to focus on the emotional, physical, social, spiritual and personal health of the boys of our institute. A series of short, crisp and valuable sessions were organized by our in house counsellor and therapist, Ms. Nidhi.

GO TEAM!!! GLORY AWAITS

Our boys from Shelter Don Bosco participated in a friendly football tournament organized by the Bosco community sports club on 26th September 2021. 3 of our boys made us proud by being awarded the best goal keeper, highest goal scorer and the best player of the tournament. This tournament has in a way brought out the importance of staying fit and healthy through active games.



शिल्ल ठपार बठपुइ

माझी कला चित्रकला

जोसेफ अँथोनी कॅबरेल

मी जोसेफ, मला चित्रकला खूप आवडते. मला चित्रकला येते आणि मला त्यात खूप बक्षीस मिळाले. कधीकधी उपविजेता तर कधी तिसरा क्रमांक आणि एका स्पर्धेमध्ये मला ५००० रुपये देखील मिळाले ते पण पहिला क्रमांकाने. त्यात माझं खूप कौतुक केलं या कारणामुळे मला चित्रकला अधिक आवडू लागली आपलीशी वाटू लागली.

माझी चित्रकला लोकांसोबत मला देखील आवडते. हि कला मला देवाने दिले आहे कि नाही माहित नाही ? पण मला एक समजले मी काय करू शकतो. हि कला मला देण्यार्याचे मी आभारी आहे. काही सुंदर चित्र माझ्या हातून घडत आहे. या चित्रकलेमुळे मी काही पैसे बँकेत ठेवले आहे आणि यातूनच मी मोठा झालो कि माझ्या गरजा पूर्ण करणार आहे.



आता माझी हि कला चित्रकला माझ्यात कशी आली मी ती गोष्ट सांगणार आहे .मी सध्या शेल्टर डॉन बॉस्को या संस्थेत राहतो त्याआधी मी बी.जे.होम या संस्थेत राहत होतो . मी पाचवीत होतो तेव्हा मी एका खेळणीच्या खोलीत खेळायला जायचो. तेथे मला एका शिक्षकांनी खूप प्रेमाने चित्रकला हा विषय काय आहे ते समजविले आणि शिकविले. त्यांनी मला चित्रकलेची वही आणि इतर साहित्य दिले आणि शिकवण्यास सुरु केले. मला पहिल्यांदा फक्त मुलांचे चेहरा बनवता येत होता.आता त्या चेहर्यापासून पूर्ण शरीर देखील बनवता येत. त्या संस्थेत मी चित्रकला काढायला शिकलो . शेल्टर मध्ये मी ती आवड जोपासली आणि मला प्रत्येक वेळी त्यासाठी मला मदत केली जाते प्रोस्ताहन दिले जाते.

मला रंगाने खेळायला आवडते .माझ्याकडे अस एक देखील पुस्तक नाही ज्या मध्ये माझी कला दिसत नाही. मी आता वेगवेगळी चित्र पाहतो आणि ते हुबेहूब करण्याचा प्रयत्न करतो. मला मोठा होऊन खूप मोठा चित्रकार व्हायचं. माझ्या चित्राचं प्रदर्शन ठेवयाच “ माझ्यातली कला मला लोकापर्यंत पोहचवायचं , मला माझी कला जपायचं” .

शिल्ल ठपार इर्षी

MY EXPERIENCE @ SHELTER DON BOSCO

Nidhi Choudhary
Inhouse Counsellor



Some upfront and some too shy to talk, one by one innocently asking me my name, that is how I met the shelter boys. It's been just a few months, but I feel like I have known these kids for years.

It takes courage and strength to open up to someone new, and even more so when you have to vent or be vulnerable with that person. These boys coming up to me and asking me for sessions themselves, has been a huge step in establishing a bond with them. One can clearly see that there is a high amount of resilience in these kids. What I have observed is that they tend to keep moving forward, standing firm, as they turn pages to the new chapters of their life. All I can say is, learning about these kids, understanding their different stories and backgrounds, has given me a new perspective towards life itself. And I look forward to learning more from them in my journey as a counsellor here.



how can you help

WITHOUT THE COMMITMENT OF DONORS LIKE YOU WE CANNOT FULFILL THE GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE CHILDREN AND ALSO TO MEET THE STANDARDS REQUIRED OF US BY VARIOUS LOCAL AND GOVERNMENT BODIES. ANY SURPLUS FUNDS SUPPORT OUR PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS FOR AFTER-CARE AND EX-BOYS. YOUR CONTRIBUTION ALSO SUPPORTS OUR STAFF AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO SHARE IN THE SAME MISSION. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR CONTRIBUTING TO OUR WORK AND OUR VISION OF A JUST AND HEALTHY SOCIETY FOR CHILDREN.



FOR LOCAL DONATIONS

BANK NAME : UNION BANK
(erstwhile Corporation Bank)
BRANCH NAME : WADALA BRANCH
BENEFICIARY NAME : SHELTER DON BOSCO
BRANCH CODE NO. : 106
BANK ADDRESS: 42, G. D. AMBEDKAR MARG
INDIAN PRINTING HOUSE
NEAR RAM MANDIR
OPP. WADALA POST OFFICE
WADALA WEST
MUMBAI – 400 031
BANK TELEPHONE NO : +91 7710063946
BENEFICIARY A/C NO: 520101063188021
(15 digit Number)
ACCOUNT TYPE : Savings
SWIFT CODE NO : CORPINBB
RTGS/ NEFT IFSC NO : UBIN0901067
RTGS/NEFT/ECS : 520101063188021
MICR CODE NO : 400026219

FOR FOREIGN DONATIONS

The following a/c details are compliant with the amended section 17 (1) of the Foreign Contribution (regulation) Act, 2010.

BANK NAME : State Bank of India
BENEFICIARY NAME :SHELTER DON BOSCO
ACCOUNT NO : 40102524501
(FCRA SAVINGS ACCOUNT)
BRANCH CODE : 00691
IFSC CODE : SBIN0000691
SWIFT CODE : SBININBB104
ADDRESS : FCRA Cell, 4th Floor,
State Bank of India,
New Delhi Main Branch, 11,
Sansad Marg, New Delhi – 110001
BANK CONTACT : 011 – 23374390 / 4392 /
4143
BANK EMAIL : fcra.00691@sbi.co.in