INspirational Stories Worth Sharing

Shahul Hamid

Amidst the few fortunate ones, Shahul Hamid who had a very dramatic past. When he was just 5-year-old kid, his lost his mother in a train journey where they got separated by the crowd in Delhi. A hotel owner spotted Shahul (promised) to look after him, but was treated very badly by the hotelier’s wife. After running away from Delhi, he ended up in ‘The City of Dreams’, Mumbai, where he got a little ray of hope. A staff member rescued him from the street life and brought him to the Shelter where the life turned to a U-turn. He took keen interest in learning things and rejoiced himself with education. He successfully completed his M.S. W. from Bangalore and now, he is working at Kohli Education Foundation in Donini as the educational cell in charge so that he could help kids who had a background similar to him who struggled and have no one to look after. On the personal front he continues to search for his mother. He is very grateful to Shelter Don Bosco for creating opportunities in his life to succeed and intends to the same for needy youngsters.

Mukesh Singh

A Lorenzo boy, Mukesh grew up in a squatter district of Rajpur in Jammu & Kashmir. He was persuaded by his friends to leave the small town and accompany them to experience life in big cities. However, he deserted by his friends the moment they reached Delhi. He worked on the road to feed himself. From there, somehow, he reached Mumbai, after few weeks of struggle, he was found by the outreach staff of Distras station and brought to the Shelter. He was assigned a tutor and exposed to sports. He discovered his love for football and took part in several tournaments. After completing his 12th exams, he did a technical training course in Design in Don Bosco Institute in Chinchwad, Pune and got a job as an electrician. He has gone from strength to strength after that first step. He pursued a course in Hotel Management and bartending in the same institute and earned a prestigious job in a restaurant in Jaipur in his dream. He starts a food and drink jobs abroad now. Sometimes, he visits railway stations and speaks to the young children living there, counselling them and hoping that this could bring similarity change in their lives.

Volunteering Experience

We truly believe that we just do not need knowledge, but also wisdom, and wisdom comes with experience. Our experience of spending first few days in Shelter Don Bosco has taught us the different situations that life can showcase. Every child is a difficult past story, yet they don’t complain; whereas most of us with so much, cry over such little things. At Shelter, each day becomes memorable which will be etched in our memories forever. The smile on the children’s faces are brighter than the sun that have 15 up in 15. We have come across different personalities and a great outlook to the staff of the Shelter who actually sacrifice and work for these kids tirelessly – Vishaka Patvardhak BTCC.

SHELTER DON BOSCO SAMACHAR

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK...

Dear Readers,

Let me begin with a moving story of one amazing man, Pastor Jeremias Souz.

Pastor Jeremias Souz transformed himself from a homeless youth and spent 33 years managing the village where he was to be introduced as the head pastor that morning. He walked around his room to his church for 30 minutes while it was filling with people for the service. As 10 people out of 100 people people had to be fed, he had to do the change in the church. He went to the sanctuary to sit down in the front of the church and was turned by the usher. The other people who were praying for him. He formed people to be greeted with love and after lunch, with people looking down on him and judging him. As he sat in the back of the church, he listened to the church announcements and notice. When all that was done, the elders went up on stage to introduce the new pastor of the church to the congregation. We would like to introduce his son, Pastor Jeremias Souz. The congregation looked around with joy and mixed emotions. The homily was given by the new pastor and as he walked up the stairs and said the entrance prayer from the altar and passed on a message. Then he said, “Today the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was stranger and you invited me to your home, I was sick and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in or clothed you or visited you in prison and you visited me?’ The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whenever you did these things for one of the least of these brothers and sisters, you did it for me.’”

Finally, he said: “Today is a gathering of people and our church of Jesus Christ. The world has enough people but not enough disciples. Where do you want to be this Christmas? He then distributed the service will start.”

As we approach Holy Christmas and New Year, we are not only reminded to show the giving to God and in one another for all the blessings that have been received during this year. On behalf of the management, staff and boys, I like to wish such to you Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2019. In this coming year may Angelic God, peace and prosperity be kind and generous, not only to those who are good looking but also those from whom we are not expected.

Warms Regards,
Fr. Greg, Almadora C.S.S.

Book Post

After Care Directors will be instrumental for the marginalised youth above 18 years of age.
This director will not only guide our grantees who are at risk after 18 but will also help different NGOs who want to place their children in the right organization.

Shelter Grateful to Don Bosco for a Collection of Success Stories of the Boys of Tact Centers. This book is dedicated to Late Vijayveer Rodrigues SDB, Alexandra who allowed us to share love and care for the young at risk who are lost, lonely and destitute.

SHELTER DON BOSCO

DON BOSCO AMONG US

INspirational Stories Worth Sharing

Shelter Don Bosco is extremely grateful to the Volunteers from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Nimrata Nikam, Vidya Shankar, Sr. Xavier’s, Sr. Andrews., BTCC and other Colleges & Parishes, Dear Volunteers, You all have made a big difference in transforming the lives of our children.

Book Post


Charities/Dinosaurs are drawn in favour of Shelter Don Bosco.

For further information contact:
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DINAMICOS QUIETOS"
DON BOSCO AMONG US

Beti Padhao, Aage Badhao
On the occasion of International Girl Child Day, girls from the neighboring slum areas were invited to Shelter Don Bosco on the 14th of October 2017. The program began with a prayer and a moving talk by the Rector Fr. Gregory Alfredo. He encouraged the girls to get well educated and help each other to fight for their rights, which was reinforced with few inspiring educational videos. The volunteers from Bombay Teacher’s Training College assisted these girls to list down their problems and common solutions through open discussion and chat activities in groups. As the entertainment, truth games were organized followed by a dance session. The program ended with a sumptuous meal and gifts for all.

Diwali Dhamal
The National Festival lights up the hearts of our boys with series of celebrations in various ways. It began with delightful open-air Mumbai Dental Bar tours.

The evenings were arranged with creative games, curious quizzes and hearty dance competitions. The best was reserved for the last as boys enjoyed safe Diwali crackers. The bright smiles of our children lit up the atmosphere around.

Guru Deva Bhava
Teachers are like candles, they consume themselves to light the way for others. With immense joy Shelter Don Bosco invited all the school teachers associated with us. Boys performed energetic dances with a soul-stirring speech of gratitude. Symbolically, each teacher was presented with a sapling for their importance of nurturing our children’s love and affection.

Double Celebration
In the patriotic spirit, 15th August was the occasion for the double celebration as it coincided with Jammasinhji, which is celebrated on the Independence Day. Mr. Jishoy Chinoy, the alumnus of Don Bosco, Matunga was the Chief Guest for the event. It was followed by the patriotic cultural program and fascinating Karate skills demonstration. Traditional Dahi-Handi breaking with human pyramid was the peak of the day for the boys as never, buckets of water could hold them back. At the end of it, all were soaked in joyous ambiance.

Monthly Melas
The monthly event of Shelter Don Bosco, Monthly Melas Celebration of 20th functions with a purpose of spreading an alarming awareness on current issues and problems of the street boys. During the past few months, subjects such as Skin diseases, HIV and moral duties like the respect for women and other religions with the knowledge on festivals were addressed. Apart from the Awareness, the monthly melas are celebrated with ample amount of entertainment, which includes varied games, activities and movies. If enabled many outreach boys to be aware of consciousness hence it has literally pulled them out of their hostile situation of instability to stability and tranquility.

CELEBRATIONS

PROVINCIAL VISIT

Our Provincial, Rev. Fr. Gaulby D’Souza CGBE, came on an official visitation to review and evaluate the projects running at Shelter Don Bosco and Don Bosco Begumpet on 23rd and 24th November 2017. During his interaction with the staff, he highlighted the Salesian educational model based on Peace, Religion and Loving-Kindness. A special cultural program was set to give him the glimpse of the talents of our boys in dance, drama and Karate. During his speech, he appreciated the combined efforts of the management, staff and the collaborators and encouraged the boys to seize the opportunities to make their dreams a reality.

Humble beginning of Shelter Don Bosco, Nashik
The proposed Shelter Don Bosco in Nashik started with an outreach activity to identify needs and problems of Young at Risk (YAR). The results were alarming as more than 50 children were identified in a short span of time!Engaging in economically underprivileged and abusive families. These children were school dropouts and often spent time in taking minor odd jobs, even adapted some malpractices to earn little income.

The victims of hate of the society face perpetual hunger and poverty, the children needed a cut off from the communities they belonged to, the very source of all the trouble they faced. We decided to provide a safe shelter, recreation and love to these children. Under the guidance of Fr. Gregory Alfredo, we set up the space for Shelter Home. The dorms genuinely3 filled with essentials things.

Fourteen most needy children arrived at the Shelter on 5th November 2017. We started study classes to teach them basic Math and how to read and write. The children follow a routine that includes exercise, meditation, meals, study, games, recreation, and special celebrations.

Rev Fr Provincial, during his visit to the Shelter asked, “What was that one thing that they said the most?” Sunny, a former rag-picker, whom we found on the railway station, answered, “I like to learn.” We believe that with your support, this new Shelter will become a means of hope for these children to become upright citizens of our country.

Sculptures are "Prepared"
Shelter Sculptures are "Prepared". We are proud to announce that Seventeen Shelter boys were initiated into Sculpting Movement on the auspicious occasion of Gandhi Jayanti in preparation for BOSCORES 2018 which is to be held in Nashik.

Fr. Rosasol Vaz was the chief guest who invested the boys by putting the badge on their shirts and wearing the apron in their presence.

After taking the solemn sculptor promiss, the sculpts beautifully demonstrated the sculptor's law and declared themselves as sculpts for life. Those new sculpts participated in the Provincial level GRMCO all-India and won the hearts of all.

Dental Camp
With the association of Angel Dental Network, Dental Camp was held on 9th December for our boys. These dentists formulated individual dental report for giving a brief understanding on any dental issues faced by children and subsequently the follow up was conducted.

We were delighted to have such a serene team of doctors among who had taken their precious time for maintaining good health and hygiene of our children.

Karate
A child can grow emotionally, academically and spiritually only when his physical and mental health is in uniformity. Shelter believes that making these kids engaged in the martial art would improve their overall performance and would build the child strong from within by recruiting trails such as discipline, self-confidence, self-defense and boosting their concentration power.

We are glad to inform that our boys won 10 medals (4 Gold, 3 Silver, 3 Bronze) in the 8th Shatranj karate championship. Special thanks to our instructor Mr. Albert Bhaware, Black Belt from KRA and our very own senior on-shelter boy Salman Khan, Black Belt who also assists in training the boys.