

BOSCONET

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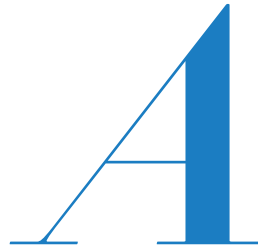
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES FOR BETTER LIVING



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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



world without compassion is a world without love. No matter how rich we are, our lives become empty and meaningless if we have no compassion toward others. To give to those in need is its reward; 'No one has ever become poor by giving.'

We do not choose the circumstances into which we are born, and those of us blessed to be born into privileged lives have an obligation to redress this imbalance. Our role is to provide a bridge between those who can help and those who need our help the most.

Floods, extreme weather conditions, livestock deaths added to countries' existing burden on communicable and non-communicable diseases. Climatic conditions affect people's health across the world, but the vulnerable groups in developing nations are the worst sufferers. They include the elderly, children, pregnant women, infants, the unborn, and those suffering from any underlying health-related condition.

Our programmes are driven by our mission – to work/ act as an agent of change to help the poorest of the poor access, actualize their rights, and live a dignified life.

On behalf of Bosconet- Don Bosco Network, I sincerely thank and acknowledge our partners for their incredible generosity and ongoing support.

*- Fr. Santhanam Ubagaram,
Director*

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1 The Season of Love, Joy and Giving

Christmas is the season of joy, celebration, and love. But above all, it is the season of giving.

Bosconet held a program at Don Bosco Ashalayam to celebrate Christmas with the children and families living under the Palam bridge, Delhi.

The program was attended by special guests Ms. Sophie Triller, Windisch Political Attachée; Mr Michael Pal, Director of the Austrian Cultural Forum, Austrian Embassy; Fr. Jose Mathew, Secretary, SPCSA; Fr. Santhanam, Director, Bosconet and the Bosconet staff.

The day was filled with love and fun activities such as performance by the kids, cake cutting and munching on snacks. It ended on a good note with the children receiving a bounty of Christmas gifts – blankets, sweaters, cakes, while ration kits were received by their families, truly bringing out the joy of the Christmas Season.



2 Appreciating Culture through Talent



Bosconet- Don Bosco Network organised a Cultural Programme in partnership with Macquarie. These children live under the Palam flyover with their families and attend the nearby school, facilitated by Ms. Sonia, a Bosconet team member.

The performances were a testament to the fact that children with capabilities will prove themselves if given opportunities. It was indeed an amazing experience to see the children showcase their talent and skills.

3 The Celebration of Love and Harmony

Raksha Bandhan symbolises the unmatched bond of love, care and respect. To cherish this bond, Bosconet celebrated the festival of Raksha Bandhan in 3 malls in Kolkata. Rakhis were tied on behalf of the destitute children in the shelters of Don Bosco. The activity turned out to be quite eventful. The supporters contributed generously to help the little children receive the gift of education and take a stand in their life with dignity.



4 Birthday Celebration of Don Bosco

August 16 is always a special day. It is, in fact, the day on which the anniversary of Don Bosco's birth is celebrated.

This year, Bosconet- Don Bosco Network celebrated the Birth Of Don Bosco at the Mani Square Mall. A special cake, with the picture of St. Don Bosco was cut and chocolates were distributed to the Supporters.



5 Spreading Hopes and the Joy of True Giving



As India celebrated the 75th Amrit Mahotsav of Independence, Bosconet did not forget about the millions of deprived and destitute children. For a true, independent nation means every child and youth gets a platform to live life with Dignity, nourished food and quality education. Celebrating India's 75th Independence Day, our team in Kolkata encouraged people to come forward, take a stand and Support a child in need.

We were embraced by supporters, in celebrating the Joy of true giving as the spirit of Independence prevailed.

6 The Joy Of True Giving - Daan Utsav

Celebrated every year in the month of October, Daan Utsav is India's biggest festival of giving. People come together and perform acts of kindness by giving their time, material or money. With utter joy in our hearts, this year Bosconet- Don Bosco Network celebrated Daan Utsav with the theme to help girls STAY IN SCHOOL.

We received overwhelming response by our supporters to help bring joy into the lives of girls by fulfilling their wishes.



7 For a Cleaner, Greener Environment



Don Bosco institutions have long worked towards a sustainable and greener environment.

Taking a step towards a greener future, Bosconet, in collaboration with MES College and Bogmalo Panchayat and private citizens planted 2000 fruiting and flowering saplings at Bogmalo, Chicalim, Zuarinagar, Sancoale, Cortalim, Vasco, Velsao

8 Don Bosco For Andhra Pradesh Floods

Incessant rains hit several suburbs in Andhra Pradesh, triggering flash floods in many parts and inundating several residential areas. The downpour threw everyday life out of gear as the public had a tough time wading through waist-deep

water. As a part of the Flood Relief efforts, Don Bosco Network-Bosconet, through its partner Amazon distributed 1000 Emergency flood shelter kits to families in Andhra Pradesh.



9 Towards Rescue and Relief

The state of Assam was ravaged by unprecedented floods in June 2022. Millions were affected across 4500 villages. The Floods weakened the river embankments at several places, causing the water levels to increase beyond danger levels, and submerging several parts even after the rains had temporarily subsided.

Marginalised families were displaced from their homes as floodwaters destroyed their houses. Houses, livestock, and agricultural produce were destroyed, creating a widespread humanitarian crisis.

Bosconet- Don Bosco Network, with the support of Amazon, Nestle and Give India, as a part of its disaster relief response, addressed the critical needs of the vulnerable communities, shifting them to relief camps and supporting them through (7723*) Flood Relief Kits, Dry ration kits and hygiene materials through its partner PDOs- Don Bosco Development Society, AIDA, Bosco Reach Out Don Bosco, Silchar and BIDS- Shillong.

10 Rehabilitation through Education



Bosconet, in collaboration with LIC-HFL, enrolled 510 children in 11 remedial education centres operating in Howrah, West Bengal to bridge the gap between the academic and offset learning losses experienced due to dropping out of schools. The children were given educational materials for the current and upcoming academic year. Various activities were conducted to encourage and empower the children:

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED:

- A one-day training for the teachers to fine tune the teaching skills.
- Child right training with help of the District Childline. Topics dealt were child protection, hygiene, and need of education in life.
- Parents Meeting for the parents of beneficiaries, wherein the District Childline gave necessary inputs like child protection, Hygiene, Immunization, Government Schemes, Child Marriage and need of sending the children to school regularly.

11 Supportive Education and Empowerment Program (SEEP)

Bosconet in collaboration with MSM Worldwide Factual Pvt. Ltd, is implementing an education support and child-rights training project, benefiting 1806 children from deprived rural households in the backward villages of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu states.

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED:

- 60 remedial education centers to improve learning outcomes and prevent school dropout.
- Workshops for the beneficiaries on topics related to child rights every month.
- Festivals Celebration to give the children a platform to showcase their talents, develop confidence and to participate in recreational activities.



12 Action Towards Education

Bosconet in collaboration with PWC conducted Remedial education classes at NITIKA Don Bosco for children living in the slums of Kolkata. These children were dropouts, struggling with academics at school. 450 children were given educational support and provided with educational aids and nutritional items.

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED:

- **2 Day Capacity Building Training** by Don Bosco Development Office Calcutta in collaboration with FADV on Psychosocial wellbeing for the teachers and staff of Nitika Don Bosco tuition centre to empower them to support the psychosocial needs of the children.
- **Celebration of Teacher's day and Children's day**



13 Empowering the leaders of tomorrow



Bosconet in collaboration with PWC gave remedial educational support and provided educational aids and nutritional items weekly to 390 Children.

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED:

- **Child Rights Awareness Programme** with Mr. Ramaswamy (Member of CWC and the Juvenile Justice Board) focused on an interactive session, educating them on the basic rights of children
- **Life-Skills Training** focusing on providing input on time management.
- **Parents Meeting** with around 30 parents, regarding the performance of their children in academics and their behavioural development.
- **Diwali and Children's Day Celebration**

14 Improving Livelihood Outcomes through Tree Plantation

Bosconet promotes sustainable lifestyle choices, production, and consumption patterns through awareness creation, skill training, and partnerships. In collaboration with UPS, Bosconet implemented a tree plantation project at Wadi, Palghar District, Maharashtra. The beneficiaries were women from 16 tribal households who live Below Poverty Line (BPL)

A total of 640 saplings were planted on 8 Acre of land. The yield expected from the orchards is expected to generate an additional income of Rs. 45,000-Rs. 50,000/- for each beneficiary household within the next two years.



Thinking and Planning For Good- SDB Change Congress

The SDB Change Congress was a Salesian initiative to provide solutions and guidelines for the Salesian Congregation to respond to the current socioeconomic and environmental changes, thereby creating a network among participants to prepare for the future.

The event took place from Sept. 19 - 23, at the Salesian Pontifical University, Rome. Several well-known leaders and highly skilled elite experts in different fields shared their knowledge and perspectives on-

- **Sustainable Economy**
- **Salesian Spirituality and Leadership**
- **Artificial Intelligence**
- **Communication Of the Future**
- **Prevention of Corruption.**

BOSCONET surveyed 12 Planning and Development Offices (PDOs) in India and Sri Lanka Salesian Don Bosco Provinces, focusing on the current structural functions and functional relationships of various commissions and departments across the province, as articulated in the guidance document.

National Coordinator, Mr. Louis Manohar presented the findings and discussions of the survey under the guidance of Father Noel Maddichetty and Father Santhanam Ubagaram, raising some important questions, challenges, and recommendations in implementing the model. Critical analysis was widely welcomed and used for further discussion and planning.



Capacity Building of PDO Executives and Annual General Assembly

Each year, the Annual General Body Meet takes into account the previous year's activity, reviews growth, and makes plans for future efforts as a network.

This year the theme of the capacity building initiative was "Leading, Engaging, and Accelerating Development" (LEAD), held on 14 and 15 November 2022 at Don Bosco Media Centre, Manikandam, Trichy. "Leadership skill pertaining to non-profit organisation" was the topic on 14 November by Mr. Santiago (Development Consultant) and Mr. John Britto Parisutham (Founder, JOBA/Global Giving Group).

On 15 November 2022, Dr. Murugesan, Ph.D. (Prof & Consultant, Govt. Law College, Trichy) enlightened the members on the various labour laws and the important norms to

comply with, followed by an online session about the recent FCRA, IT, various IT exemption rules, and other associated issues by Dr. M. Kandasami (Chartered Accountant). Mr. Reinhard Heiser (JEW, Austria) enlightened the members about the expectations of standards and quality from the donors' perspective (online). This was followed by the technical suggestions on asset management shared online by Mr. Sumit Bhatia and Mr. Neeraj Chandan from Macquarie Group, Gurugram.

The Annual General Body meeting was held on the third day, 16 November 2022. The minutes and the status of the tasks of the previous AGB were read by Mr. Louis Manohar (National Coordinator, DBN-SA). Fr. George (Asst. Director, BOSCONET) presented the Annual Report 2021-22. The Executives of the PDOs presented their best practices, success

models, and achievements. Bro. John Paul Muller, SDB, Economist General, addressed the members online about the importance of networking and capacity building as a continuous process. Mrs. Silvia Cromm, Chief Program Officer, DB Mondo, Bonn, and the members had an online interactive discussion and shared and learned the various aspects and challenges of networking and capacity building. Mr. Louis then presented the annual plan of BOSCONET DBN-SA for the financial year 2023-24.

Followed by these, the members were engaged in discussions and suggestions by Fr. Santhanam (Director, BOSCONET) on the annual plan, the proposed capacity-building initiatives, and various issues pertaining to network meetings, requirements for the projects & reports. The AGM concluded with a thank note from the members.



Highest Donors during the period of July '22 - Dec '22

We value and appreciate the social concern of our Donors, who continually go beyond their constraints and challenges to reach out to the people in need.

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If you feel inspired to give of yourself to any of our initiatives, you can contact us or donate directly to BOSCONET by visiting our donations page -
<https://donations.bosconet.in/>



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