

Director's Message

Fr. Joy Nedumparambil SDB
Executive Director
BREADS Bangalore



Let's reimagine a better future for our children!

This message of World Children's Day is appropriate for Christmas too as we celebrate the birth of the Christ child, who also faced deprivations as a vulnerable child from a vulnerable community. The Christmas story is powerful not only because of divine intervention in human life but also because of inspired human intervention in supporting other lives. We are all invited to participate in this process of creating an equitable, bright future for the world's children.



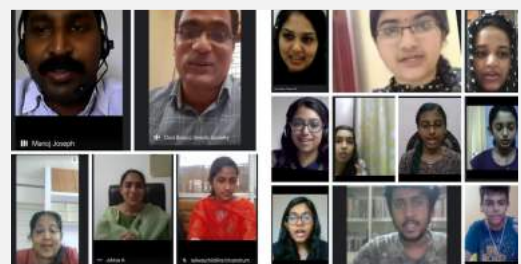
**A masked but merry Christmas from all of us at BREADS!
A happy, healthy New Year too!**

World Children's Day 2020

Against the backdrop of the COVID 19 pandemic, with the global attention of governments and planning agencies focussed on health security, food scarcity and depressed economies, the rights of children hardly took priority, leading to the worsening of the harsh realities of children in India. Themed *Masked not Muted*, World Children's Day 2020 was an occasion to recall the attention of governments and those in power to a plan to protect our children:

- ◆ Ensure all children learn, including by closing the digital divide.
- ◆ Guarantee access to health and nutrition services, and make vaccines affordable and available to every child.
- ◆ Support and protect the mental health of children and young people and bring an end to abuse, gender-based violence, and neglect in childhood.
- ◆ Increase access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene, and address environmental degradation and climate change.
- ◆ Reverse the rise in child poverty and ensure an inclusive recovery for all.
- ◆ Redouble efforts to protect and support children and their families living through conflict, disaster and displacement.

The Don Bosco partners across Kerala and Karnataka joined BREADS in focussing on the protection and promotion of child rights during November 14 - 20, 2020. This Child Rights week was dedicated to advocacy, promoting and celebrating children's rights, translating into dialogues and actions to build a better future for children.



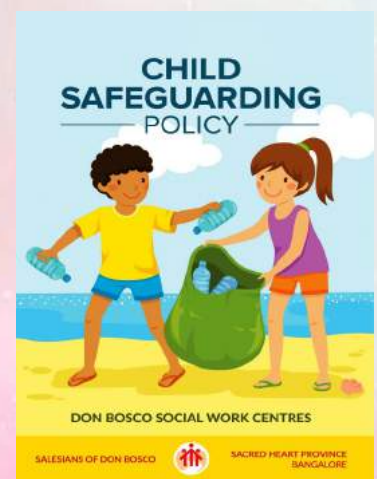
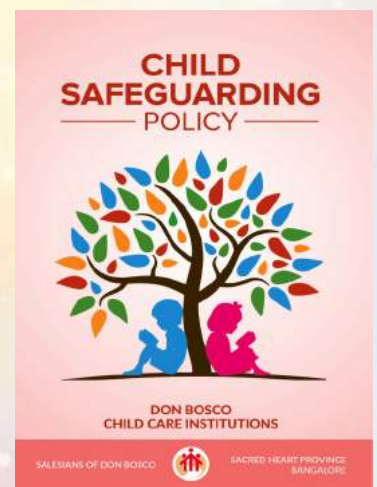
Sl.No	DISRICTS	ACTIVITIES
1	Bangalore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness building for children through essay, poster, slogan competitions • Submission of memorandums against child trafficking by children and building ties with friendship bands in 6 police stations • Public awareness campaigns on child trafficking and child rights through 2600 posters and digital media
2	Bidar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taluk-level advocacy meetings in Santpur, Bhalki and Bagdal with the Child Development Programme Officer (CDPO), ASHA workers, PHC doctors, nurses and Anganwadi teachers • Facilitation of 11 children's grama sabhas where children discussed the proposed increased age of marriage for girls, increased risk of child labour, child marriage and other exploitations during the pandemic. Children expressed disappointment towards the concerned authorities who did not prevent child marriages during the COVID lockdowns • Awareness and cultural competitions in Solpur on child rights themes
3	Ballari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session on Child Rights and Gender for children in Hospet by Mr. Raghavendra H.C from the Karnataka State Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR) • Cultural events and competitions on child rights themes
4	Chitradurga	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual dialogue among child rights clubs (CRC) children and the government child welfare agencies—DCPO, CHILDLINE, SJPU, CWC and DWCD—to discuss child rights violations during the pandemic and the interventions required
5	Davangere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness rally on violence against children in Kakkaragolla in collaboration with the gram panchayat • Drawing competitions for children in Government Boys Home (25 inmates) & Government Girls Home (34 inmates) • Sports day conducted at Don Bosco Boys Care home, Alurhatti • Public awareness on COVID 19 and precautions with distribution of masks and sanitisers in Davangere city
6	Kalaburagi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inauguration of Child Rights week at the Department of Women and Child Development (WCD), including cultural events, competitions and games for children from the streets and slums, child care institutions and the Don Bosco Rehabilitation centre, Bablad • <i>Namma Hakku Nimma Dhvani</i> (Our rights, your voice)— A virtual meeting through the CRC of children from slums with government child welfare agencies CHILDLINE, DCPO, CWC, DWCP and CDPO
7	Mysuru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District-level advocacy programmes with government child welfare departments—WCD, Public Instruction, Child Protection, Labour, and Education • Stakeholders' child rights awareness programmes at the school levels for principals, block and cluster resource coordinators
8	Ramanagara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder trainings for WCD officials and Anganwadi teachers • NGO Network meeting to discuss challenges in ensuring a child-safe community • Requests to Gram Panchayat made for conducting Children's Grama Sabhas; 3 Children's Grama Sabhas conducted • After much follow-up, complaint boxes for children installed in 3 GP offices to facilitate direct complaints by children
9	Raichur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Rights training for Anganwadi teachers • NGO network meeting to collaborate on enhancing child safety measures in the district • Taluk-level advocacy meeting • Facilitation of 9 Children's Grama Sabhas • 7 Children's Day programmes including cultural events, competitions and games based on child rights themes

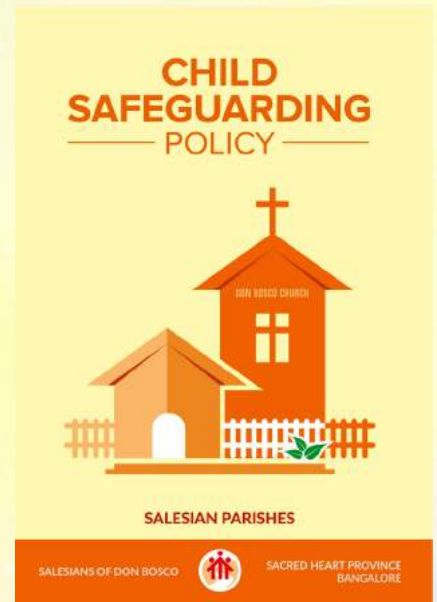
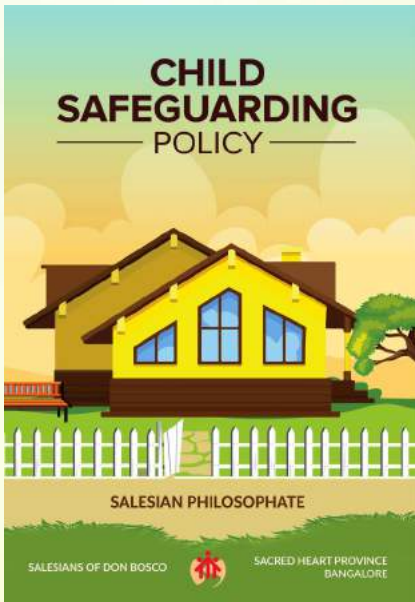
10	Yadgir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitation of 87 Children’s Grama Sabhas where children discussed the impact of COVID on children of marginalised, rural areas
11	Thiruvananthapuram	<p>A week-long celebration of World Children’s Day and the 20th anniversary of CHILDLINE included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release of a photostory on cyber safety <i>One Touch</i> by Ms. Harshitha Attaluri IPS -Inspector General, Kerala IPS Association Online webinars on increasing the legal marriage age of girls, menstrual hygiene, COVID precautions etc. Release of a CHILDLINE awareness video enacted by Sankaran of Sankaran Vlogs (a popular child vlogger)
12	Ernakulam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-day recreational programme for migrant children in Al-Mubarak UP school, Perumbavoor Don Bosco Palluruthy & CHILDLINE organised Child Rights Week for the centre children with thematic dramas

BREADS releases Child Safeguarding Policies

In its commitment to the well-being and realisation of the rights of children envisaged by both Don Bosco and the Universal Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), BREADS drafted 10 versions of Child Safeguarding Policies (CSPs) as supportive references for child-related sectors in the Salesian Province of Bangalore (Karnataka and Kerala). In addition to Province and BREADS guidelines, CSPs were drafted for childcare institutions, social work centres, schools, colleges, skill training centres, parishes, aspirantates, pre-novitiates, novitiates, philosophates, and the theologate. These CSPs were released for use by Fr. Joyce Thonikuzhiyil SDB, Provincial of the Salesian Province of Bangalore on 17 October 2020. He presented the first copy of the Province Child Safeguarding Guidelines to the Vice-Provincial, Fr. Jose Koyickal SDB in the presence of the Provincial team and BREADS Directors.

BREADS views child safeguarding not merely a project requirement, but as an integrated approach to its work that includes the care and protection of children, the selection and formation of staff and Salesians in the various institutions, the creation of safe environments, and protocols for reporting and response to child safeguarding issues, should they occur. Viewed as foundational documents to be further developed and adapted to the exact requirements of the implementing institutions, these CSPs were developed in a consultative and participatory manner with various stakeholders on the ground, including children themselves.





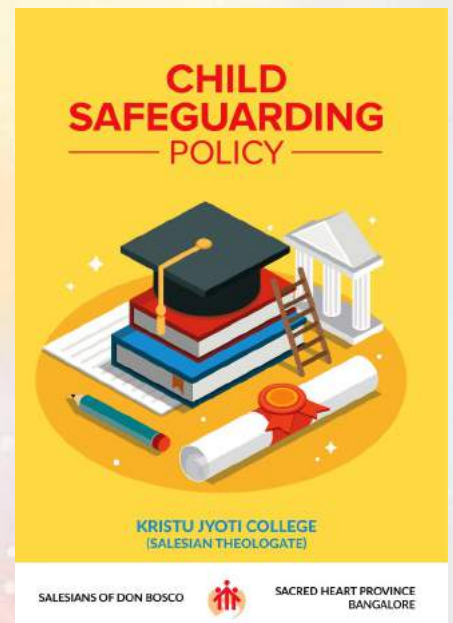
BREADS' Calendar

November 2020

- ◆ Batch 13 inauguration in DB BEST Academy, Bangalore
- ◆ Children's Day/Week celebrations in Don Bosco presences
- ◆ Release of BREADS Annual Report 2019-20

December 2020

- ◆ Training for CREAM project Directors and staff in Bangalore & Hospet
- ◆ Canonical visitation to BREADS by the Provincial, Sacred Heart Province, Bangalore
- ◆ Online training on Village Justice Committees for CREAM staff
- ◆ Christmas celebrations in Don Bosco presences



BREADS' Calendar

NEWS



COVID 19 relief drive for Siddi tribal hamlets in Yellapura and Ankola

BREADS Bangalore in collaboration with AIFO, Good Quest Foundation, Project Vision, Stonesoup, and Empowerment of Children and Human rights Organisation (ECHO) organised a COVID 19 relief drive.....[More](#)



Inauguration of the new skill training batch in DB BEST

The outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown created an inevitable impact on the skill training sector. During[More](#)



BREADS in Dialogues that Matter on Child Rights

The month of November being specially dedicated to children, *Dialogues* (an inspiring social space for individuals and teams to think,[More](#)



E-Autorickshaw training by FCDP & TMS commences

On 16 November 2020, under the auspices of the Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP) and the Theeradesha Mahila Society (TMS),[More](#)