

Director’s Message



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Seems like déjà vu but it’s real! Exactly a year later, we are again living through a worse phase of fear and uncertainty brought on by the second wave of severe infections caused by the mutated Corona virus. During this health emergency in India, once again, there is a severe shortage. This time, of medical help, hospital beds, oxygen and ventilators, in every state. People are suffering through illness, the loss of loved ones and livelihoods during lockdowns. It is painful to watch the situation without offering support, however small it might be. In this SLICE, we tell you what BREADS has started doing during this pandemonium; in partnership with YOU and other institutions. More initiatives are on the anvil.

The Situation to be Addressed

With huge waves of infections currently threatening us (564, 505 currently active cases in Karnataka and 423, 863 in Kerala; 3, 745, 237 in India according to MOHFW), and many infections becoming very serious conditions, everyone is urged to remain indoors, and states across India are going into various levels of lockdown to halt the contagion. It is hoped that this will provide respite to the healthcare system, which is in a state of collapse. The magnitude of the problem has overwhelmed unprepared administrations nationwide, prompting

non-governmental institutions and concerned groups of individuals to provide whatever emergency relief is possible, as they did during the first wave. Unfortunately, many critical interventions depend on resources such as oxygen, vaccines, medical centres governed by the State. Assessing the need of the situation and possible interventions, BREADS started with whatever was immediately possible to bring some succour to people, even as it initiated the procurement of oxygen concentrators for communities in desperate need.

BREADS Calendar

April

- Setting up of BREADS’ Migrant Help Desk in Bangalore
- CREAM programme review and staff training
- KISMAT programme review meeting

BREADS Calendar

May

- COVID relief initiatives

Delivering Care and Health with Nutritious Meals and Rations

With CORONA CARE Bengaluru



Many individuals and families who tested positive for COVID, or in quarantine, are unable to step out or cook nutritious food for themselves. BREADS along with its partners in CORONA CARE Bengaluru, stepped up to address this need, delivering cooked meals (lunch and dinner) for free to their homes for 14 days. CORONA CARE comprises of BREADS and other NGOs—The Good Quest Foundation, Project Vision, AIFO, and ECHO—who have been working together since March 2020 for COVID-19 relief. Together, they launched *Food at your Doorstep* on 26 April 2021, delivering free nutritious, vegetarian meals to the doorsteps of people in quarantine. The service will also provide groceries instead of meals if the family in quarantine is able to cook its own food.

The families in need of support are required to provide essential details in a request form to avail the service. These forms are received by the Beneficiary Relations Team, which tracks their locations. Volunteers assigned to various recipients, pick up the food



from the centralised kitchen and deliver it to their doorsteps, once a day.

The meals include wheat chapatis, a vegetable dish, rice, sambar, (eggs, pickle and fruits on alternate days). Safety precautions are mandatory while cooking the food and during delivery. All the volunteers on bikes (students and working professionals, both male and female) wear N95 masks, gloves, and head covers.



Starting with the East Bangalore region, the service was extended to South Bangalore and Whitefield as well. As of 7 May 2021, **4370** meals have been delivered to **2182** individuals (daily average of 79 families). As the word of the service got around, many individuals were inspired to contribute towards the cost of this initiative.

So, if you know anyone who needs a helping hand, use this [e-form](#) to register for the service. Spread the word and good health, through care and nutritious food!

Ms. Felcy, a volunteer for “Food to your Doorstep”, shares her experience.

One Monday afternoon, we came across a lady, around 38 years, who was a daily wager, living with her 2 younger sisters in a rented house. Strangely all the three were abandoned by their husbands and families. She said her sisters worked as domestic helpers in some apartments, while she herself was an attender in a private factory.

All three were asked to stay home as they were coughing badly and had high fevers. Their tests showed that they were severely anemic with hemoglobin counts of 6.2 and 5 grams/dL each, but luckily, they tested negative for COVID. None of them had any savings to sustain them during the lockdown. All they had could suffice for a week and they tried to sell some of their belongings to raise money but it couldn't feed them for more than 2 days. With their creditors pestering them and feeling let down by society in general, they had nowhere to escape.

They had been hungry for more than 3 days with high fever when they finally called us. The lady cried as she said she had come to the tipping point in her life. She was forced to accept her helplessness, and the one desperate solution she could think up was to sell her kidney, provide for her younger sisters and once the money was exhausted, to end her life. Hunger and the fear of losing her sisters prepared her to even sell herself for a single meal that day.

That day, someone from her workplace told her about “Food at your doorstep” and gave her the phone number of the Good Quest Foundation. That is how we got connected, and immediately arranged food for them on the first day. She mentioned that they also needed essentials—rations, toiletries and medicines for fever. Our volunteers were very keen to ensure they received what they needed. Service to them still continues.

After serving them, we felt that the very purpose of all the publicity about food distribution was to redeem these



FOOD AT YOUR DOORSTEP

For families that are COVID-19 positive & in quarantine at home.

It's **HYGIENIC NUTRITIOUS** and free (your contributions are welcome)

You will be in our care for the next 14 days.

Contact us at:
+91-9980870755
+91-9901899771
+91-9448071973

Stay safe and well!

BREADS
Bangalore Rural Educational And Development Society

PHASE 1 AREAS COVERED - EAST BANGALORE

RT NAGAR, SULTANPALYA, MUNIREDDY PALLYA, BENSON TOWN, FRAZER TOWN, COX TOWN, COOKE TOWN, LINGARAJAPURAM, JALAHALLI, HENNR, BANASWADI, KALYAN NAGAR, KAMMANAHALLI, TANNERY ROAD AND OTHER SURROUNDING AREAS.

CORONACARE Bengaluru

families that had lost hope in life. We were beyond happy to have received that call from her. You can rest assured that she and her sisters were fed, are alive and restored. We were happy to be instrumental in becoming the answer to somebody's prayers! Yet, who knows how many such unnoticed people were missed!

With ResponseNet



ResponseNet has donated 300 ration kits to BREADS for distribution to those families affected by the COVID lockdowns. It also provided 5800 packages of snacks for distribution to people in quarantine or affected by COVID.

Volunteering on the Frontlines of the COVID Battle

BREADS is providing financial support for the medical volunteering initiative of the Indian Catholic Youth Movement, led by Fr Anil D'Sa, a Salesian of Don Bosco from the Bangalore Province. In collaboration with the Camellian brothers, the initiative brings together 50 volunteers, training them to be Covid Warriors in hospitals in Bangalore city.



Trained by medical experts, the volunteers will assist nurses and doctors by taking care of the food, medicine, and other assistance to COVID patients in the ICUs and wards.

They will also serve as gofers, fetching necessary reports and medicines, thus easing the load on the nurses. It will not be easy, as they will need to live away from their families, under strict restrictions of behaviour


and movement, take onerous precautions of PPE kits and vaccination etc. What they undertake in full awareness of the risks involved, will truly bring relief and consolation not only to the patients but also desperately needed relief to the medical staff, who labour day in and out to fulfill their duties.



The service will begin from 1 May, 2021 in two hospitals—St. Martha's and St. Philomena's—in Bangalore.

We salute these youngsters for their courage and empathy. May God protect them and keep them safe. Many more such brave hearts are needed.

Initiatives by other Don Bosco houses supported by BREADS



Don Bosco
TEAM COVID
An initiative of Don Bosco
Youth under FCDP for Covid Relief
and Prevention

Services Provided

1. Vaccination Registration
2. PCR/Antigen Test booking and support
3. ICU/Non-ICU ambulance Service
4. Essential items for Quarantine Patients
5. Cooked Meals for Quarantine Patients
6. Volunteer service for door delivery of required items
7. Tele-counseling
8. Volunteers for Covid related Requirements
9. Supply of surgical masks for the needy for double masking
10. Awareness campaigns through public announcements

Mob: 9895754970, 8268000444
9745524207 Ph : 0474 2750652

- Fishermen Community Development Programme, Kollam, through the Don Bosco Youth has initiated many services to support people affected by COVID.

- A new Domiciliary Covid Centre was inaugurated at Don Bosco Central School, Angamaly on 6 May 2021, which can provide care for 60 patients. The centre will be managed by the Health department in association with the Municipality of Angamaly. Patients will be admitted from 7 May. A similar COVID centre was set up in the same campus during the first wave from 2 October -20 December 2020.

DON BOSCO COLLEGE, SULTHAN
BATHERY, WAYANAD




"MENTAL HEALTH
IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS
PHYSICAL HEALTH"

COVID-19 HELP DESK

TALK TO US

DPT. OF PSYCHOLOGY & DPT. OF SOCIALWORK
9605955373
8943985109

- Don Bosco College, Sulthan Bathery has mobilised its youth to deliver cooked meals to the homes of the COVID- affected and those in quarantine. They will also shortly begin a volunteering programme at the local hospitals to assist the medical staff. The students of Psychology and Social Work initiated a mental health help desk to offer psychological support for those in need.

- Don Bosco College, Kottiyam has been designated as a COVID first line treatment centre (CFLTC) of the panchayat, with effect from 10 May. Student volunteers from the college National Service Scheme (NSS) will be helping out in the centre.



KISMAT
Kerala Interstate Migrants Alliance for Transformation

KISMAT SERVICES DURING THE LOCK DOWN PERIOD
8-12 MAY 2021

FOOD KITS DISTRIBUTION	2723	312	REQUEST CALLS RECEIVED
PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT	206	92	ASSISTANCE FOR LABOUR DEPARTMENT
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS	363	16	AWARENESS POSTERS/VIDEOS PREPARED
COUNSELLING SUPPORT	62	4140	VACCINE/FOOD KITS REGISTRATION
CALL CENTER ASSISTANCE	315	22	JOB PLACEMENT SUPPORT
UNPAID WAGE SETTLEMENT	17	22	SAFE SHELTER SUPPORT
HOSPITAL ASSISTANCE	61	19	STUDENT EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
ASSISTANCE FOR COVID -19 TEST	98	76	OTHER CRISIS INTERVENTIONS

Number of beneficiaries-8544

KISMAT
Don Bosco veeu, Manacaud P.O. Thiruvananthapuram
www.dbveeu.org | mhdstateoffices@gmail.com | 974553388

- DBHSS Mannuthy offered its premises as barracks for Police personnel on COVID duty. The facility was inaugurated on 10 May by the City Police Commissioner.



BREADS

NEWS



CREAM – State-Level Review cum Staff Training

Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society (BREADS) Bangalore organised a two-day review cum training [..more...](#)



Davangere District Commits to the Promotion of Child Rights

Don Bosco Child Labour Mission Davangere organised an advocacy workshop with various stakeholders [..more...](#)



WELIVE Organic Farming Project- Punalur, Kerala

Eackadu, is a remote village in Poruvazhy panchayat of Sasthamcotta Block in Kollam Dt. The area comprises [..more..](#)