

## Director's Message



Fr Rubin Mathew sdb  
Executive Director, BREADS

November is dedicated to Child Rights with the celebration of Children's Day in India (Nov 14) and Universal Children's Day (Nov 20) as well. During the COVID 19 lockdowns in 2020, disturbing trends of violence against children emerged. In response to this harsh reality and to create awareness, BREADS, and its partners under the CREAM initiative, organised large campaigns on *No Violence against Children-Raise Your Voice*. We report on this campaign in this Slice.

As we partner together to 'create a better future for every child', on behalf of the BREADS team, I wish you and your families a blessed Christmas!

"God-spaced life" and "God-roomed hearts" are required to lead a life of peace and joy. Christmas is a clarion call to cherish brotherhood and nourish the family spirit. When life is filled with joy, social commitment is generated, and celebration resumes.

As the Magi found a new way, let us see the New Year with a renewed heart and transformed life inspired by God's love.



*Wishing you a joyous Christmas and a  
prosperous New Year*

**The BREADS team**



## No Violence against Children- Raise YOUR Voice!



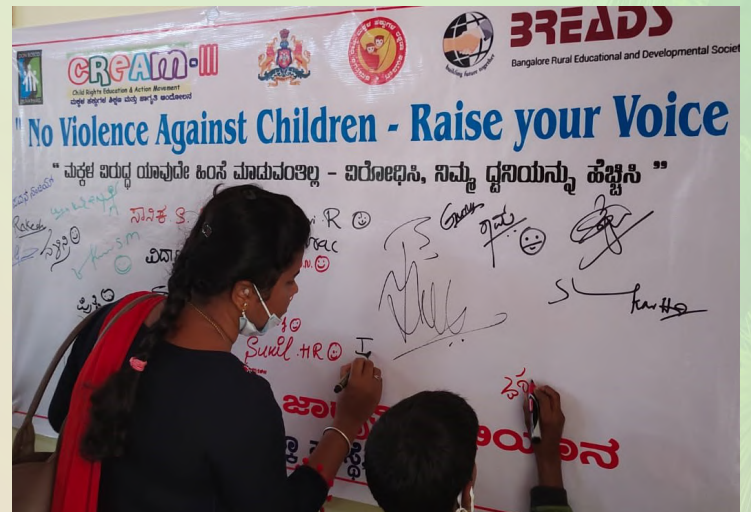
Usually, Children's Day is marked by a lot of fun and enjoyment, celebrating the spirit of the child. This year, organised by the various Don Bosco institutions as part of the Child Rights Education and Action Movement (CREAM), there were the fun and games, as well as a serious note to the celebrations, because of the focus on violence against children. The need to highlight this issue can be understood from the dangerous trends observed during the various lockdowns.

The National Crime Reports Bureau (NCRB) in India registered 128,531 major crimes against children in 2020, translating to 350 cases per day. Though there

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) in its global estimates on child labour 2020, forecasts an increase in global child labour (5-17 years) from 160 million in 2020 to 168.9 million in 2022, if additional preventive measures are not taken urgently to support vulnerable children and their families.



was a small drop in total number of registered cases in comparison to 2019, Child Rights and You (CRY) observed a 50% increase in child marriages from 2019 and 400% increase in online abuse. Little wonder then, that in the various events conducted for children express their views, many children highlighted child marriage and child labour as abuse of child rights.



"As the world builds back after the pandemic, integrated services for children including education, protection, health, mental health, and justice must be considered as essential services and supported with adequate resources. They must be linked to an inclusive social protection system that will protect the most vulnerable children and their caregivers, leaving no one behind," said Dr Maalla M'jid, Special Representative of UN Secretary-General on Violence Against Children.



This thought process is integral to the CREAM methodology and therefore, all the campaigns and awareness activities were organised in collaboration with the children, district administrations, associated government departments, police, local leaders, schools, and parents, ensuring that the message of non-violence against children went out to every stakeholder in the community. This widespread involvement across 20 districts in Karnataka ensures that each constituent understands their role in the safeguarding the rights of the child—whether individually or as an institution.

Statistics and anecdotal evidence point to the fact that we have lost the progress that was made in areas of health, education, and child rights prior to the pandemic. We need to work collectively to regain that impact, for which we need everyone's support.

**Could you please add YOUR voice too? Wherever you may be.**

***No violence against Children!!***

## Awareness programmes conducted in Karnataka

Districts	Programmes	Activities	Stakeholders including children
Mysuru, Chamarajanagar	3	Rally, Public meeting,	1550
		Essay writing and Drawing competitions, Signature campaigns	
Gadag, Koppal, Vijayanagara	26	Essay writing	1145
		Quiz, drawing, chess and debate competitions	
Haveri, Shivamogga, Davangere	6	Signature campaign, rally, celebration of Child Rights Day	929
Chitradurga, Tumakuru	24	Rally, signature campaign,	3360
		Marathon, sports and cultural activities, drawing and essay writing	
		Competitions	
Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural	22	Awareness campaigns	1456
Bidar	5	Signature campaigns, public rally, essay writing and elocution competitions, seminars	880
Kalaburagi, Vijayapura	12	Signature campaigns, public rally, essay writing and elocution competitions, seminars	1154
Raichur, Bagalkot	57	Quiz, essay, elocution, painting competitions, sports day and marathon, awareness on child rights	1903
Ramanagara, Mandya	16	Signature campaigns, awareness programmes, seminars	2057
Yadgir	11	Drawing competitions, awareness programmes, signature campaigns	990

## Dream beyond Drugs: Launching DREAM



Kerala is the proud bearer of the highest human development index (HDI 0.79) in India. However, it faces severe challenges with the problem of addictions especially among children and youth, and their resulting mental, physical, financial, and social problems. The severity and the extent of the problem is documented in the public forum and has also been established by BREADS' experience in two districts through a pilot initiative of Drug Rehabilitation Education And Mentoring (DREAM). The findings from a BREADS' study of 1800 school children confirmed a widespread culture of substance use in neighbourhoods, a high interest and experimentation in gateway drugs and insufficient access to awareness, counselling, and rehabilitation services for the young.

In response to the situation, BREADS launched DREAM on November 20, 2021 at Don Bosco Vadhala. With the support of Don Bosco Mondo, the programme will reach ten districts of Kerala: Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Thrissur,

Alappuzha, Kozhikode, Kannur, Wayanad, and Kasargod, using awareness programmes about the adverse impact of addictions, counselling, and rehabilitation services. The district-wise launches of DREAM will take place in December and January.

Over the period 2021-25, DREAM will empower more than 520,000 children and youth to dream beyond drugs in the identified areas of need. It will provide counselling services for at least 100,000 children/youth who are prone to addictions, and residential rehabilitation services for at least 240-320 children and addicted youth from economically weaker families. DREAM will also promote awareness among 6800 teachers and 300,000+ parents to create a socially responsive and responsible community that can support children and youth and prevent various forms of addictions in society. Towards this goal, DREAM will work actively with government officials, policymakers, political leaders, civil society organizations, NGO leaders, etc., to combat the issue collaboratively.



## Calendar

### November

- CREAM's participation in KSCPCR public hearings of children across Karnataka
- Children's Day celebrations across Don Bosco institutions
- Child Rights Week observance
- PDO Best Practices—exposure visit to BREADS by other PDOs
- Capacity-building for BREADS staff
- Monitoring and evaluation of BREADS' projects
- We-Auto second phase distribution
- Launch and induction training—DREAM programme
- Laying of foundation stone—Don Bosco School, Bidar

### December

- DREAM programme launches in Alappuzha, Kottayam, Wayanad
- Inauguration of 16<sup>th</sup> skill training batch—DB BEST Academy
- Monitoring and evaluation of BREADS' projects
- Christmas celebration at BREADS

## BREADS NEWS



### WE-AUTO Second Phase Distribution

BREADS has strived over the years to create a gender-diverse workplace that is both sensitive and welcoming...[more...](#)



### Laying of the foundation stone of Don Bosco School, Bidar.

"Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success", this is what we experience at Don Bosco institutions...[more...](#)



### DREAM Staff Induction cum Training

BREADS' latest initiative—Drug Rehabilitation Education And Mentoring (DREAM) programme aims to prevent substance use among school and college students...[more...](#)



### Launch of DREAM Project

The Salesians of Don Bosco, Province of Bangalore, and BREADS launched a new programme 'Drug Rehabilitation Education and Mentoring (DREAM)'...[more...](#)

Christmas! It calls to mind joy and sharing! Good food and family!  
Let's spread the joy of Christmas to other families, through the year!

*Spread Christmas joy through the year!*

**Ensure schooling and  
nutrition for children of  
quarry families**

Support BREADS' Centres



BREADS supports 400 children from the quarries around Bangalore East through its partner, Social Service Guild, reaching out through 10 centres. The centres provide evening classes and educational aid to help the children with their studies as many of them are first generation learners who have no learning support at home. This vital assistance prevents them from dropping out of school. Nutritious snacks to supplement the diet of the children, and extracurricular activities, create safe spaces in the centres where the children can find the support they need, in the most enjoyable manner possible.

**HELP US KEEP THESE CENTRES FOR CHILDREN ALIVE!**

<https://breadsdonations.com/profile.php>

**November  
2021**