

Slice

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BREADS

Bangalore Rural Educational And Development Society

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Director's Page



Child Rights Education and Action Movement (CREAM), the flagship program of BREADS Bangalore is coming to its fruitful completion in December 2015. And we are proud that an external agency is evaluating this project; we hope to build on the positives and leanings from this project for our future interventions on child rights related projects. CREAM Phase II is our dream and we would like to reach new frontiers with this project especially where we have no Don Bosco presences. There have been many success stories of this project but we would like to share with you the story of Mr. Nagaraj, one of our social activists from Don Bosco Hospet in this issue of SLICE.

The month of November is probably the busiest month for all our projects as we celebrate children's day (14th) and YaR day (20th). And this year, 'climate change' is suggested as the theme to create awareness and also to build up towards COP21 (United Nations Climate Change conference) scheduled from 30th November to 11th December 2015 in Paris.

With best wishes,

Fr Joy Nedumparambil SDB

Executive Director

Events in October 2015

- NGO Market Day at Thomson Reuters
- School fundraising Campaign at Bangalore , KGF & Kerala
- CREAM Project Directors Meet on 19th Oct
- Training by Jos and Martin from the Netherlands
- Visit by Ms Susanne from Don Bosco Mondo, Germany

Events in November 2015

- School Fundraising Program in Don Bosco School Angamaly
- Political Job Fair at Mandya on 3rd Nov
- Fr Provincial visits BREADS
- MSW Students arrive for internship
- DB ACTION Meet in Chennai
- Volunteers from Malta arrive

News

CREAM External Evaluation Launched

CREAM, the flagship project of BREADS for child rights promotion has reached the final stage of implementation. In order to recapitulate the successful activities, assess the impacts and capitalize the knowledge and learning from CREAM interventions, an external evaluation is initiated with the help of a consulting agency DHRUVA, **the Concerned for Working Children**. The evaluation was officially inaugurated on 19th October 2015 by Fr. Joyce Thonikuzhaiyil, Provincial, Don Bosco Bangalore in the presence of Ms. Susanne Arzt, from Don Bosco Mondo Germany. The inaugural function was followed by a participatory workshop lead by the consulting agency. The project directors and coordinators were present for the workshop. During the workshop the methodology of the evaluation was finalized. The evaluation will be conducted in participatory method covering all 10 districts of the project. The evaluation will include participatory workshops for all the stakeholders, desk review of all the project documents, focused group discussions and field visits in all the districts. The evaluation will be completed within four months and the report will be widely disseminated for future replication of the successful model.



Ms. Susanne Arzt from Don Bosco Mondo visited BREADS' Projects



"Skill Training is the need of the Hour" Says Kollam Assistant Collector

While inaugurating the DDU- GKY project implemented by Don Bosco Tech in partnership with the Punaloor Social Service society in Punaloor, Miss Chitra IAS (Kollam Assistant Collector) said that the Govt has struck the right note by implementing such programs as Skill Training to empower the youth. She said that he organizations like Kudumbashree had been given the responsibility to monitor such a project because they know the real pulse of the people at the ground level. She praised Don Bosco Tech which has all... [More](#)



Makkala Jolly Shibira 2015 commences at Don Bosco Yuvakara Grama, Ajjanahalli.

The sun rose with a greater gusto on the early morning of 13.10.2015 to mark the start of our two week Dasara Camp for the boys. With majority of our students going home or taken by their own relatives, the remaining 50 are very much anticipating a fantastic break. The celebrations began with a special assembly with the band group accompanying the march past. Inaugural address given by Rector Fr. Sonychen encouraged the students to have a burning zeal for education balanced with a cheerful mind... [More](#)

"CREAM taught me to serve the poor with commitment"

Touched by his honesty and hard work, people elect Nagaraja, a staff of CREAM as Panchayath member, in spite of him being physically challenged

1. Can you tell us something about yourself?

I am from Chilagodu village, Hagaribommanahalli(H.B.Halli (taluk),Ballari (district)).I hail from a poor family. I lost my father ten years ago and I have my mother, two elder sisters and one younger brother. I am now 28 years old and married. I have a 3year old child. I completed my ITI, BA and one year training course from BEML (Bharath Earth Movers Ltd.) in Bangalore. I returned to my village and worked as a lecturer in an ITI college for three months. After that, the Assisi Sisters in H.B. Halli introduced me to social work.



2. What motivated you to become a social worker and work for the poor?

Besides being from a poor family, I am also physically challenged. I realized that persons with disability were not given their due by the system. I could easily identify myself with them. So I decided that I should do something for them and for me too. I organized many strikes to fight for the rights of the physically challenged and also to avail government schemes for them. I facilitated the process through which the aged and the widows got their pension from the government. I also worked for the betterment of the government school in terms of the infrastructure and facilities. Working for all these people gives me satisfaction and fulfillment.

3. How was your experience with Don Bosco CREAM project?

I did not know anything about Don Bosco Hospet. It was Sr. Dheena from Assisi Sisters who sent me to Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, the then director of Don Bosco Hospet. He sent me for training in Ballari, organized by the DCPO (District Child Protection Officer).He entrusted me with the survey of children at risk in HB Halli taluk. I did that job successfullywith the help of MR. Prakash G., the coordinator of CREAM project. And Fr Varghese appointed me as a Social Activist under the CREAM Project. At that point in time, I was not confident of taking up this responsibility and was hesitant.

With the support and guidance of the fathers from Don Bosco, and Mr Prakash I was able to grow up as an effective social activist. I consider this job as a golden opportunity to work for the child rights and human rights, creating awareness and taking action against all violations and making sure that children get their rights as citizens.

4. What strategies did you adopt to empower children and women?

The basis of all my works is the training I got on child rights as part of the CREAM project at BREADS Bangalore. It is not enough to train children alone on rights; rather the whole society must be aware of all their rights. So we organized child rights awareness programs for all the stakeholders in the village. The children were empowered that they could raise their voice against violation of their rights, be it regarding child labour or child marriage.

We also formed a youth group in the village to create awareness on child rights and also to publicise the different government schemes useful for the village. Regarding women and children, we went to the SHGs and created awareness on child rights and about facilities from the government. We also made sure that the SHG women get their due benefits from the government and from the banks. We helped the SC (scheduled Caste) and ST (Scheduled Tribe) children get their scholarship and hostel facilities from the government.

5. What motivated you to become a Panchayath member and how did CREAM help?



I had no clue about contesting in a panchayath election. But ever since I was associated with Don Bosco CREAM project, I became aware of the rights of children and others and the various laws, projects and schemes related to children and women. As a social activist I was giving training to all the stakeholders like children, young people, SHGs, teachers, SDMC, GP members, anganwadi workers, asha (health) workers, government officers, police personnel, education department officers etc.

CREAM project gave me a platform to reach out to all people in the villages of my taluk from a higher level of influence as a CREAM Social Activist and trainer. Through CREAM, I was able to walk into all the government offic-

es for different permissions for organizing different Child Rights programs and thus I got a big exposure to people of all walks of life; be it government officers, police department, education department, Karnataka state transport department, the public, the media etc. Thus I became the face of Don Bosco CREAM, which people equaled with honesty and hard work.

Thus all the people in different villages identified me as a good social worker. So the public requested and supported me to stand for elections. The children with whom I worked campaigned with their parents to vote for me. And with the support of Don Bosco and CREAM project, I was elected with a thumping majority (487) as a member of the Bachikondanahalli grama panchayath.

6. What is your dream as a Panchayath member and as a leader?

My biggest dream is to serve the poor people of my village; more especially the children, with special focus on those from the lower class and caste and those physically challenged. Secondly, I will make available all the government facilities and schemes to all the people, particularly the most disadvantaged. I will work for the overall development of my village with the support of the other panchayath members. I promise to work honestly for the welfare of the poor people in our GP level.

7. Do you think your experience in CREAM project will help you in your responsibility as an elected member?

My work with CREAM has brought about a great transformation in me and in all the villages where I am working. With the help of CREAM, I was able to stop many child marriages, rescue and rehabilitate many child labourers, stop begging by children, stop child abuse, file cases in the court against child offenders, bring back school dropouts, facilitate drinking water facility in different schools, build compound wall for a school, create awareness on cleanliness and keep the school compounds clean, bring public bus transportation facility for school children in the villages, etc. So with the support of all, I can work more effectively with CREAM and serve the public more efficiently.

