



# Don Bosco Anbu Illam

# 25 KULANDAI ST, PARKTOWN, CHENNAI - 03  
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## Editorial

Dear Loving Readers,

It is said, "child is the father of man". Although I have heard this proverb in the past, it was my 6 lifesaving, life building and life uplifting years at this home of love that has made me realize the wisdom of the proverb. Truly I can tell you, children do indeed teach us adults, the joy of childhood, and of love, hope and blessing in life, no matter how challenging our circumstances may be.

It has been a wonderful and thought-enriching journey in Don Bosco Anbu Illam for me personally with the children, staff, volunteers, Government officials, sponsors and donors for the past 6 years. I have greatly experienced their love and support in protecting and promoting child rights through our selfless and humane organization. I would like to extend my grateful heart to everyone who supported and enhanced our engagement in the society especially for the most marginalized and vulnerable children. Many new and unique developments were possible because of the blessings of the Almighty and the benevolent support of everyone.

It gives me immense satisfaction to mention that this organization is in successful flow with the well reputed and committed staff who guarantee the vision of DBAI in creating child friendly communities and environment in the society. We are honoured that our organization is heading towards several leading steps in this regard by initiating very innovative projects for children, youth and women such as Police Children's Clubs, Covid 19:

Community Intervention Programs, Child Rights Clubs, CHILDLINE 1098, SHGs, Coastal Slum Improvement projects, HCLF Excellence Sports Bus, Career Advancement Training Centre, After Care Programs and Vocational training Centers.

I thank all the Salesians, staff, volunteers, sponsors, donors and Government bodies for your valuable support and encouragement. I also thank CWCs, CIF, DCPU, Educational Institutes, NGO Partners and all Networks that contributed in our mission. And of course, children were the greatest teachers in my life. They taught me patience, love, hope and integrity.

Even though this is my last editorial to this edition of ENews, I am sure that this practice will continue with the new incoming Director with many colourful insights. I am indebted to thank Fr. James who worked with me for the past 4 years and other Salesians and the Editorial Board of the past and present for their creative outline and publications.

It is my privilege and honour to welcome Fr. Andrews Stephen Raj as the New Director of DBAI from now onwards. I wish him and everyone at DBAI the very best.

**Yours in Don Bosco**

*Fr. Joseph Leo, sdb*  
**Executive Director**

## SAFETY FIRST

World Safety Day was celebrated on 6th March'22. The theme was "Act together to build a positive safety and health culture". We had Mrs. Judi from Don Bosco School - Egmore, as the resource person of the day and she briefed the children about maintaining safety everywhere like school, college, workplace etc. The children performed street play and dance.



## CELEBRATING WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENT

International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8th, 2022. Mrs. Devika, the chief guest of the day from Chennai High School, Kodungaiyur. Children learnt about different women who succeeded after a long struggle. They performed a skit on women's contribution towards the society.

## SAVE WATER SAVE EARTH

On 22nd March, World water day was celebrated and Mrs. Francina, a nurse spoke about importance about water in day to day living as 70% of water must be present in a human body and Earth which made an impact on the children to save water and to drink more water to be hydrated.





## FROM US TO VISUALISE THE INVISIBILITY

Mr. Brad and Mrs. Jill McElay from Invisible Girl Child project visited Saranalayam on March 29th. They interacted with the girls. The children expressed their gratitude through their talents like dance, speech and enacted.

## HEALTH IS WEALTH

On 7th April World Health Day was celebrated. The chief guest Ms. Priscilla spoke about the importance of health, signs and symptoms which should be reported immediately which will help them for a better tomorrow. The children show cased their gratitude through a dance performance.



## MEDICAL CAMP

On 24th April, a general medical camp was conducted by Kauvery Hospital for 37 children. The children discussed about their health to the consultant and clarified their doubts. Medications were prescribed to the required children according to their needs.

## OUR EARTH OUR FUTURE

World Earth Day was celebrated on April 22nd. Ms. Swathe gave awareness to children about damage to earth due to plastic as it doesn't decompose. She also explained its effect on animals and trees and much more. The session helped the children to learn more about plantation and increased their interest in gardening.



## INTERVENTIONS

Childline team had received a total of around 203 calls during the month of March and April 2022, the team had intervened for nearly 91 cases, 54 children had been produced before CWC for care and protection of the children, the needs of the other cases were fulfilled by the team and the allied department through the help of Childline. The team found 37 cases which were based on sexual abuse, and 5 child marriage cases and those cases were filed for FIR Child marriage 2006 and POCSO Act 2012,

### CHILDLINE



## AWARENESS FOR SPORTERS

The team participated in a community program on 8th March 2022 at Besant Nagar which was organised by sport association with the support of district commissioner. Team sensitized regarding child sexual abuse and child marriage among the sports students (Girls). Around 65 children were the beneficiaries of the program. The team also promoted Child Helpline Number (1098).

## MAKING YOUNG MINDS IGNITED

On 24th March 22, the team conducted a sensitization program at Thiruvottiar Kaladipet, the team organized the program in a public library with the support of Anbu Illam. There were discussions about Child Labour and Child Marriage among college students and adolescent. Around 45 students had participated in this program.



## CHILD RIGHTS AT CHILDHOOD

On 26th of March the Childline team conducted a school awareness program for 6th to 9th std students from a government school in Gopalapuram, Chennai. The program was regarding cases of child substance abuse and ChildLine general awareness. Around 400 children were the beneficiaries of the program.

## GETTING TRAINED IN ADVANCE

30th of March the team participated in a training program which was organized by Childline India foundation in Periyamed Chennai. The topic of the program was “ How to Deal with the children who need care and protection” . The team was trained to give a short term counselling and identify the children’s emotional and physical needs. The Resource person was Mr. Kumara Babu (Founder & Director of Banian foundation). It was a useful training for all team members and Coordinators.





## SOCIAL WORKERS ARE THE SOCIAL CHANGE MAKERS

The team conducted a Sensitization program for MSW Social work Students regarding Childline services and the program which was held in Royapuram Don Bosco Shelter. The team received the required support from the students.

05/07/2024 - Sahana S  
Tasked to make graphics for off  
line and online layouts

## TEAM EMPOWERED ON CHILD RIGHTS

The team organized a program for college students at Thiruthangal Nadar College of Arts & Science in Mulakadai Kodunguir, and sensitized about Childline activities and what are the difficulties faced by the children who are living on the streets, and by abandoned children. The team also discussed about what are the activities of Childline in collaboration with Don Bosco Anbu Illam. Nearly 150 Students had participated for the program.



*'Safety and security don't just happen, they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear.'*

*– Nelson Mandela, Former President of South Africa*

## AWARENESS CREATES IMPACT

On 23rd April 2022 the Childline team organized awareness program in Queen Mary's College and gave awareness about ChildLine services and insisted to be protect a child's safety and give them protection. Nearly 300 Students had participated for the program.



together images, typography or motion graphics to create

line and timeline layouts



## STREET PLAY ON CHILD RIGHTS

28th of April Team initiated street play in public park in Mylapur(Nageshwara Corporation Park) regarding Child Rights and Child abuse. This program was executed through MSW social work students.

*"But when adults speak up for the vulnerable and the weak, working and demanding that safety and respect prevail, God's little lambs are protected and nourished. They know they are not abandoned; they are loved. And the world*

*becomes a little more like heaven as a result.' — Wess Stafford*

I will give thanks to you,  
Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of  
all your wonderful deeds.

- Psalm 9:1



It is quite obvious for every traveller to finish his journey at one point of time, it is mandatory for every leader to step down at one point of time. Duties and Designations do not come till the end, but memories and experiences speak for pages. With this note, I wish to pen my emotion-filled gratitude for one last time in Don Bosco Anbu Illam.

I just revisited the day when I entered the portals of DBAI for the first time as the Administrator in 2018. That was the day when I was warmly welcomed in the presence of Province Economer, Rector and staff members. Since that moment onwards I started to learn many things. That was the moment when I understood that social well-being is the primary concern for Anbu Illam. This way my journey commenced, continued and concluded. I had a wonderful and challenging period in DBAI. All my days were accompanied by a team of loving and passionate professionals taking my dreams and visions forward and implementing it in a good and sporting spirit. I cherished being a part of this family. My appointment as the Assistant Director in 2021 taught me unique lessons where I abled myself to become a part and parcel of staff team. 'To work for them and To work with them' was my second principal quote these days. As I walk out of the campus, I wish to record my gratitude and acknowledgment for all those travelled with me. Four years of leadership in a station isn't a simple condition instead it is a journey of good and bad, joy and sorrow, ups and downs, love and hard feeling etc. still I walked because of the care and cooperation by you all.

I thank Almighty God for bestowing me this wonderful opportunity to serve the needy and underprivileged.

I feel proud that I kept my faith in ensuring safety and security to all children who came in search of care and protection. I feel great satisfaction in working towards the upliftment and empowerment of the voiceless.

Secondly, I wish to thank Rev. Fr. Joseph Leo who was instrumental in shaping my overall experience in DBAI. His approach towards kids, passion towards the mission drew my attention to reconstruct my leadership career. I thank Rev. Br. Kulandai Yesu for backing me to render my spiritual duties even more appropriately and committedly. His devotion towards Blessed Mother Mary is highly inspiring to me personally. At this moment I also thank Rev. Fr. Rajanna, person with more experience. His experience is not even my age, still he led me in the path of moral values. Word of gratitude to Rev.Fr. Arulanand for his friendly support and affectionate guidance. I wish to record my sincere gratitude to my fellow Salesians, especially Rev. Sr. Poongodi and Sisters of SMA and Aspirants for being my prayer and service partners. I also thank our friends and benefactors across the globe for their unconditional support to us. They were also our primary source of cooperation at times of hardships. A reliable employee is the best gift a leader can ask for. Yes, I asked God to give me a team of reliable employee not just to finish assignments instead to work towards building a self-sustaining and self- reliant society. And God greatly heard my prayer and gave me the best team to promote social welfare. I enjoyed being with each and every one of you. God has blessed you with different talents and opportunities to do wonders. And I feel happy that I travelled with you to experience the mystery of Social Work. Thank you for being someone I can rely on.



Last but not the least to all my Super Heroes in Bosco Illam and Saranalayam. It was a tremendous journey for me that too a year after my Priestly ordination. I felt the heart of St. John Bosco while I was with you. You all gave me your best; you all gave me your love and compassion. Sometimes, you all were my siblings. You brought meaning to my leadership and laurel for my responsibility. I take back memories that I enjoyed with you all.

As I conclude I wish to record my hearty congratulations and best wishes to Rev. Fr. Andrews Stephenraj, sdb for being appointed as the Director - designate of DBAI who has successfully completed his 25 years of Religious Profession and a honest turner as the Director of Don Bosco Vazhikaatti. I'm pretty sure that DBAI will witness the glorious growth like DBV during your Pastoral and Social Ministry. I also welcome Rev. Fr. Anbu Francis to join the team of spirited professionals. Welcome Br. Johnson to make M.K.B Nagar Community as Johnson Square.

Robert Brault said "Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things." Yes, I enjoyed every small thing in DBAI, be it from children, staff, religious, well-wishers as I move out, all those tiny enjoyments are big memories that I carry with me. I believe that my experience here will help me to work even more studies in promoting National Interest by empowering youngsters in whom, by whom and for whom India awaits. I'm happy that God has called me to work in the mission that Dr. Kalam had left in 2015 'The ignited minds of the youth is the most powerful resource on the Earth'. Yes, I'm going to work for the ignited minds from marginalized society to make them as the most powerful resource of our planet (India).

Once again my sincere thanks to all for making me to accomplish my duties perfectly.

#### Prayer and wishes,

**Fr. James Raj, sdb**  
**Assistant Director**

## ROAR OF A WOMEN

The First program is Women's day and was celebrated in Ondikuppam on 8th April 2022. Chief Gust is Br Kulandi Yesu (admin for Don Bosco Anbu Illam); Mrs. Sheela Merry (inspector of Thiruvottiyur); Mr.Prabhakaran (Director, Genius Academy); Benik Pandian (Librarian). On second day 21st April 2022 of the celebration the Chief Gust is Fr. Joseph Leo (Director of DBAI); Fr.James (Assistant Director, DBAI-Chennai); A. Revathi 125- counselor; Mrs. Antony Visithraa (Inspector, E1 Police Station). For both days Chief Guests delivered a short speech related on Women Empowerment and conducted some games, then the gifts were distributed for the people.



## WATER – SOURCE OF LIFE

The second program is about the water safety on 20/04/2022. The water scarcity that is prevailing in the society, the unawareness of the people about the wastage of water, the excessive need of water that is growing in the society. The future change is compared based on saving and not saving the water was discussed and educated to the computer students in the library. The session was hosted by Kavitha CIP Project.



## GIVING LIFE TO WORDS OF KALAM

The Third Program is Youth Meeting on 30/03/2022. The main objective of the program is to educate and create awareness among the youth about the personality development, life skills, future plans. The program was interactive and the youth participated and was motivated through the session.



## MEDICAL HELP AT DOOR STEP

5.1 The fifth Program was a Medical Camp on 23/04/2022. The General medical checkup for Blood pressure, Sugar Checkup, Full body Checkup and women related problems was addressed for over 350 people at free of cost.



## COOK WITH HOME QUEENS

On March 10 we conducted a cooking contest among the Bojaraja nagar community members 30 women participated in the contest. The participants were instructed to prepare healthy food. They cooked 40 dishes; those dishes were tasted by the children after their evening class. Winners of the contest got appreciation by the children.



## “GROUNDWATER: MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE”

In order to celebrate world water day drawing competition was conducted among the Otteri children on 12.03.22. 20 children participated in the competition and the winners of the completion were encouraged with gifts. We also sensitized the children about the importance of saving water in our daily life and the importance of intake adequate water every day.

## SIGHT TO MAKE RIGHT

In order to make sure the good eye sight of our Otteri community we conducted eye camp in our Otteri on 26.03.22. 70 community members got benefited in this medical camp.



## CAREER GUIDANCE WITH LIFE STYLE

To generated employment opportunity for our Annai sathya nagar community members we organized a meeting with the human resource manager from Life style with the help of field work students on 22.0.2022. 20 members participated in the meeting and gather information about the job opportunity it helped them to get an idea about the job which may lead to join them in the store in future.



Tasked to make graphics for off line and offline layouts.



## TOUCH – A MATTER OF DIGNITY

On 27.04.22 we conducted Good Touch Bad touch sensitization to the children of Annai Sathiya Nagar. We played different videos and pictures to explain briefly and clearly to the children. All the 45 children gained knowledge about good touch.



## WITNESS OF A SUCCESSFUL TEAMWORK

DBAI & Invisible Girl Project concluded a month long campaign on GIRL CHILD PROTECTION with a valedictory celebration today at Bosco Illam. Fr. Tony Pellisery (Executive Director, Don Bosco YaR Forum) & Mrs. Priya Juliet (IGP, National Director) Presided over the event. Winners and runners of the art contest were honoured with motivating books and certificates. NGO representatives from 15 child-rights organizations along with children took part in the event.

## SCOUT INVESTITURE CEREMONY

"The open-air is the real objective of Scouting and the key to its success".

On 7th April World Health Day was celebrated. The chief guest Ms. Priscilla spoke about the importance of health, signs and symptoms which should be reported immediately which will help them for a better tomorrow. The children show cased their gratitude through a dance performance. Total 26 Scouts and 9 Guides.



ANNA ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE CHENNAI - 600 0  
TRAINING PROGRAMME ON CHILD PROTECTION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING SYSTEM  
BATCH-4 28-03-2022



## CERTIFICATION ON CHILD PROJECTION ADVANCEMENT

The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you." – B.B. King

DBAI Management congratulated Mr. P. Daniel Gajendiran, Project Coordinator - Childline 1098 for receiving training completion certificate on Child Protection Information Management and Monitoring System organised by Anna Administrative Staff College, Govt. Of Tamil Nadu

## HONOURING THE HEROES

On behalf of DBAI Mr. Nikhil and Ms. Samridhi from Dept of History and Sociology, Loyola College respectively were honoured with certificates and prizes for winning Best Performance in video making contest. Felicitation held in the presence of Rev. Fr. Thomas, Principal Loyola College and Fr. James Raj, Assistant Director DBAI. On behalf of the management, we honoured Ms. Ashmi M.C , Department of Social Work, Patrician College for winning Best Performance in the Video Making Contest organized by DBAI & IGP as part of month-long campaign on Girl Child Protection. Mrs. Priya Juliet, Country Director IGP and Fr. Ernest Rosario, Director DBICA & DBCAS handed over the honors in the presence of HOD, SWD and Fr. Joseph Leo, Director.



## STAFF LENT RETREAT 2022

Staff members of Don Bosco Anbu Illam were taken on with one day Holy Lenten Retreat at Don Bosco Pannur today. Fr. Gnanaprakash Rayappan delivered spiritual reflection on God's love and love towards mankind followed by Annunciation Feast Holy Eucharist celebrated by Rev. Fr. Jeffrey Gladson, Rector along with other Salesian Clergyman. In the noon Br. Kulandai Yesu administered Way of the Cross in Sacred Heart Church Keelacheri. The team also had an opportunity to enjoy nature at Don Bosco Sagayathottam Agriculture College. Rev. Fr. Robert Alphonse and team hosted a warm welcome and briefed about the activities of the farm.



## AWARENESS ON CHILD RIGHTS IN THE FIELDS

On behalf DBAI, awareness on Child Rights was given to people of Kazhinjur by Mr. Anbu, DBAI In-charge, Katpadi. Workshop on Reconstruction of School Management Committee, Vellore District was organized at Gandhi Nagar, Katpadi. Mr. Anbu, DBAI Vellore In-charge took part in the program. CEO, Vellore District moderated the training program.



On behalf of Don Bosco Anbu Illam Katpadi, Awareness program on Child Rights was conducted on 29th April 2022 at Voorhees College. NSS cadets of the college along with faculties took part in the program.

Awareness on Child Rights for general public and school children was given at DBAI Katpadi.

## CELEBRATING THE SERVICE

Don Bosco Anbu Illam heartily wished two of our staff members Ms. Akila and Ms. Rajeswari for being recognised for their selfless service towards the upliftment of society.

Ms. Akila was honoured by Shri. M.Ravi, Commissioner of Police, Tambaram during a distinguished women's day gathering.

Ms. Rajeswari was honoured by Marailaya Children Home at their celebration.



## WORLD HEALTH DAY

A Day was celebrated at ASKE Vocational Training Centre on 7th March 2022. Awareness program highlighted the importance of sound body, mind and soul. They also distributed diet cookies for the participants. Social Work Trainees from Vivekananda College also made presentation on personal well-being. ICDS staff from Royapuram were the resource team.



## GIRLS IN DIGITAL GENERATION

Don Bosco Anbu Illam was invited to animate students of Department of Social Work, Patrician College on Digital Generation Our Generation - Girls in the digital era on 31st March 2022. Fr. Ernest Rosario, Director DBICA & DBCAS delivered resource talk on Girls in digital era. Mrs. Priya Juliet, Country Director Invisible Girl Project presented key note address on the current situation of girl children.

## EASTER BLESSING

Easter blessings conferred for DBAI staff at Head Office. Fr. Joseph Leo pronounced blessings, Br. Kulandai distributed souvenir. Ms. Asha Jose, Volunteering Consultant of DBAI brought Easter message.





## MISSION AS THE VISION

Our Executive Director Rev. Fr. Joseph Leo participated in Bosconet - Don Bosco Network YESS Forum 2022 [Youth Empowerment for Sustainability & Social Impact] high level seminar at Bangalore and presented services and success of Don Bosco Young at Risk Ministry (YaR Forum). He highlighted the ultimate cause of mission and its fruitful outcome over the years.



## VOICE OF VOLUNTEERS - 2022

Two days' workshop on Child Rights and Girl Child Protection was organized for field work trainees on 20th and 21st April 2022 at Don Bosco Anbu Illam After Care Centre, Royapuram. A total of 20 students from eleven social work institutions attended the program. Workshop included sessions on Childline and its services at large, Girl Child protection, debate on child social evils and street theatre self-module training. Mrs. Priya Juliet, Country Director Invisible Girl Project inaugurated the workshop.



## HAPPY SILVER JUBILEE!

On behalf of the DBAI management we wish Don Bosco Vazhikaatti for serving honestly and passionately towards empowerment and enhancement of people and leading them towards hope of living for the past 25 years. God bless DBV!



WITH GRATITUDE.....

BAGS



THANK YOU

ALL THE BEST



HEARLTY WELCOME & CONGRADULATIONS



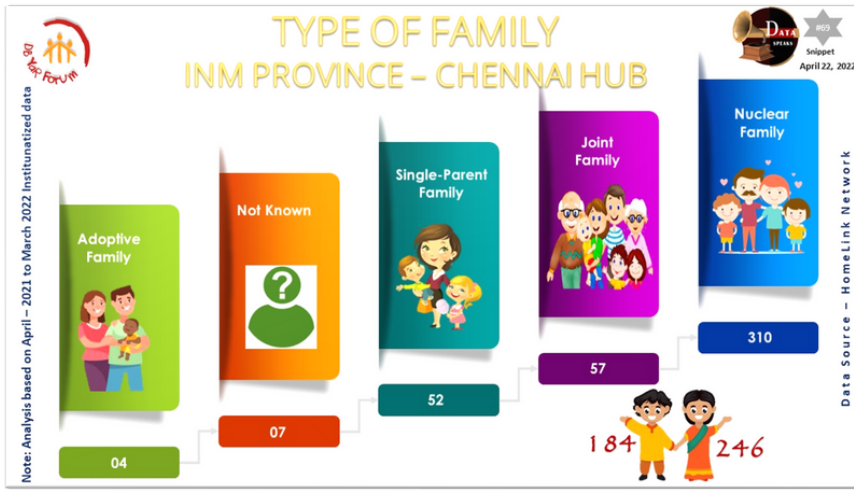
*Fr. Anbu Francisj*



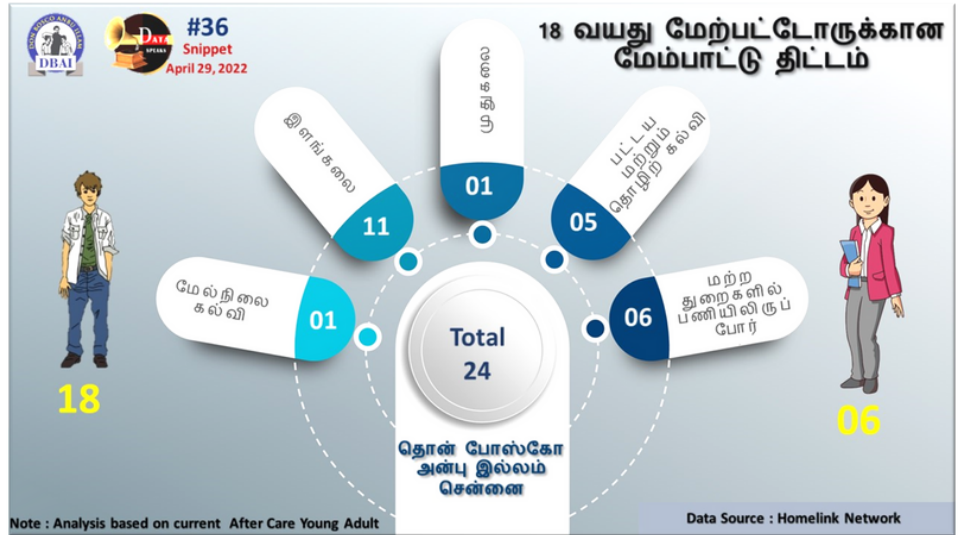
*Fr. Andrews Stephenraj  
Executive Director*



*Br. Kulandai Yesu  
25th Jubilarian*



# SNIPPETS



# THANK YOU READERS

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