

Annual Report (April, 2017 – March, 2019)

Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Salem – 7

Greetings!

We are happy to present the report of Anbu Illam for the years of 2017-2019. Don Bosco Anbu Illam was started in January, 1988 for the street and rag picking children in Salem; later extended its activities to child labourers, for children who came out of their homes for various reasons, desolate children, for the children who need care and protection, begging children and for delinquents in prisons who need rehabilitation. We also extended our services to adolescent girl children in Rasipuram, Namakkal district.

Vision

The vision of the organization is "Creating a just and equal society based on harmony and universal brotherhood where child rights are ensured"

MISSION

Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Salem is a catalyst organization that will increase the cooperation and collaboration of people's organization and empower the community by making sure equal and standard education for all, create employment through vocational training, create awareness and sensitization about the human rights and make people take part in governance through networking with NGO's and CBO's for the eradication of social discrimination among the people in order to create the just and equal society based on harmony and universal brotherhood where child rights are ensured.

Children's Home – Mulluvadi Gate

The Children's Home at Mulluvadi Gate was started in the year 1988 for the rehabilitation of street children, child laborers and the children who need care and protection and continues the same to this day. We provide them with healthy food, clothing, medication and education. We do provide the children with healthy environment. They are sent to St. Paul's Higher Secondary School and CSI Government Aided Higher Secondary School. 77 students are being benefitted from the same for the past two years. 49 students have benefitted and gone out of the institution in the last two years.

Children's Home – Adivaram

The Children's Home at Adivaram, foothill of Yercaud was started for the children from street by Salesians in 1997. The inaugural program was headed by then District Collector, Hansraj Varma. Later, the service was extended to Children who came out of their homes and desolate children.

We provide them with healthy food, clothing, medication and education. We do provide the children with healthy environment. They are sent to Vinayagampatti government middle school. 76 students are being benefitted from the same for the past two years. 34 students have benefitted and gone out of the institution in the last two years.

Child Rights Protection Centre

Child Rights Protection Centre at New Bus Stand, Salem was started in 1998 with the support of Salem Corporation. In order to protect the children from danger, we rescue children who come out from their homes due to various issues and give them care and protection through this centre. This centre functions 24 hours with the support from the volunteers and staff for the past twenty years. We have rehabilitated 9276 children in the past twenty years. The centre identifies children who needs care and protection and rehabilitate them. It also creates child rights protections groups, trains the groups, conducts awareness programmes and creates space for dialogue and communion for children in difficult situations.

Childline – 1098

Childline is a 24x7 toll free telephone service (1098) for children (Aged 0-18) who need care and protection.

1843 children have benefitted from April, 2017 to March, 2019 by way of Medical Aid, Shelter, and home settlement, rescued from danger, counselling and documentation of missing children. We have responded to 5448 phone calls about children in difficult situations. Salem Childline program is functioning all through the district of Salem. Most of the calls we receive are for child marriages. There are also calls for Shelter, drop-out from schools and for children in difficult situations. We have attended to the calls and taken necessary steps for them.

We have performed street theaters and distributed pamphlets, previewed short films, conducted puppetry and spread awareness to public, children, government officials about childline, child rights, ill-effects of child marriages, sexual exploitation, good touch and bad touch, child kidnap and various other awareness programmes. They are 549 awareness events which benefitted 81,785 people.

We have also gone for “Rail Yatras” train awareness programs on special days like: Children’s day, Child Labour abolition day etc and also conducted awareness in schools by conducting drawing competitions.

Continuing Education Training Center

We started Continuing Education Training Centre from 2005 onwards. Henceforth, this is training students who have dropped themselves from 8th, 10th, 11th and 12th Standard in their schools. Since they are weak and slow learners, we assist them to prepare for their exams with self-confidence to

write their government examinations. There have been 134 students who have benefitted from the center these two years.

RECEPTION UNIT

The reception unit facilitates the male children who are in need of care and security. This scheme functions with the fund given by Social Defence Department of Tamil Nadu Government. The children who are rescued in this scheme are surrendered to CWC immediately and with their consent they are given rehabilitation. Other important activities of the Reception unit are: Medical camp was conducted five times for the shelter boys. Nilevembu Juice (an anti-biotic) is given periodically. Once in three months, Picnic is organized for the reception unit boys. Every month classes on skill development, life scoping skills and handicrafts are held regularly. During summer camp folkdance coaching is given to the reception unit boys.

Besides, four general body meetings were held. The district organization after inspected the reception unit twice, has given a certificate of appreciation. Through this scheme 913 children were benefitted between the years 2017-2019.

OPEN SHELTER HOME, ADIVARAM

With the assistance of social defence department, open shelter home functions for the rehabilitation of street children, rag pickers' children, the children who are prone to substance abuse, child labourers, run away children from homes for various reasons, abandoned children and children who are in need of care and protection. This open shelter home functions 24x7 at Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Adivaram.

There are also open shelter contact centres at different places in salem city like New bus stand, kitchipalayam and ammapalayam, which reaches out to the vulnerable children in those areas to provide good education, to follow up their regularity in going to the school and to create an opportunity for them to go for higher studies. Through these booths the runaway and missing children are rescued and given rehabilitation. Almost 49 boys have finished their studies in open shelter home.

CHILD-FRIENDLY SALEM

To transform the salem city into a child-friendly city, a new project titled: Child-Friendly City was initiated in the year 2018 with the presence of Mr. Sathish, the district collector, by Don Bosco Anbu Illam under the banner and the assistance of DBYaR. According to the need of the city, child-friendly activities are carried out in 30 wards in 2 divisions.

The aim of this project is to unite NGOs, social groups, educationists, social activists, industrialists, dealers and media with the government. So that, we can create good atmosphere for children, provide good education, can ensure security and give various opportunities for children in the city.

The activities of this project are: Imparting child rights raising our voice for their rights in groups, skill development, imparting awareness about child rights and crimes against children for social groups. And to create social security for the children. 4173 children have been endowed with child right awareness programmes. 65 groups have been formed. 432 social authorities have been given awareness programme. 50 police officers and 226 anganwadi members have been given training on child rights and childhood approach. 5 protection and observation groups have been formed. On the world Girl's day the children went on a rally in Nanjampatti, Pachchapatti and Courtroad area in order to make an impact on Female children development and awareness. On the day of children's day the officers, social activists and public gathered for a dialogue programme at Iyyasami Park.

Adolescent and Young labourers welfare programme - Rasipuram

The 'Freedom Fund' project has been another milestone of Don Bosco Anbu Illam. We have identified 30 villages from Rasipuram region Namakal District and help the adolescent girls working in the spinning mills. We have also extended our mission in rescuing the adolescent workers and providing them with educational help through continuing education centre. We are also animating Children Parliaments, Adolescent girl groups, adolescent men groups, Self-help groups and Social welfare groups in 30 villages to unite and build the society in order to develop them economically and socially through special programmes.

Continuing Education Training Center: Rasipuram

In the continuing education center – Rasipuram, we have assisted 194 students to write their exams. 70 students have been trained for alternative job skills. 1378 people have benefitted from medical camps conducted by us. 613 have benefitted other skill trainings. 166 students have been benefitted by the scholarships. 482 students have been given life coping skills.

Rescue and Rehabilitation

We have rescued and rehabilitated 134 adolescent girls and boys from Mills. In continuation of the same, we have formed in four mills, complaint groups and labour unions are formed to protect the laborers' rights. We have also trained them for the same. 108 People benefitted from the same. We have formed also women's groups. We assisted 105 women to begin micro enterprises. 314 women were assisted to get benefits from the government schemes. We have also trained the children in leadership skills, cultural dances and other entrepreneur skills.

Children's Parliament and Green Movements – Salem & Rasipuram

We have created groups for children who come together to protect their environment. They are formed into different groups in their places of living. They decided for themselves. They form a government by themselves in the name of Children's Parliaments and unite all the other children to stand for their rights and freedom. There are 600 members of children who have formed 35

children's parliaments and 260 members who have formed green movements in 13 groups in Salem and Rasipuram.

Summer Camp and Special Trainings

Many Trainings, such as arts, cultural, computer, life coping skills, easy spoken English were conducted for the children during the summer camp. The trainings were conducted in areas of Anbu Illam, Adivaram, Reception Unit, Open Shelter, Kichipalayam, Pachampatti and Rasipuram, reaching almost to the children of 30 villages. These trainings were aimed to develop the talents and to empower the children with the leadership qualities. Around 1300 boys and girls participated in these trainings.

Education through Computer-Rasipuram

In India, almost 20 crore people are illiterate. In order to help these people with education, efforts were taken by TCS (Tata Consultancy Services) through camps. They have invested their rich experience in computer technology in order to educate these illiterate elderly people. We have given basic literacy to 5360 people from 25 villages, in Rasipuram, Namakkal District.

Special Trainings for the Staff

We regularly equip our staff with various trainings to acquire skills that would help them to do their work better in the organization. We have given trainings in Skills for effective Leadership, Skill for effective communication, Group dynamics, team building, reporting and documentation, POCSO act 2012, Juvenile Justice Act 2015, Social Engineering, Social Analysis, and Children's Parliament. All the staff benefitted from these trainings.

Organic Kitchen Gardens

Then objective of this project we implemented these years is to encourage urban middle class people to grow their own vegetables in their houses. We helped them to grow vegetables in their terraces and the little spaces they had. We have created 5 women groups in different places and distributed seeds, manures and helped them create organic kitchen gardens at their homes.

Special Programs and Celebrations

In order to celebrate the Children's Day; we organized a day of celebration in the name of "Odi Vilaiyadu Papa" for Children from various homes in the district of Salem. It was a day of dance, singing and celebration held at "Moovendar Arangam" on 25.11.2018 together with District Child Protection Office. Salem District Collector Mrs. Rohini IAS joined the celebration. There were 1860 children from 33 different homes participated in the same.

We also celebrated Independence Day, Republic Day, National Days, Christmas, Pongal, Don Bosco Feast, YAR day and many other celebrations in order to make the children feel happy and celebrate their lives.

We also thank all the people who have helped us in the past years to run this organization. In special way, we would like to thank the Ministry of Women and Child Welfare, Social Welfare Department of Tamilnadu, Salem District Administration, Salem Corporation, Offices for Children Services, Salesian Province of Trichy, Diocese of Salem, Religious of Salem, Schlooz Foundation-The Netherlands, Colourful Children Foundation, Freedom Fund USA, Childline India Foundation, Government Officials, Members of Juvenile Home, Members of Children Welfare Committee, Non-Governmental Organizations, Volunteers, Don Bosco Cooperators, Staff of Anbu Illam, Media and all those people who have assisted and helped us running this prestigious organization.

Yours,

Rev. Fr. Dr. Santhanam
Director, Don Bosco Anbu Illam,
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Thank you