

Director's Message

I am very happy to share with you the e-newsletter of March 23, presenting the various social development activities undertaken during the month. The month of March was marked by a number of activities, the highlight being the celebration of International Women's Day and the Feast of St. Joseph.

International women's day celebrates womanhood and is a platform to work towards equal dignity and opportunities for women. That it falls within the month of March when we especially honour St. Joseph provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the role of men to honour and uphold the dignity of women, which St. Joseph accomplished in an exemplary manner.The Palliative training programme for women in collaboration with Holy Cross, Kottiyam, disbursement of "Canhelp" to over 70 beneficiaries, health camps were also opportunities to reach out to the assistance of the needy.

We would like to express our gratitude to our dedicated team members and partners who made these initiatives possible. We believe that these activities will go a long way in promoting social development and making a positive impact in the community.

-Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP)

Home Nursing and Palliative Care Training Inaugurated

The classes for the first batch of the Home Nursing and Palliative Care Training for the year 2023 inaugurated on 1st March 2023. The three months course is organized in collaboration with Holy Cross Hospital, Kottiyam. Sr. Vinny Palakudiyil (Administrator, Holy Cross Hospital, Kottiyam) and Sr. Chantal (Holy Cross College of Nursing, Kottiyam) welcomed the students and clarified the various details regarding the course. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP) thanked Holy Cross Hospital for their co-operation. 25 coastal women are part of the 3-month course. Home Nursing and Palliative Care Course is a part of FCDP's efforts to skill women to respond to emerging job opportunities in the health sector.



Training on Youth Leadership and Community Development

The members from Don Bosco Youth Forum participated in a three-day camp organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra on Friday, March 03, 2023 at Perungulam Marthoma Center. The aim of the camp was to inculcate personality development, leadership and team building in the youth through ice breaking sessions, games, seminars, classes and teamwork activities. More than 40 youth from different places of Kollam district participated in the camp which lasted for three days.



The classes were organized under the leadership of Mr. Stephenson Jacob (Manager, Social Worker, CARD Thiruvalla), Sujith Edwin Pereira (Master Trainer, Director NAITER, Trivandrum), and Mr. Vasanth Krishnan (Master Trainer, NAITER, Trivandrum). The camp ended at 1:30 pm on Sunday, March 5. Certificates were distributed to all the participants.

Women's Day Proclamation Rally held

Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS), Fishermen Community Development Program and Taluk Legal Service Authority jointly organized International Women's Day Proclamation Vehicle Rally on 7th March 2023. The scooter cum electric auto rally started from Kollam beach at 5.00 pm. Adv. Rupa Babu (Standing Council, Government of India) flagged off the rally. The rally consisted of over 100 scooters and 12 electric autos, all driven by women. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, TMS & FCDP), Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS) and Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP) addressed the rally.



International Women's Day Celebrated

The Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS), along with FCDP Kollam, Rotary Club of Quilon and the DREAM project celebrated International Women's Day on 8 March 2023. Smt. Anju Meera Birla (Sub Judge, Kollam) inaugurated the public meeting held at the Rotary Club Hall, Beach Road, Kollam. Sr. Vinny Palakudiyil (Administrator, Holy Cross Hospital, Kottiyam) rendered the keynote address and Mrs. Veronica Antony, the Presidential address. The Women's day highlighted the importance of leveraging technology and innovation to promote gender equality and empower women in all areas of life, from education and employment to health and political participation.



During the function, the former Presidents of TMS, namely Mrs. Lillikutty, Dr. Sindha Mendes and Mrs. Violet Cyril were honored. Mrs. Agnes John (President FCDP), Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP & TMS), Dr. Sindha H. Mendez (Former President, TMS), Mr. Sajeev Soman (Ward Councilor, Mundakkal), Mr. Tomy N (Ward Councilor, Pallithottam) and Sr. Annie Joseph Superior, Sneha Kiran Convent) spoke on the occasion. About 400 women participated in the function. Cultural programmes and games by the TMS members added color and flavor to the programme.

Don Bosco children's forum organized the leaders meeting

Don Bosco children's forum organized the leaders meeting on 11th March 2023 at FCDP hall. The animators conducted mentoring sessions which were aimed at equipping young people with the skills and knowledge they need to become effective leaders and agents of change in their communities. Mr. Shingai (Intern, FCDP) and Mr. Ashin P. J (Project Coordinator, FCDP) led sessions on personality development and Team building. Different activities were conducted to improve communication, cooperation, and collaboration within the group.





Activities included games, trust-building exercises and problem-solving challenges aimed at improving teamwork and building trust among group members.

Dental Camp organized

Assisia Medical College of Dental Science & Research, Public Dental Health Department, NSS Unit and Fishermen Community Development Programme jointly organized a free dental check-up camp on Saturday (18.3.23) at 10 am at FCDP hall. About 50 people were part of the camp. Participants received free dental diagnosis and treatment benefits at Assisi Dental College. The dental camp was organized under the leadership of expert doctors viz, Dr. Naveen Jacob Varghese, Dr. Muhammad Talib, Dr. Maimuna, Dr. Natha Sultana, Dr. M. Monisha and Dr. Amal.



Farewell to Mr. Sujith Padmanabhan

FCDP-TMS bade farewell to Mr. Sujith Padmanabhan at the function held at FCDP on 18th March, 3.00 pm . Mr. Sujith worked as Media coordinator of FCDP for the past one year. His term was marked by consistent progress in all the areas associated with the media. The FCDP family thanks him for his hard work, commitment and his contribution to the fishermen community of Kollam during his tenure. We wish him all the best for his future endeavors!



DBCF express solidarity in Grief

The members of DBCF gathered together on 24 March at Pallithottam at the demise of Mrs. Jancy Baisel the mother of Master Benson Baisel of class VIII, an active member and leader of DBC Thunders. The members placed wreathe and prayed for the eternal repose of the soul, sharing their grief at the untimely passing away of Mrs. Jancy. We pledge our wholehearted support to the bereaving family especially Benson Baisel whose father had passed away earlier.



"Can-help" Fund distributed:

At a simple function held at FCDP on 27th March 2023, "Canhelp" Fund for cancer patients was distributed to 70 patients. Dr. K. Santhosh Kumar (Department of Virology, District Hospital, Kollam) inaugurated the "Canhelp" concern and programme. Mrs. Ira D'Cruz, former headmistress of Infant Jesus School, Thope and a cancer survivor shared her experience as a cancer patient and spoke about how to deal with the disease. Rev. Sr. Annie Joseph honored Mrs. Ira D'Cruz for her courageous battle against cancer. Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP) welcomed the guests, Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP & TMS) and Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS) proposed the vote of thanks.



Over 70 beneficiaries of the "Canhelp" programme, Board and Staff of FCDP & TMS were present at the function. After the official function, the earmarked amounts were distributed to the patients concerned. "Canhelp" fund was raised through Canhelp Lucky coupon draw for which was held on 30 January 2023. Our sincere gratitude to every-one who supported this cause by being part of "Canhelp" fundraiser.

Don Bosco Children's Forum honor"Fathers" on Saint Joseph's Day

Marking the end of the month of St. Joseph, Don Bosco Children's Forum and Don Bosco Youth Forum organized St. Joseph's Feast at FCDP Hall on Friday 31-03-2023, At the celebration presided over by Mr. Milton S (Board Member and Secretary, FCDP), Mr. Cresence D'souza, (Managing Partner, Jos arts, Kollam) inaugurated the function. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP & TMS) welcomed everyone. One of the highlights of the event was the honoring of the representatives of the fathers of the DBCF children. With great affection, the children honored with flower, cards and a kiss. Sr. Mary K. (Assistant Director, TMS) felicitated and Mrs. Bindhu Harrison, (Coordinator, DBCF) proposed the vote of thanks.

DBCF and DBYF members presented dances, hymns and speeches, all based on the theme of the feast of St. Joseph. Snacks, Payasam and fireworks added color to the celebrations. More than 200 members of Don Bosco Children's Forum and Youth Forum participated in the event.



















FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (Reg. No. Q.771/84) THEERADESA MAHILA SOCIETY (Reg. No. Q.1039/95)

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