



2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

THEERADESA MAHILA SOCIETY

FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

DON BOSCO YOUTH FORUM

DON BOSCO CHILDREN'S FORUM

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**EMPOWERING THE
FISHERFOLK SINCE
1979**

Director's Message

The Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP) has been working tirelessly for the welfare and upliftment of the coastal community for over 40 years. All the initiatives of FCDP, TMS, FCDS, DBYF, and DBCF, have made significant strides in empowering women, youth, and children.



Rev. Fr. Jithin Sebastian
Director,
FCDP, TMS, FCDS & DBYF

We have taken every effort to fulfill our objectives to reach out to the poor and needy especially among the fisherfolk of kollam. We thank Fr. Joby Sebastian, who dedicated eight years to FCDP as director of FCDP-TMS. His efforts to take FCDP to international standard are commendable. We appreciate his contributions to projects like WE-Autos, WE-LIVE, WYEP, Visappinu Vida, Don Bosco Youth Forum and Children's Forum.

2023-2024, had been a significant year with new faces joining the organization, enhancing its functions. We pledge our continued commitment to the fishermen community's cause.

We thank all our benefactors and wellwishers who have sacrificed their time and resources towards the upliftment of the fishermen community.

Message



Mrs. Agnes John
Chairperson, FCDP

കൊല്ലത്തെ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിലാളി സമൂഹത്തിന്റെ സാമൂഹികവും സാമ്പത്തികവുമായ ഉന്നമനം മുൻനിർത്തി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്ന FCDP-TMS സംഘടന, നാളിത്രയും കൊണ്ട് കൈവരിച്ച നേട്ടത്തിൽ സംതൃപ്തി രേഖപ്പെടുത്തുന്നു. സംഘടനയുടെ ചാരിറ്റി പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളിൽ നട്ടെല്ലായി ഞാൻ കണക്കാക്കുന്ന ഒന്നാണ് വിശപ്പിന് വിട പദ്ധതി. വിശക്കുന്ന വയറിന് ദിവസേന അന്നമെത്തിക്കുന്ന ഈ സംഘടനയുടെ പ്രവർത്തനം എടുത്തു പറയേണ്ട ഒന്നാണ്. അതോടൊപ്പം തന്നെ സ്ത്രീകൾക്ക് വരുമാനമാർഗങ്ങൾ കണ്ടെത്തുന്നതിന് വേണ്ടിയുള്ള സംരംഭക പരിപാടികളും, യുവജനങ്ങളുടെയും കുട്ടികളുടെയും ഉയർച്ചയ്ക്ക് വേണ്ടിയുള്ള ഡോൺബോസ്കോ ക്വിസ് ആപ്പ് തുടങ്ങി കരിയർ ഗൈഡൻസ് ക്ലാസുകൾ ഉൾപ്പെടെ സംഘടന പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്ക് അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര നിലവാരം കൊണ്ട് വരാൻ ഈ കഴിഞ്ഞ വർഷങ്ങളിൽ മുൻ ഡയറക്ടർ ഫാ.ജോബി സെബാസ്റ്റ്യനും ഫാ. ജിതിൻ സെബാസ്റ്റ്യനും കഴിഞ്ഞു എന്നുള്ളത് മികച്ച നേട്ടമായി ഞാൻ കാണുന്നു. സംഘടനയുടെ ഇനിയുള്ള പ്രയാണത്തിൽ വിവിധ തരത്തിലുള്ള സംരംഭക സഹായ പദ്ധതികൾ ആവിഷ്കരിച്ച് ഇതിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനത്തെ ഇനിയും മെച്ചപ്പെടുത്തുവാൻ ഈ സംഘടനയ്ക്ക് കഴിയുമെന്ന് ആത്മാർഥമായി വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിന്റെ പിന്നിൽ പ്രവർത്തിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ജിതിൻ അച്ചനെയും എല്ലാ പ്രവർത്തകരേയും അഭിനന്ദിക്കുന്നു. ഭാവിയിലും സംഘടന പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾ വിവിധ മേഖലയിലേയ്ക്ക് വ്യാപിപ്പിച്ചു കൊണ്ട് ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് കൂടുതൽ ക്ഷേമം കൈവരുത്തുവാൻ കഴിയട്ടെയെന്നു പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

Message



Mrs. Lacticia Martin
President, TMS

തീരദേശ മഹിളാ സൊസൈറ്റി - തങ്കശേരി മുതൽ ഇരവിപുരം വരെ നീളുന്ന തീരദേശത്തെ വനിതകളുടെ അത്താണി. വനിതകളെ മാറ്റത്തിന്റെ വഴിയിലൂടെ നടത്തിയ സംഘടന അമരത്ത് ജോബിയച്ഛൻ എത്തിച്ചേരുന്നതോടെ പുതിയ സംരംഭങ്ങൾക്ക് തുടക്കമായി. അച്ഛൻ പൂർണ്ണ പിന്തുണയുമായി ഫാ. ജിതിനും സിസ്റ്റർ മേരിയും സ്റ്റാഫ് അംഗങ്ങളും. സ്ത്രീ ശാക്തീകരണത്തിന്റെ ഭാഗമായുള്ള വീ ഓട്ടോയിൽ തുടങ്ങി ഫുഡ് ഫെസ്റ്റിലൂടെ വനിതകളെ പുതിയ മേച്ചിൽപുറങ്ങളിലേക്ക് കൈ പിടിച്ചുയർത്തി. തീരദേശത്തെ വനിതകളുടെ ഇന്നത്തെ മാറ്റം ആശ്ചര്യത്തോടെ അല്ലാതെ നോക്കിക്കാണാൻ പറ്റുന്നില്ല. അതിന് സർവ്വേശ്വരൻ ജോബിയച്ചനെയും ജിതിനച്ചനെയും സിസ്റ്റർ മേരിയിെയെയും സ്റ്റാഫ് അംഗങ്ങളെയും ശക്തമായി അനുഗ്രഹിക്കട്ടെ. ഒപ്പം സംഘടനയോട് ചേർന്ന് കൈത്താങ്ങായി നിന്ന് സഹായിച്ച ഓരോ സുമനസുകളെയും ഇത്തരൂണത്തിൽ നന്ദിയോടെ സ്മരിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. തീരദേശ മഹിളാ സൊസൈറ്റിയുടെ ഭാഗമാകാൻ എനിക്ക് അവസരം തന്ന സർവ്വേശ്വരന് ഒരിക്കൽ കൂടെ നന്ദി പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ട് സംഘടനയുടെ തുടർന്നുള്ള പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്ക് എന്റെ എല്ലാവിധ ആശംസകളും നേരുന്നു നന്ദി.



FINANCIAL INCLUSION ACTIVITIES



A. FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



Fishermen Community Development Programme is an organization which works to improve the lives of fishermen in Kollam's coastal region on all fronts. This organization makes every possible effort to support the fishermen in enhancing their social life, economic standard, health, education, and cultural practices. It helps the recipients create a stable source of income for their own households, thereby eradicating poverty.

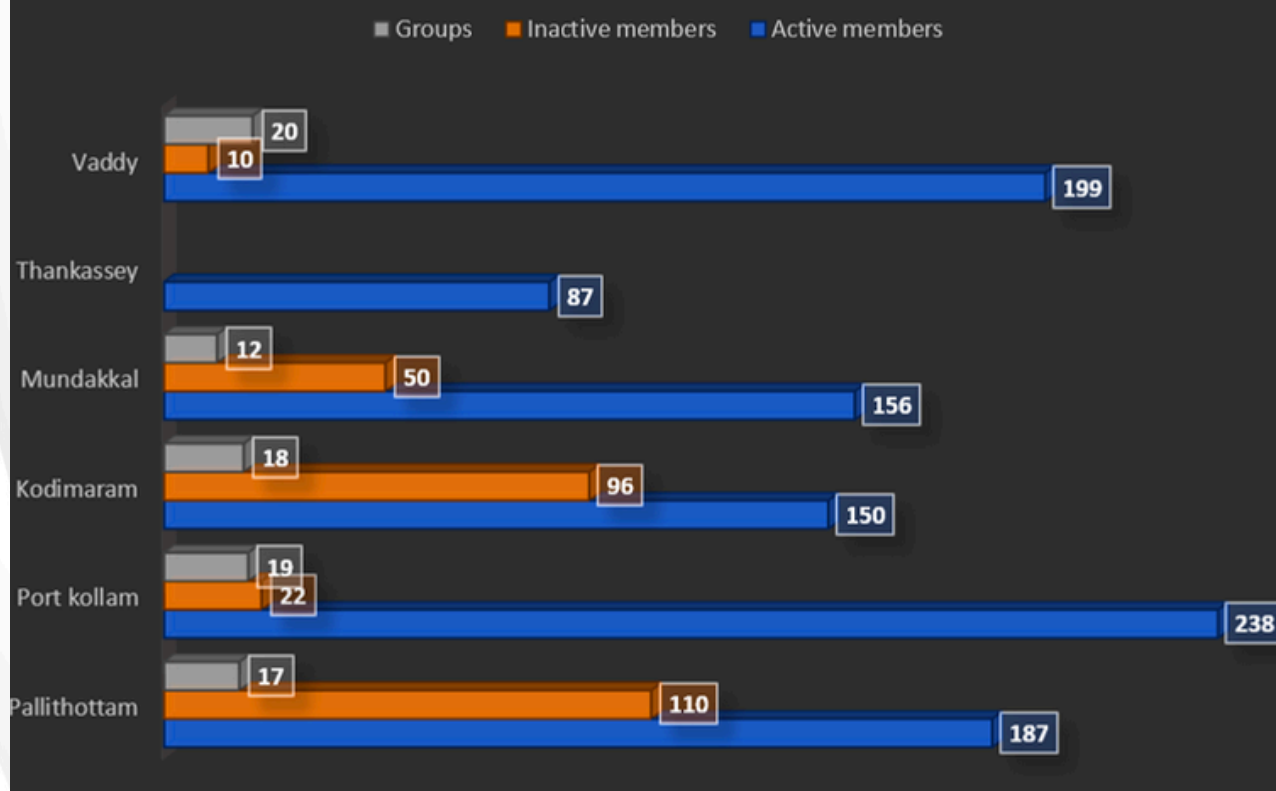
1.1 Self-help groups

FCDP makes use of its SHG Groups to run the microfinancing activities. There are two major groups – Fishermen Group and Non-fishermen Group in the six sections of coastal Kollam from Thangassery to Mundackal.

1.2. Credit Schemes

Credit is made available to the members of FCDP as Credit Union, New Credit Union, Ashakiran credit, and RF credit. The primary goal of the microcredit activities is to provide members with loans for work-related expenses. The loan committee, which is made up of members of the governing body who represent different sections, processes and approves loan requests.

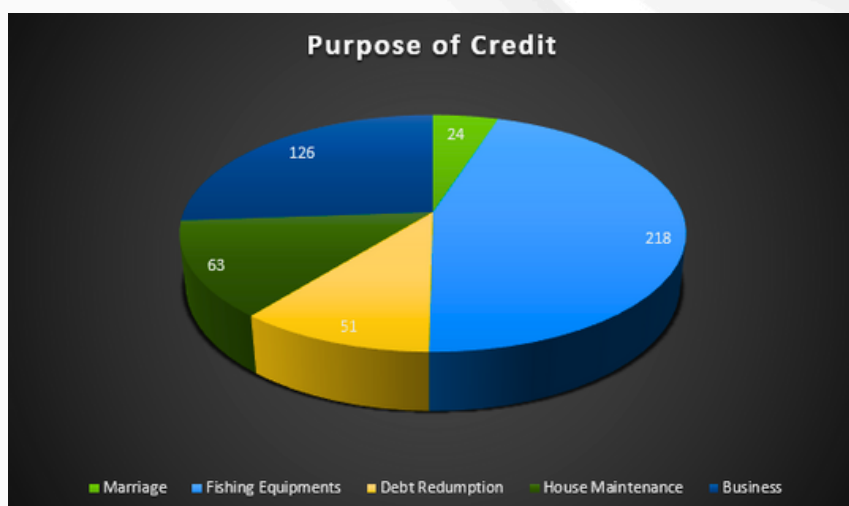
SECTION WISE REPRESENTATION OF MEMEBRS



The table below represents the credit given and repayment received in the financial year 2023-2024.

Name of Scheme	Amount Released	Repayment Received	No. of Beneficiaries
New Credit Union	13909949	14524430	163
Ashakiran Credit	8935432	4070000	50
RF Credit	3924103	8915000	175
Credit Union (old)	4410	-	-
Total	26773894	27509430	388

The goal for which credits were granted is depicted in the diagram below. These include marriage, buying fishing equipments, paying off debt, house maintenance, and running business. The majority of loans have been taken out to buy fishing equipments.



1.3. Saving Schemes

The Saving schemes are made available for the members which include Ashakiran Savings, Special Savings and Small Savings and encourage members to develop an aptitude to save money.

The table below represents the amount saved under various schemes and the number of beneficiaries.

Name of Scheme	Total Amount Received	Total Amount Withdrawn	Number of Beneficiaries
Ashakiran Savings	2030400	1878804	427
Special Savings	2277701	1037469	135
Small Savings	35860330	35689293	872

Death Relief Fund



Sesseyya



Sebastian Alexander



Lawrence



Arnold



Jerald elias



Julian Thomas



Charly Joseph



Varghese



Adison Francis



Andrews



Sundaran .K

B. THEERADESA MAHILA SOCIETY

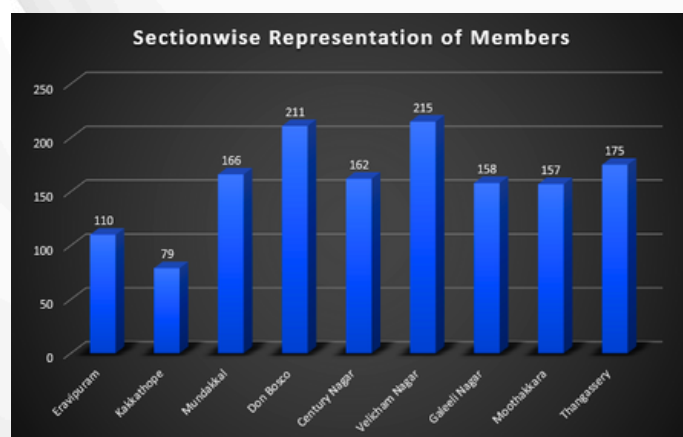


Established in 1983, Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS) aims to empower women in the Kollam coastal region through social, cultural, economic, employment, health, and awareness development. The women of the coastal belt started practicing thrift and saving money with the help of this organization. TMS supports women in recognizing and defending their own rights, the need for justice, involvement in the community, and entrepreneurship. Financial inclusion initiatives of TMS are limited to women alone and are intended to improve their financial standing and encourage saving. This is run in nine sections, from Thangassery to Eravipuram.

2.1 Self Help Groups

Financial inclusion activities of TMS are organized through self-help groups. There are 1433 members with 65 self-help groups in 9 sections from Eravipuram to Thangassery.

Given below is the number of members in each section in the financial year 2023-2024.



2.2 Credit Schemes

Members apply for loans under a number of schemes, all of which have the express purpose of promoting self-employment. Under Ashakiran Credit and Credit Union, women are granted credit. Credit requests of the members are initially reviewed by the Self Help Groups before being approved by the loan committee, which is formed of board members from different sections.

The table below represents the credit given and repayment received in the financial year 2023-2024.

Name of Scheme	Total Amount Released	Repayment received
New Credit Union	15225738	16007331
Ashakiran Credit	7710000	7848796
Total	18594430	22845381

The following chart illustrates the different justifications for credit usage. Fresh and dried fish vendors, flour mills, clothing sales, candle makers, snack makers, beauty salons, tailors, petty shops, tea booths, and so on are examples of small enterprises. Boat, net, and engine maintenance have also been paid for with money. In addition, credit has been used for permanent house construction, education, healthcare, and retail operations (stationery, groceries, seafood, kerosene, etc.). It is significant to remember that the majority of loans are taken out with the intention of paying off prior debts.



2.3 Saving Schemes

Saving schemes under TMS include Ashakiran savings, extra savings and small savings. During the year 2023-2024, total of Rs. 3,06,96,686.00 (Three crore six lakhs ninety-six thousand six hundred and eighty-six rupees only) was saved under various schemes.

The table below represents the amount saved under various schemes and the number of beneficiaries.

Name of Scheme	Total Amount Received	Total Amount Withdrawn	Number of Beneficiaries
Ashakiran Savings	4102530	4224962	601
Special Savings	498700	490300	101
Small Savings	34422633	34186348	1402
Total	39023863	38901610	2104

2.4 Death Relief Fund



C. SOCIAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



The various social outreach activities of FCDP, TMS, FCDS (Fishermen Community Development Society), and DBYF (Don Bosco Youth Forum) include Vishappinu vida, Santhwanam, Pratheeksha, Ujjivani, free counseling service and Free legal aid. During the year 2023-2024, Rs. 3732709 (Rupees thirty seven lakhs thirty two thousand seven hundred and nine only) have been spent on social outreach activities.

SL NO	Outreach Activites	Mumps Life style Diseases
1	VISHAPPINU VIDA	2805906
2	PRATHEEKSHA	97782
3	SANTHWANAM	542038
4	UJJIVANI	112844
5	COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER	109420
6	CAN-HELP	64719
7	TOTAL	3732709



During the year 2023-2024, 41400 food packets were distributed to the needy and the deserving people at their homes. An average of 115 packets were distributed daily.

2805906 (Twenty-eight lakhs five thousand nine hundred and six rupees only) have been spent towards daily meal and nursing care. The project completed its seventh year of reaching out to the neediest of people in Kollam coastal region. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those kind hearted benefactors who support this programme with love and sacrifice.

3.2 Pratheeksha (Educational Aid)

Pratheeksha which aims to provide educational aid to poor and eligible students reaches out to children in need. In the year 2023- 2024 Rs. 97782 (rupees ninety-seven thousand seven hundred and eighty-two only) was spent as part of the programme as scholarship and educational aid.



3.3 Santhwanam (Empathy and Care)



Santhwanam reaches out to the sick and needy through medical assistance and nursing care. In the financial year 2023-2024, 45 members were provided medical assistance. Rs. 542038/- (Rupees five lakh forty-two thousand and thirty-eight only) was spent towards succoring the sick.

3.4 Ujjivani (Free Dialysis)

It provides free dialysis for kidney patients. Ujjivani was inaugurated by Rt. Rev. Dr. Paul Mullassery, (Bishop of Kollam) on 24 May 2022. The program supports 100 free dialysis every month. The project began with the help of local benefactors and is organized in collaboration with Bishop Benziger hospital, Kollam. During the year 1078 free dialysis have been given to 40 patients, amounting to a total of Rs. 539000 (Rupees five lakh thirty-nine thousand only).



3.5 Community health Centre

Community Health Centre, run in collaboration with Bishop Benziger Hospital and Bishop Benziger College of Nursing, was renovated and reopened on 3 October 2022. Rt. Rev. Dr. Paul Antony Mullassery, Bishop of Quilon Diocese inaugurated the function and blessed the newly renovated centre. Rev. Fr. John Britto (Director, Bishop Benziger Hospital) welcomed the guests at the event organized at the Community Health Center at 10 am.



TOPIC	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
World Diabetes Day Cancer Day	10
World AIDS Day	15
Road safety	20
Road Safety Week Anti Leprosy Day	20
Mumps Life style Diseases	20
Mumps	16
International Women's day World TB day	20

3.6 Medical Camps

FREE MEDICAL CAMP FOR WOMEN

The Lifeline Fertility and Well Women Center, in collaboration with FCDP and TMS, organized a free medical camp on 5 August, 2023, at FCDP Hall, focusing on gynaecological issues. Mr. Tomy N. (Ward Councillor) inaugurated the camp. The camp provided gynaecological consultations, medicines, routine tests, and valuable health information. Over 100 women benefited from the free medical camp.



FREE MEDICAL CAMP FOR DIABETES CHECK-UP

Shifa Medical Centre, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Quilon West End and the Fishermen Community Development program Kollam, organized a free diabetes check-up and awareness class at FCDP Hall on November 14, 2023. The camp focused on issues related to diabetes. Tests were provided on blood sugar, HbA1c, and diabetic neuropathy. About 40 members participated in the camp. Our sincere appreciation to the doctors, nurses, and staff who assisted at the camp. Besides offering free medical services, the camp was also useful in disseminating information on health-related matters.



FREE PRIMARY CHECK-UP MEDICAL CAMP

Fishermen Community Development Programme Kollam in collaboration with Rotary Club of Quilon Heritage & Muthoot Snehasraya organized a free medical camp at FCDP Hall on December 31, 2023. Tests were provided on Glucose, creatinine, cholesterol, blood pressure, urine albumin urine sugar and BMI. The facilities were made available to first 120 persons who registered. Our sincere appreciation goes to the doctors, nurses, and staff who assisted at the camp. Besides offering free medical services, the camp was also useful in disseminating information on health-related areas.



D. DON BOSCO YOUTH FORUM

Don Bosco Youth Forum (DBYF) is a youth organization officially registered under the 12th Travancore-Kochi Literary Scientific Dharma Sanghas of 1950 and affiliated to the Nehru Yuva Kendra, and the Kerala State Youth Welfare Committee. DBYF under the patronage of Don Bosco, the friend of youth, is an effort by FCDP to unite the youth spanning across the coastal areas of Kollam and to ensure their development and promote their commitment to the society.



DBCF & DBYF CELEBRATE WORLD FOOD DAY

On 21 October 2023 Don Bosco Children's Forum and Don Bosco Youth Forum members celebrated World Food Day. As part of the program, members distributed over 350 home-made food packets to the helpless and needy, including the beneficiaries of Visappinu Vida. Food packets were also distributed at Andamukkam, Chinnakada Bus Stand, Reserve Camp, Railway Station, Ashramam, Beach, and District Hospital. Rev. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director), Rev. Fr. Jithin M.S. (Asst. Director), Mrs. Bindhu Harison (Co-Ordinator, DBCF), Mrs. Mary John (Co-Ordinator, DBYF), and animators led the program. Rev. Fr. Jithin M.S. (Asst. Director), Mrs. Bindhu Harison (Co-Ordinator, DBCF), Mrs. Mary John (Co-Ordinator, DBYF), and animators led the program.



MEMBERSHIP DAY AND THE DON BOSCO YOUTH FORUM ANNIVERSARY



Don Bosco Youth Forum (DBYF) celebrated its anniversary and membership day on 12 August, 2023 at the function held at FCDP Hall. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Rajesh Kumar (Sub-Inspector, Pallithottam) and Mr. Samson Mathew (General Secretary, YMCA) delivered the keynote address. Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP), Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP-TMS), Smt. Veronica Antony (President, TMS), Mr. Milton Stephen (Board Member, FCDP) and other dignitaries facilitated on the occasion.

Don Bosco under 19 Sevens Football Tournament

Don Bosco under 19 Sevens Football Tournament:

"Don Bosco Under 19 Sevens Football Tournament" was organized by Don Bosco Youth Forum under the leadership of Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP), on Sunday 16/04/23 at Don Bosco Boys' Home. The two-day tournament brought in participation from a total of 8 teams from the coastal areas of Kollam. Mr. Sajeev Soman (Ward Councillor, Udaya Marthandapuram) inaugurated the event. TMS Assistant Director - Sister Mary K, Don Bosco FA Coach - Shri Innocent S (Aji), FCDP Coordinator - Mrs. Greta Raju, Shri. Sunil S (Manager, FCDS), DBYF Coordinator - Mrs. Mary John Kennedy, and DBYF animators, Mrs. Princy Edison and Mrs. Selvi Antony provided the background support for the success of this tournament.



DON BOSCO-FEST 2024

DBYF In association with FCDP and TMS, organised a two-day Don Bosco Fest on January 26 and 27, 2024. As part of this, more than 200 children under the age of 15 participated in carroms, super wicket, super goal, group dance, single dance, and drawing competitions. The closing ceremony of the Fest was held on January 27 at 4 p.m. The function was inaugurated by Chief Guest Sr Selma (Headmistress, St. Joseph's UP School, Port Kollam). Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS) presided and Rev. Fr. Jithin Sebastian introduced the meeting. FCDP, TMS, FCDS, and members of the Don Bosco Youth Forum and Children's Forum participated in the function. Sr. Mary. K. (Asst. Director, TMS) delivered the vote of thanks..



DON BOSCO YOUTH FORUM CELEBRATED THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE.

Don Bosco Youth Forum, the youth wing of FCDP, organized a flash mob and various programs to commemorate the World Peace Day on September 23, 2023. The theme of the international Peace day was "Actions for Peace: Our Ambition for the Global Goals,". The programs were held at Thangassery Breakwater and at Kollam Beach. Mr. Sajeewan Soman (Ward Councillor, Mundakkal) flew a dove as a symbol of peace at the Thangassery breakwater. Mr. Tomy Napoleon (Ward Councillor, Pallithottam) gave the message on peace at Kollam beach. Miss Sanjana Shaji (DBYF) spoke about the importance of World Peace Day. Over 100 people and youth lit the lamp in celebration of World Peace Day at Kollam Beach. Miss Roshal Maria led the audience in the oath taking ceremony. The programs went a long way in achieving the aim of raising awareness about the importance of peace and the need to work towards a peaceful and harmonious world.



DBYF OBSERVED WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Members of Don Bosco Youth Forum join hands with FCDP towards achieving the sustainable development goal of Climate Action. As part of the observation of the World Environment Day, they planted saplings of fruit bearing trees on Saturday, 5th June 2023. The message for World Environment Day this year is to fight plastic pollution.



DBYF AT YUVA UTSAV-2023

Don Bosco Youth Forum members participated in the Yuva Utsav 2023 organized by the Nehru Yuva Kendra, under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, in collaboration with NSS and District Administration on Saturday 17th June 2023. The members of Don Bosco Youth Forum (DBYF) participated in speech, painting, poetry writing, mobile photography and folk-dance competition and won first place in folk dance competition. The group was selected for the state level folk dance competition. These competitions provide a good platform for our youth to grow holistically and develop their talents and skills.



THREE-DAY RESIDENTIAL CAMP FOR DBYF

A three-day residential camp for the members of Don Bosco Youth forum was held from 18th May 2023 to 20th May 2023, for 25 selected youths. The camp was organized under the guidance of Dn. Rubin Mathew and Fr. Jithin Mattamundayil. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Rev. Fr. Sugun Leone (Additional Vicar General, Diocese of Kollam), who inaugurated the camp, and Fr. Joby Sebastian, the Director of FCDP-TMS and DBYF, delivered an introductory speech. Fr. Jerin Palaty (Director, Don Bosco Boys' Home), Mrs. Gretta Raju (Coordinator, FCDP), Mrs. Mary John (Coordinator, DBYF), and Sr. Mary K., (Asst. Director, TMS), presided over the function.



DON BOSCO BIBLE QUIZ APP LAUNCHED

Rt. Rev. Dr. Stanley Roman DD (Bishop Emeritus of Kollam Diocese) inaugurated "Don Bosco Bible Quiz App and the Don Bosco Bible Quiz website" on Saturday 16 March 2024. The launch of the new app and website was held at FCDP hall by His Lordship unveiling the Logo. The app was developed by Mr. Stephen Antony (Head of Technology - Pearl Data Direct Technology Division of LuLu Financial Holdings Abu Dhabi - UAE) and available in English and Malayalam.



MARIAN NITE FOR DON BOSCO COASTAL FORUMS

Marian Nite was celebrated at FCDP hall on 31st May 2023 to mark the end of the Marian month by Don Bosco Youth Forum and Don Bosco Children's Forum. Various group-based competitions such as song, message, skit, dance, quiz, and jigsaw puzzles were organized based on the theme of Mother Mary as an expression of devotion. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP- TMS, DBYF), Fr. Jithin (Asst. Director, FCDP), Ms. Mary John (Co-Ordinator, DBYF), Mr. Sunil S (Manager, FCDS), Ms. Anisha B Chacko, (Project Coordinator), Ms. Anna Saju (Project Coordinator), Ms. Iswarya Cleetus (DBYF Animator) Ms. Engal Sara Peter (MSW Intern), presided over the function.



CAREER GUIDANCE CLASS FOR STUDENTS INAUGURATED

DBYF members participated in Yuva Utsav, a talent hunt organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra in association with National Service Scheme and District Administration, Kollam on Saturday, 15th October 2022. DBYF members participated in Speech and Painting competitions. Ms. Meleena bagged first prize in the Declamation contest.



VOTER-AWARENESS CLASS ORGANIZED

A Voter Awareness program was organized as part of "INTENSIVE VOTER'S AWARENESS CAMPAIGN" on Saturday March 23 at FCDP Hall. In collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra under the leadership of Don Bosco Youth Forum. The purpose of the program was to sensitize the citizens about the importance of voting and election process. Fr. Stephy Francis (Director, Dream and DB Tech, Kollam) inaugurated the event. Fr. Jithin Sebastian (Asst. Director, FCDP) presided over the function and Sister Mary. K (Asst. Director, TMS) welcomed. Advocate Mrs. Venu J Pillai (Former Public Prosecutor, Member of BAR Association) took the sessions. The class discussed the importance of voting, constitutional values, responsible citizenship and how to exercise fundamental rights. The program was organized with the aim of creating awareness among the citizens about their fundamental rights and exercising their right to vote consciously.

E. DON BOSCO CHILDREN'S FORUM



INAUGURATION OF CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENT

Don Bosco Children's Forum, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Quilon Heritage and Don Bosco College Kottiyam, organized "Don Bosco Children's Parliament and Children's Fest. The program was held on November 25, 2023, at the Rotary Community Hall, Kollam. Mrs. Elizabeth Lisy (Headmistress, Balika Mariam School, Pattathanam) inaugurated the Children's Parliament. The 21 elected members of parliament sworn in as members taking the oath from the President of children's Parliament, Ms. Anjana. Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP) presided over the function. Mr. Henry Bernard Lopez (President, Rotary Club Quilon Heritage), Ms. Veronica Antony (TMS, President) and Rev. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director FCDP-TMS, DBCF) spoke on the occasion. Dr. Seena Gopinathan (Associate Professor, Department of Home Science, Sree Narayana College for Women, Kollam) led an awareness class for children on the theme 'Learn to Lead'. Children's Parliament is begun with the idea of actively involving children in decision-making, developing leadership skills, civic responsibility, social consciousness, and thus promoting democratic values.



Don Bosco Summer Camp 2023

The Don Bosco Summer Camp 2023 jointly organized by Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP), Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS), and Don Bosco Youth Forum (DBYF) Kollam, began on 10th April 2023. More than 250 students participated in the camp. The camp was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Stephen Mukkattil SDB (Rector & Vicar, St. Stephen's Church, Thope). Mrs. Bindhu Harrison, (Coordinator, Children's Forum) welcomed all. Fr. Joby Sebastian, (Director, FCDP-TMS), Mrs. Annie (Chairperson, FCDP) and Veronica Antony (President, TMS) addressed the camp. Deacon Rubin Matthew, Br. Jibin, Sr. Mary K, FCDP - TMS Staff, DBCF and volunteers were present at the inaugural function. The Summer Camp organized with the aim of keeping the students engaged during the holidays by developing their talents, provided them a platform to explore and express their creativity, ability to face their fears, try new things, push their boundaries, make new friends & learn team spirit. Summer Camp was earnestly appreciated not only by the participants but also by their parents.



NATIONAL COOKING DAY OBSERVED

Don Bosco Children's Forum (DBCF) celebrated the National Cooking Day at FCDP Hall on September 28, 2023. The public function was chaired by Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP). Dr. Paul Kannittayil (Pediatrician, Bishop Benzigar Hospital, Kollam) took an informative session on healthy eating habits.

The public function was followed by the highlight of the day, namely, the sandwich-making competition between the various groups of the Don Bosco Children's Forum. Over 50 members participated in the event. The winner of the competition was the Golden Eagles, and the 2nd runner-up was the DBC Legends. The observance of the national cooking aimed at encouraging eating home-made food, cooking by both the genders, and developing the a taste for cooking from a young age.



INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY OBSERVED

Don Bosco Youth Forum and Don Bosco Children's Forum, the youth and children's wing of FCDP celebrated International Day of Yoga 2023 in collaboration with Rotary Club of Quilon on Wednesday, 21st June. The theme for the International Day of Yoga 2023 was 'Vasudhaiva Kudumbakam' meaning 'The whole world is one (my) family'. Sri. Biju Gopalakrishna Pillai Ph.D led the yoga training held at the Rotary Community Centre, Kollam. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP) presided over the function and Mr. Navas M.I. (President, Rotary Club of Quilon) inaugurated the programme. 125 children from Don Bosco Youth Forum and Don Bosco Children's Forum participated in the yoga session which lasted for more than an hour. Smt. Bindhu Harrison (Co-ordinator, DBCF) thanked the participants.



DON BOSCO UNDER-15 SEVENS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT WAS ORGANIZED.

"Don Bosco Under 15 Sevens Football Tournament," organized by Don Bosco Children's Forum under the leadership of FCDP, was successfully conducted as part of Don Bosco's Feast. Seven teams from the Children's Forum participated in the matches, which took place on February 24, 2024, at Don Bosco Boys' Home. DBC Thunders, DBC Legends, DBC Rock Stars, and DBC Squad X played in the semi-finals and final match was held on February 25, 2024, inaugurated by Mrs. Mary John (Former DBYF Coordinator). Rev. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP-TTMS) presided over the function.



DBC Legends won the final match and Fr. Stephy Francis (Director, DB Tech & Dreams) distributed the prizes to the winners.

F. FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

Fishermen Community Development Society (FCDS) is a registered society to provide a platform for marketing the goods and services produced by the micro enterprises begun by the women of the coastal region of Kollam. The products include powder and masala, home care products, handicraft, paper and clothe bags, and garments.



Masala and Food Products

Masala and Food Products unit offers unadulterated food powder, namely sambar powder, garam masala, chicken masala, meat masala, fish masala, pepper powder, chilly powder (red chilly and kashmiri), coriander powder, turmeric powder, rice flour and wheat flour and spices like pepper, cardamom and honey.

Home Care Unit

The home care unit produces sanitary products which include bathing soap, hand wash, hi-tech and normal washing powder, toilet cleaner, phenyl, dish wash liquid, floor cleaner, detergent liquid, sanitizer and kits for the same.



Handicraft Unit

FCDS started a unique business producing seashell-based crafts. The program is advantageous from an economic standpoint as well as in terms of personality development because it teaches the members how to expand and realize their imagination and use their free time in inventive ways.



Cloth and Paper Bag Units

With an eye toward a plastic-free and environmentally responsible future, FCDS produces cloth bags and paper bags, which are distributed to store owners in and around Kollam. The paper bag unit was started after the training that was conducted as part of the EDP training programme. Bags are offered in various configurations and at various prices.



SHG Outlet

The SHG outlet was established as a channel for selling the goods that the various production units produce. Masalas, home care products like dishwash liquid, floor cleaner, sanitizer, etc., clothing, masks, cloth bags, and other supplies like pickles, honey, rice, cooking oil, milk, candles, and handicraft items are all included. The store is open on every working day, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. The units also deliver its merchandise in response to consumer requests.



G. WE-LIVE

First phase of the project "Women Empowerment through Livelihood and Entrepreneurship" (WE-Live) has been a success in mainstreaming the women of coastal Kollam by helping them to become financially independent. Second phase of two-year project began in March 2023. Various workshops were organized with the aim to empower the women of the coastal region to achieve a sustainable income through entrepreneurship and self-employment. Entrepreneurs undergo five workshops covering Group Management, Finance Management, Credit Linkage and Finance Access, Production Management 1 and Production Management 2. The organic kitchen segment involves three workshops covering Basics of Organic Farming, How to Start Kitchen Garden in Organic way, and Basics of Vegetable Cultivation. The WE-Live Project is dedicated to ensuring sustained income for women by fostering entrepreneurship and promoting organic kitchen practices.



SL. No	Workshops	No. of Workshops	No. of Participants
1	Group Management	3	150
2	Finance Management	3	150
3	Credit Linkage & Finance Access	3	150
4	Production Management – 1	3	150
5	Basics in Organic Farming	1	50
6	How to Start Kitchen Garden	1	50
7	Basics of Vegetable Cultivation	1	50

H. WOMEN AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (WYEP)

The project aims to enhance the entrepreneurial skills of 450 women and youth within 2 years through skill training and entrepreneurship development. It includes support for setting up income-generating projects, improving market accessibility, and enhancing leadership in coastal villages of Kollam.

Project activities involve skill development in;

- Tailoring and Embroidery
- Computer class
- Fish and Food Processing

With a focus on creating entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurship Development Training (EDP) and Marketing Support are provided. The project plans to train 225 women/youth annually in three skill domains.

Leadership training classes were successfully conducted, benefiting over 400 Self-Help Group (SHG) leaders. These efforts aim to empower individuals and foster economic growth in the region.



Fish and Food Processing

SL. No	Workshop	Month	No of Participants
1	Fish and Food Processing -1	November	15
2	Fish and Food Processing -2	December	15
3	Fish and Food Processing -3	March	15
4	Fish and Food Processing -4	April	15

Leadership Training

SL. No	Workshops	Month	Theme	Month
1	Leadership Training - 1	9 to 11 November 2023	Coaching and Mentoring Skills for Leadership	80
2	Leadership Training - 2	1 to 4 December 2023	Time Management, Capacity Building and Team Management	80
3	Leadership Training - 3	11 to 14 January 2024	Strengthened Team Dynamics	80
4	Leadership Training - 4	8 to 10 February 2024	Strategic Thinking and Planning	80
5	Leadership Training - 5	14 to 16 March, 2024	Team Management	80

Entrepreneurship Development Training

SL. No	Workshops	Month	Theme	Month
1	Entrepreneurship Development Training -1	7 to 9 December 2023	Skill Development	30
2	Entrepreneurship Development Training -2	18 to 20 January 2024	Advantages of Self Employment	30
3	Entrepreneurship Development Training -3	22 to 24 February 2024	Production Management	30
4	Entrepreneurship Development Training -4	11 to 13 March 2024	Multi-Tasking, Marketing Opportunities	30

Computer Skills Training

No. of batches in a year	Dates	Reach Out
3	Batch 1: July -September Batch 2: October-December Batch 3: January- March	75

Tailoring and fashion designing

No. of batches	Dates	Reach Out
2	Batch 1: April to September Batch 2: October to March	60

I. WE-AUTO

‘The ‘WE-AUTO’ project is an attempt to bring women to the forefront of the society, ensuring a sustainable income and thereby promoting their sense of self-worth and identity. Through this project, women from the Kollam coast who are trained in electric auto rickshaw driving were selected and given electric auto rickshaws.



6TH PHASE OF WE AUTO DISTRIBUTION

Under the leadership of the Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP), the 6th phase of We- Auto distribution was held on 26 October 2023. Mr. Jayesh Kumar (RTO Kollam) inaugurated the function and flagged off the new e-autos. The e-autos were received by Mrs. Jijimol Santhosh and Mrs. Joyce Sajan. With the Sixth phase, 22 women drivers have become part of the We-auto project, most of them are the proud owners of the vehicles now. The We autos (women empowerment Autos) have been successful in empowering women economically, helping them to break away from traditional career stereotypes, and be part of the mainstream workforce. Mr. Stephen S. (Vice President, FCDP), Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS) Rev. Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director, FCDP-TMS) Sr. Mary K (Asst. Director, TMS) and Mr. Ashiq S. (Kollam Branch Manager, Piaggio Ape, Electric) spoke on the occasion. Rev. Fr. Jithin M.S. (Asst. Director, FCDP), board and staff and well wishers attended the event.



J. OTHER EVENTS

ONAM WITH VISAPPINU VIDA

The 'Visappinu Vida' program, which has been providing free mid-day meals and nursing care to over 120 elderly parents in coastal areas for the past six years, celebrated Onam on 26th August, 2023. It was a combined celebration of Visappinu vida with its beneficiaries and benefactors, along with the board members, staff, youth and children of the FCDP family. The celebration took place at St. Peter's Community Hall in Moothakkara and was attended by over 400 people. Mr. Jayachandran Elankath (Malayala Manorama Special Correspondent and Bureau in Chief) inaugurated the function that was presided over by Rev. Fr Stephen Mukkattil SDB (Rector, Don Bosco, Kollam). Rev. Fr Detto Fernandez (Parish Priest, St. Peter's Church, Muthakkara) gave the keynote address. Mr. N.K. Premachandran (honorable M.P, Kollam) and Mr. Fayas (C I, Pallithottam) addressed the meeting. Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP), Rev. Fr Joby Sebastian sdb (Director, FCDP-TMS), Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS) and Rev. Sr Mary K (Ast Director, TMS) felicitated. Mrs. Mini Mary (Co-ordinator, TMS) presented the report on the Visappinu vida and Mrs Mary Rocky one of the beneficiary shared her experience. The public function was followed by the cultural program staged by the members of Don Bosco Youth and Children's Forum after which everyone participated in the Onasadya.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF REV. FR. JOBY SEBASTIAN, DIRECTOR OF FCDP-TMS

The FCDP-TMS family joined together to celebrate the birthday of Rev. Fr. Joby Sebastian, the Director of FCDP-TMS on July 4, 2023. The programme was attended by the board and staff members. Various programs were organized to make the occasion memorable. The members from the staff, DBYF, DBCF and coastal melodies presented a number of entertaining performances as part of the celebration. It turned out to be an opportunity to express our gratitude for his love, guidance, and dedicated service which has played an important role in the success of the organization.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024 CELEBRATED

International Women's Day was celebrated at the Rotary Club of Quilon on March 8, 2024. The event was organized by Theeradesa Mahila Society in collaboration with the Fishermen Community Development Programme and Rotary Club of Quilon. Mrs. Agnes John, (Chairperson, FCDP) welcomed the gathering. The public function was presided over by Mrs. Veronica Antony, (President, TMS) and the chief guest Mrs. Sreeja Hareesh, (Vice President, District Panchayat Kollam), inaugurated the event. Mrs. Elizabeth Lissy (Headmistress, Balika Mariyam School, Kollam), delivered the keynote address. Bindu Mary Francis, (President, IMO Desinganad and representative of ESI Dispensary) conducted an awareness session on "Women and Health."



WOMEN'S DAY PROCLAMATION RALLY HELD

As a prelude to the International Women's Day, a two-wheeler and three wheeler rally by women was jointly organized by the Theeradesa Mahila Society, Fishermen Community Development Program, and Rotary Club of Quilon. The rally began at 5:30 pm on March 7 from Kollam beach and was flagged off by Dr. Sindha Mendez (Councillor, Benzigar College of Nursing & Board Member, Coastal Women's Society). The two-wheeler and three-wheeler rally covered areas like Thangaserry, Moothakkasa & Portkollam before ending at FCDP office where Mrs. Mini Mary (co-ordinator, TMS) proposed the vote of thanks



PROVINCIAL OF SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO VISITS FCDP

Rev. Fr. Jose Koyikkal SDB (Provincial, Salesians of Don Bosco, Bangalore) officially visited FCDP on 29 January 2024. He assessed the activities of the organisation. Fr. Jithin Sebastian (Assistant Director FCDP) welcomed the gathering of the board and staff. Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP) & Mrs. Veronica Antony (President, TMS), Stephen S and Lacticia Martin felicitated. A video based on activities of FCDP taken by different departments, namely the financial and social outreach programmes, activities of FCDS, Don Bosco Youth Forum, Don Bosco Children's Forum and the different projects like We-Autos, We-livE, WYEP etc was screened on the occasion. Mrs. Gretta Raju (FCDP co-ordinator) presented the activity report of the FCDP family. Rev. Fr. Jose Koyikkal SDB released the organization's newsletter and interacted with the board and staff. Sr. Mary K. (Asst. Director, TMS) proposed the vote of thanks. After the meeting, the Provincial blessed the Don Bosco Library and the newly renovated Kennedy Memorial Hall, rented for developmental initiatives. He also visited the FCDS Flour Mill.



UJJIVANI CELEBRATES THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF 1 YEAR

Ujjivani - the free dialysis programme for kidney patients completed one year on 24th May 2023. A simple programme was organized on 31st May 2023 to celebrate the first-year anniversary of the programme begun by FCDP-TMS in collaboration with Bishop Benziger Hospital. The program that started with 50 free dialysis every month has now risen to 100 free dialysis a month. The chief guest for the program was Rev. Fr. P.O. Varghese sdb, (Parish Priest, St. Stephen's Church, Thope). Smt. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP) presided over the function. Rev. Fr. C.J. Sebastian (Ast. Vicar, St. Stephen's Church, Thope) was the special guest. Smt. Nirmala, (Asst. Nursing Superintendent, Bishop Benziger Hospital) represented the Bishop Benziger Hospital. Ms. Sanjana J.S., family member of one of the beneficiaries shared her experience.



Awareness cum training program conducted by Dream

DREAM (Drug Rehabilitation Education and Mentoring) Kollam, in collaboration with Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP) and Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS) organized an awareness cum training program for the parents against the growing menace of drug abuse among children on Wednesday, 26th April 2023. Ms. Athira Wilson, project coordinator of DREAM led the session on Signs and Symptoms of Substance abuse. DREAM (Drug Rehabilitation Education and Mentoring) is a project focusing on protecting children and youth against addiction by educating and mentoring them on substance abuse and various addictions. Ms. Susanna (Project Director, DREAM, Don Bosco Mondo, Bonn, Germany) addressed the audience during the meeting. Rev. Fr. Rubin (Executive Director, BREADS, Bangalore), Mr. Benny Augustine (Project Manager, BREADS), Rev. Fr. Bino Nadackal (Director, DREAM, Kollam), Fr. Joby Sebastian (Director FCDP & TMS), Mr. Jayasingh (Project counselor), Ms. Aswathy and Mr. Antony (staff of QDBS), and staff of FCDP and TMS were present at the training programme where about 100 parents from the fisher folk community took part.



LEGAL AID CLINIC ORGANISED

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and Taluk Legal Services Authority (TLSA), Kollam, in collaboration with the Fishermen Community Development Programme and Theeradesa Mahila Society, organised a legal aid clinic on November 30, 2023, at FCDP, Kollam. Adv. Dileep (TLS panel member) dealt with the cases brought by the people. Around 15 members consulted and got advice for further procedures. Free legal aid services ensure that opportunities for justice is not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. Legal services include rendering service in the conduct of any case or other legal proceedings before any court and giving advice on any legal matter.



LEGAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN HELD

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and Taluk Legal Services Authority (TLSA), Kollam in collaboration with Fishermen Community Development Programme and Theeradesa Mahila Society, launched a campaign on legal awareness on October 27 at FCDP Hall. Adv. Dileep (TLS panel member) led the awareness class. The session concientized the participants of their entitlements and apprised them about the availability of free legal services. The main purpose of the program was to empower the poor and disadvantaged sections of society to seek and demand legal services. FCDP has a desk for Free Legal Aid under DLSA & TLSA, Kollam.



FCDP CHRISTMAS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

As a part of Christmas celebrations, a Football tournament was organized at the Kollam Beach by mobilizing the members of Fishermen's Group from Mundakkal to Thangassery. Six teams from six sections participated. Thangassery FC won the final match against Mundakkal FC by one goal. Rev. Fr. Romario (Assistant Vicar, St. John the Baptist Church, Iravipuram) inaugurated the tournament. Rev. Fr. P.O. Varghese (Vicar, St. Stephen's Church, Thopp) distributed trophies and medals to the winners.



FIRE AND SAFETY TRAINING CLASS

A Fire and safety training class was held at FCDP Hall on January 19, 2024 in collaboration with Fire and rescue station, Kollam and Benziger Nursing College, Kollam. Safety classes are crucial for promoting workplace and public safety. Participants learned essential skills such as fire prevention, emergency response, and proper use of firefighting equipment. These classes play a vital role in minimizing the risk of fire accidents and ensuring a prompt and effective response when needed.



CONCLUSION

A number of programmes and projects have been taken up and completed during the financial year 2023-2024. Two new initiatives were introduced by FCDP. One among them was a tailoring unit and the other one was Launch of Don Bosco Quiz App. All these would not have been possible but for the miraculous interventions and blessings of God. In fact God has been guiding us at every step. Thank you Lord.

I thank Rev. Fr. Jose Koyikal SDB, (Provincial, Sacred Heart Province of Bangalore) and his team for their support. I thank Rev. Fr. P.S. George SDB (Executive Director, BREADS Bangalore) for the support through various projects & for the constant guidance. I also register my thanks to Don Bosco Mondo, Don Bosco JuWe for their support for the various projects like We Autos, WeLive and multipurpose Hall. My sincere thanks to Rev. Fr. Stephen Mukkattil SDB (Rector & Parish Priest, St. Stephen's Thope) and the salesian community and Don Bosco institutions in Kollam. I am grateful to Rev. Sr. Annie Joseph (Superior, Sneha Kiran convent, Thope) and all the sisters.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the Board members of FCDP, TMS, FCDS and DBYF, the Executive members of Visappinu Vida Program and all the members of our organisations. I am grateful to all the benefactors and donors of FCDP who have been promoting our charity activities in cash, kind and with manpower. Also thanks to the number of NGOs, Government departments and institutions we collaborate with. Last but not the least, I express my thanks to the staff of our various organisations to whose commitment and hard work, the success of our activities stand as a vibrant testimony.

Date	Event
April 16	DonBosco under 19 Sevens Football Tournament
April 11 May 6	DONBOSCO SUMMER CAMP-2023
May 18 to May 20	THREE-DAY RESIDENTIAL CAMP FOR DBYF
June 17	DBYF AT YUVA UTSAV- 2023
June 21	INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY
August 12	MEMBERSHIP DAY AND THE DON BOSCO YOUTH FORUM ANNIVERSARY
August 26	ONAM WITH VISAPPINU VIDA
January 29	INAUGURATION OF FCDP LIBRARY
January 29	INAUGURATION OF KENNEDY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
January 26 & 27	DONBOSCO-FEST2024
February 24	DONBOSCO UNDER-15 SEVENS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT
March 16	DONBOSCO BIBLE QUIZ APP LAUNCHED
March 7	WOMEN'S DAY PROCLAMATION RALLY
March 8	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024 CELEBRATED
October 21	DBCF & DBYF CELEBRATE WORLD FOOD DAY
October 27	LEGAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN
November 4	ANNUAL PICNIC TO MANKULAM, IDUKKI
November 30	LEGAL AID CLINIC ORGANISED
November 25	INAUGURATION OF CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENT
December 31	FREE MEDICAL CAMP
DECEMBER 16	FCDP CHRISTMAS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Gallery





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