E-Newsletter of FCDP & TMS

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Editorial

It truly gives me great pleasure to share with you the E-Newsletter for the month of September 2024. The Onam Festival is a joyous and celebratory occasion in Kerala. This big harvest celebration, filled with lively customs and cultural importance, has a particular place in the hearts of Keralites. Though the tragedy in Wayanad which took many lives reduced the colour of celebrations, Onam still remains as an emotion in the hearts of every Keralite. Various events were held to youth promote children's and development, business training, and community organization.

Various Job oriented trainings programmes were held for women with the aim of empowering them to

come to the mainstreams of society. They include homecare products making, umbrella making and related trainings. The three month beautician course marked another milestone of our race towards employability and financial stability of women.

I thank all the board and staff members, our benefactors and wellwishers for their continual support and encouragement to carry on the work effectively.

> -Fr. Jithin Sebastian SDB (Director, FCDP-TMS)

FCDP FAMILY CELEBRATED ONAM 2024

The FCDP family gathered to celebrate Onam on September 13, 2024, at FCDP Hall. The program commenced with a soulful prayer song by FCDP staff members, Mrs. Gretta Raju, (Executive Manager), warmly welcomed the gathering, Sr. Mary K, (Assistant Director, TMS), delivered an introductory speech highlighting Onam's significance. Presided over by Mrs. Agnes John, (Chairperson, FCDP), the event was graced by distinguished guests, including Mrs. Laticia Martin, (President, TMS), Fr. Stephen Mukkattil SDB, (Rector, Don Bosco Thope) Sr. Rose, (Former Superior Snehakiran Convet) and Dr. Sindha Mendez, (Board Member, FCDP). Each guest felicitated the gathering, sharing warm wishes and thoughts. The official program concluded with a vote of thanks by Mrs. Mini Mary, (Coordinator, TMS). The celebration continued with a traditional Onasadya, games, and vibrant cultural performances by staff and board members, showcasing Kerala's rich heritage and fostering unity and festive cheer.



EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH ECO-FRIENDLY CRAFT TRAINING

FCDP hosted a 3-days Eco Craft training class at their hall, focusing on eco-friendly paper bag production. Mr. Shyam Murali, an expert trainer from Attingal, led the session. 15 women participated, eager to acquire new skills. The training aimed to promote sustainable livelihoods, environmental awareness, and entrepreneurship among women.



Participants learned the art of crafting reusable paper bags, an eco-friendly alternative to plastic bags. This initiative encourages women to contribute to a greener future while gaining economic independence. Through hands-on sessions, women mastered the techniques of designing, cutting, and assembling paper bags. This skill will enable them to create marketable products, enhancing their financial stability and self-reliance.

INAUGURATION OF BEAUTICIAN COURSE HELD

As part of the WE-LivE project the inauguration ceremony of beautician course was held at FCDP hall which was organized under the joint association of FCDP, Rotary Club of Quilon East, and Jan Shikshan Sansthan, for women empowerment. The ceremony was inaugurated by Dr. Meera John (District Project Chairperson, Uyare). FCDP Coordinator Mrs. Bindhu Harrison welcomed all the participants to the event. The event was presided over by Mrs. Agnes John (Chairperson, FCDP). Mr. Vipin Kumar (Assistant Governor, Zone-15), Fr. Jithin Sebastian (Director, FCDP - TMS), Mrs. Usha Rani (Director-in-Charge, JSS, Kollam), Mr. Kishore Kumar (President, Rotary Club of Quilon East), and C. Mary K (Assistant Director, TMS) offered their felicitations. Mrs. Mini Mary (Coordinator, TMS) expressed gratitude to all participants in the event. The event marked the beginning of a new journey for many aspiring beauticians, particularly empowering women from the community by providing them with valuable skills for self-employment and financial independence.



DON BOSCO CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH FORUM MARK ONAM WITH VIBRANT CELEBRATIONS

The Don Bosco Children's Forum and Youth Forum celebrated Onam at Don Bosco Boys Home, Mundakkal, on 21 September at 2 PM. Ms. Anjana Abel, (DBCF, member), warmly welcomed participants. The event was presided over by Mrs. Laticia Martin, (President, TMS), and inaugurated by Mrs. Elizabeth Lissy, (Headmistress of Balika Mariyam School). Distinguished guests Fr. Stephen Mukkattil, (Rector, Don Bosco Thope), and Fr. Jithin Sebastian, (Director FCDP, TMS, DBCF, DBYF, and FCDS), graced the occasion. Youth Forum member Ms. Ardra shared Onam greetings, while Ms. Sana expressed gratitude. The official program was followed by vibrant cultural performances by Don Bosco Children's Forum and Don Bosco Dance Club, along with traditional Onam games, fostering unity and festive cheer among the participants.





WeLivE

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH HOME CARE PRODUCTS TRAINING

A 3-day training class on home care products manufacturing began at Meenambalam SNDP Hall, a joint effort by FCDP and Kalluwathukkal Gram Panchayat. Mrs. Latha Rajan from Rural Self-Employment Training Institute, Kottayam, led the training. This initiative promotes entrepreneurship, enabling women to develop production and quality control skills. It helps women gain economic independence and improve their family's livelihood. Women's empowerment programs like this provide sustainable income opportunities, fostering self-reliance, creativity, and local economic participation. On the first day, participants made toilet cleaner, washing powder, floor cleaner, and hand wash. The training class is a significant step towards empowering women, promoting economic growth, skill development, and self-sufficiency. By acquiring manufacturing skills, women will improve their livelihoods and contribute to the local economy.



WORKSHOPS ON FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND LEADERSHIP

FCDP Organizes Finance Management Class for Women. On September 28, Mr. Febin Robert, Corporate Trainer and Area Manager of Learning and Development at SBI Life Insurance, conducted a comprehensive finance management class at Meenambalam, Kollam. Organized by FCDP, this empowering session aimed to enhance financial literacy and economic independence among women. 35 women participated, engaging actively in discussions and gaining valuable insights. Mr. Robert shared expertise on budgeting, savings strategies, investment options, risk management, credit management, and retirement planning. He emphasized the importance of financial planning, goal-setting, and smart investing. Through interactive sessions, real-life examples, and personalized guidance, participants acquired practical skills to manage finances effectively. The class fostered a supportive environment, encouraging women to share experiences and learn from each other. FCDP's initiative demonstrates its commitment to promoting women's economic empowerment and financial independence. By equipping women with financial knowledge, FCDP enables them to make informed decisions, secure their futures, and contribute to their families' well-being.





BUILDING CAPACITY, ENHANCING LIVES: FCDP'S WOMEN-FOCUSED INITIATIVES

FCDP organized two empowering workshops for women at Kaluvathikal, promoting financial inclusion and effective leadership. On September 26, 2024, Mr. Alan Samuel Placid led a Group Management workshop, where 35 enthusiastic women gained valuable insights into team building, communication, conflict resolution, leadership, and goal setting. The next day, September 27, 2024, Mrs. Sasikala C I, Industrial Extension Officer, conducted a Credit Linkage and Financial Access workshop, educating 35 women on credit options, government schemes, and financial institutions. Both workshops provided interactive sessions, personalized guidance, and group activities, enabling participants to develop essential skills for efficient group management, leadership, and informed financial decision-making. These initiatives empowered women to lead and manage community groups, access financial assistance, foster collaboration, drive social change, and enhance their economic well-being.



CELEBRATION

We wish Mr. Tony fredy, Mr. Abin Robin, Ms. Iswarya Cleetus and Mrs. Mini Placid a joyous birthday and a year filled with good health, happiness, and prosperity!" We also thank them for their dedicated service and support towards the activities of FCDP.



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

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