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WAVES

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Don Bosco Fest 2025: A Celebration of Children and Youth

The Don Bosco Fest 2025 was successfully organized on February 8, 2025, under the auspices of FCDP-TMS-DBYF. The event brought together over 200 children under the age of 15, who participated in various competitions such as Super Goal, Super Wicket, Drawing, Carroms, Single Dance, and Group Dance.

The prize distribution ceremony commenced at 5:00 pm, with Mrs. Gretta Raju (Executive Manager, FCDP) extending a warm welcome to all attendees. The chief guest, Fr. Austin Pulimoottil, inaugurated the function and distributed prizes to the winners. Fr. Jithin Sebastian (Director, FCDP-TMS) and Sr. Mary K (Asst. Director, TMS) also graced the occasion with their presence. Over 200 children participated in the event, which was also attended by FCDP-TMS-FCDS-DBYF-Children's Forum members. Ms. Aishwarya (DBYF animator) expressed her words of gratitude to the participants. The fest concluded with a lively DJ program, celebrating the feast of Don Bosco, the patron saint of the youth.



Editorial

It is a great privilege to share the E-Newsletter of the month of February with you. The eye check-up medical camp was a commendable effort from FCDP in promoting eye health and accessibility to essential medical care. The success of the event highlights the importance of regular vision screenings and timely intervention. Giving attention to the holistic growth of children is still one of the major objectives of FCDP. The eyes are one of the most important organs of the human body and allow us to perceive and interact with the world around us. Despite the importance of eye care, many people neglect eye health, which leads to preventable conditions like cataracts, glaucoma, and digital eye strain.

A key component of any society's progress is the empowerment of women. It describes the process of giving women the autonomy to choose for them, to take advantage of opportunities, and to participate equally in the political, social, and economic spheres. To empower women in the Kollam coastal region, the Fishermen Community Development Programme continues to offer a range of training courses, credit linkage, financial, and leadership seminars.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Board, Staff, Benefactors, and well-wishers for their unwavering support and assistance as we continue to advance our services.

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

Organized Free Eye Care Camp

The Fishermen Community Development Program (FCDP), in association with Ahalia Foundation Eye Hospital, Kollam, and National Service Scheme (NSS) of S N College, Kollam, organized a free eye care camp on 25th February at FCDP Hall held from 10:30 am, drew a participation of 150 community members. Expert ophthalmologists performed comprehensive eye examinations. This community-based initiative aimed to promote eye health awareness and address vision-related issues among the local population. The event's success was attributed to the collaborative efforts of the organizers, volunteers, and medical professionals. The organizers extended their gratitude to all participants, partners, and volunteers who contributed to the camp's success for their dedication and effort.



WE-Live Umbrella Making Workshop: A Step towards Women Empowerment

A unique initiative aimed at empowering women through creative skill-building was launched on February 11, 2025, at Eravipuram Parish Hall Under the leadership of FCDP. The workshop, led by Letha Rajan (Trainer) focused on teaching women the art of umbrella making, promoting creativity, and fostering social interaction. The workshop was a resounding success, with numerous women participating and mastering the art of umbrella making from scratch Materials. Throughout the workshop, participants were seen in social interaction, teamwork, and skill-sharing, fostering a sense of community and social bonding. By the end of the workshop, participants had gained a new skill, confidence in their creative abilities, and a sense of accomplishment. This initiative was a positive move towards empowering women and promoting their overall well-being. The success of this workshop has paved the way for future initiatives aimed at empowering women through creative and skill-building activities. Enabling a platform for women to learn, grow, and connect with one another to work towards creating a more inclusive and supportive community.



"WeLive Project: Promoting Women's Empowerment through Eco-Friendly Home Care Products"

Under the leadership of FCDP, a workshop on home care products was successfully conducted as part of the WeLive project. In a bid to promote women empowerment and self-sufficiency, Letha Rajan (Trainer) led the workshop at Eravipuram Parish Hall on February 12, 2025. The event aimed to equip women with the and knowledge skills. necessary to make their own eco-friendly home care products, promoting entrepreneurship, sustainability, and economic independence. Through interactive sessions and hands-on training, participants learned the art of crafting various home care products using natural ingredients and eco-friendly methods. at the end of the workshop the women participants gained confidence in their ability to create products that not only benefit their families but also contribute to a sustainable environment. The workshop was a resounding success, with participants expressing gratitude for the opportunity to learn ,grow and become efficient members of the society.



Team Leadership Workshop held

A workshop on team leadership was conducted on February 12, 2025, at Eravipuram Parish Hall, exclusively for women. Expert trainers Fathima and Athulya led interactive sessions and hands-on training, imparting valuable insights into effective group management. Participants gained essential skills and knowledge to lead teams efficiently, promoting organizational growth and development. The training session focused on building confidence, communication, and problem-solving skills. By the end of the workshop, participants expressed gratitude for the opportunity to learn from experienced trainers and enhance their leadership skills.



Saplings Distribution were held at Vellimon

A saplings distribution event was held at Velliom on February 27, 2025, as part of the WE-LivE project. The program, aimed at promoting organic farming, witnessed the participation of 30 enthusiastic individuals. Sr. Mary K, Assistant Director of TMS, formally inaugurated the event by distributing saplings to the beneficiaries. Through this initiative, we strive to encourage the adoption of eco-friendly practices and foster a culture of sustainability within the community. The event marked a significant step towards promoting organic farming and environmental stewardship.



Accessing Credit and Finance: Empowering Women through WeLive Project

Empowering women to take control of their finances, FCDP's WeLive project organized a workshop on Credit Linkage and Finance Access at Eravipuram Parish Hall on February 13, 2025. Samitha T. led the training session, providing women participants with valuable insights into accessing credit and finance. The workshop aimed to educate and empower women, enabling them to make informed financial decisions and access necessary credit facilities. Through interactive sessions and expert guidance, participants gained a deeper understanding of financial management and credit linkage, promoting economic independence and entrepreneurship.



Financial Management Training held

Financial management training session was held on February 12, 2025, at Eravipuram Parish Hall, as part of a workshop designed for women. Expert trainer Balaji oversaw the finance management module, providing participants with hands-on training and interactive sessions. By the end of the workshop, participants acquired practical knowledge and skills to manage finances effectively, empowering them to contribute to organizational growth and development. The training covered key aspects of financial management, including budgeting, accounting, and financial planning. Participants learned how to make informed financial decisions, manage resources efficiently, and maintain financial records accurately.



Empowering Women through Entrepreneurship

FCDP's commitment to women empowerment was evident in the certificate distribution ceremony held for participants of the home care product manufacturing training program, marking a significant step towards financial independence. As part of the FCDP initiative, certificates were awarded to the participants following who successfully completed a three-day training program on home care product manufacturing. The sessions were led by Mrs. Latha Rajan, Faculty, Rural Self Employment Training Institute, Kottayam. The training in home care product manufacturing serves as significant support for women's empowerment. Through this program, women have gained opportunities for self-employment and financial independence. They have acquired the needed skills to produce items such as washing powder, floor cleaner, soap, and detergent, equipping them to start their own businesses. The training has helped boost their self-confidence and provided the inspiration to move forward in life with dignity. Such programs help women get free from traditional mindsets and advance towards growth and development. As part of the training, the participants successfully produced dishwash, floor cleaner, toilet cleaner, bar soap, phenyl, fabric conditioner, and washing powder.



CELEBRATIONS

We wish Mrs. Princy Edison, Mrs .Soja Lazar, Mrs. Stephnia and Mrs. Bindhu Harrison 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 family.



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

Canal Road, Pallithottam P.O., Kollam-691 006
Phone: 6360544503, 9895249938, 9895754970

Email: director@fcdpindia.com
tms@fcdpindia.com

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