

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BETHANY SOCIAL SERVICE TRUST® BENDOOR, MANGALORE-575 002, D.K.

For the year 2015-16 presented on the annual meet of the Board of Trustees on 03.09.2016

“He sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to the captives and to declare the year of God’s favour” (Cf Lk.4:18ff)

This mission manifesto of Jesus, reminds us today that *our mission is a continuation of Jesus’ mission on earth*. Founder’s sense of mission transformed many lives. Founder brought Good News not only to the poor in his parish but he also set an example for us, the Bethany sisters. He wants us to champion the cause of the poor. He led us and taught us how to go into those remote areas where no one would want to go. He has set us an example of preference for the poor, fighting for their rights and often getting hurt in their struggles.

In fidelity to the spirit of the Founder, The Bethany Social Service Trust ® Mangalore, endeavours to bring the good news of the Gospel to the poor and lowly in realization of the vision of the Founder of Bethany Congregation of which the Trust is a branch. The Trust aims to extend the compassionate and merciful love of God to all through the empowerment and restoration of human dignity of the poor, under privileged, marginalized and exploited humanity in the society.

I am happy to present before you the activities of the Bethany Social Service Trust ® for the year April, 2015 to March 2016.

Goal : Fullness of life for all, with a special concern, for the poor and marginalized

Vision: A just and humane society where the compassionate love of God is manifested.

Mission: Restoration of human dignity.

Objectives:

- Welfare, developmental and educational activities for the benefit of all irrespective of caste, creed, language, religion and race in India.
- Integral human development of children, youth, women and rural poor through the promotion of human values, realization of human rights and respect to the dignity of human persons.
- Improvement of the living conditions of the poor through developmental and empowerment activities and availing of government schemes and services.

- Promotion of community health and providing for their medical services through institutional and non-institutional referrals.
- Women empowerment programs through the strengthening and sustainability of women's federations, Mahila Mandals, SHGs and other associations
- Enhancement of Economic livelihood programs to improve their financial condition.
- Service to society and common good of all upholding human dignity and human rights.

Mode of functioning to implement the above objects are: The Bethany Social Service Trust strives to fulfill its objectives through the Province Social Service wings in 7 Provinces viz. Mangalore, Bangalore, Western, Southern, Northern, Eastern, and North East Provinces. Under the guidance of the respective provincial Superiors and the Province Co-ordinators for socio-medical apostolates, activities are carried on systematically based on our Vision, Goal and Objectives and the Thust of the General Chapter. In the Central Administration, Sahodaya Social Service Centre is directly under the Bethany Social service Trust with Sr. Assumpta BS as the former Director and now Sr. Shanthi Priya BS as the new Director from Feb.11, 2016 onwards and Sr.Michelle BS as the Co-ordinator with three social workers and two office staff. The objectives are realized through the developmental activities for the women, entrepreneurial skill development programs, socio-economic and political empowerment, promotion of health, gender justice, Counseling services and accompanying the distressed, settlement of family disputes, organising the transgender, preparing children for competitive exams and promotion of ecology. All these are achieved through the strategy of Rights Based Approach.

1. **Women Empowerment Programmes:** Strengthening of women groups and formation of SHGs are done through the regular visits to the groups and villages by the social workers. Regular meetings are held and they are motivated towards their integrated development. In order to make them self-sufficient they are encouraged to save regularly which helps them to enhance their economic stability. Zonal and okkuta meetings are conducted regularly once a month during which different issues and concerns are dealt with. Women also avail loans for various needs from their respective SHGs as well as from the federation. Various capacity building sessions, promotion of women leadership and awareness towards the civic responsibility are planned meticulously. Women are empowered through awareness programs on legal knowledge, constitutional and human rights and gender justice.

2. **Capacity Enhancement programmes for the women** : women were trained in various aspects such as, leadership skills, awareness on Atrocities against women, Self employment, Need for an Organized approach, Human rights education, Responsible parenthood, Healthy-food habits and life style, Problems of Adolescence, Awareness on Government schemes, Herbal/home remedies, sexual harassment, Children's rights/POCSO Act, global warming and ecological degradation, save water/save trees, vermin-culture, etc. Women actively participate in the group discussions and are able to express their opinion and gain the knowledge on the current issues and problems.

- Sessions on Anti-Human trafficking is conducted in all the five SHG zones which has enabled us to identify the various issues of women.
- A session on women and Law was organized at Sahodaya in collaboration with the JCI Mangalore. Mrs.Anitha Kini was the resource person.100 women participated and benefited from this programme
- Mrs. Nalini and Nimisha have given the awareness to all our 5 zones on the various Govt. facilities available for this year.
- Mrs. Nalini conducted a session on how to prepare compost manure for the women of Surathkal region. 30 ladies benefitted.
- In collaboration with the Maravoor Panchayath training was conducted on "Children's Grama Sabha" for the students of four schools at Karambar. 150 students were present. Signature campaign and children were motivated to fight for liquor free zones.150 children were the beneficiaries of this programme.
- Tailoring class was inaugurated at Konchar and 30 ladies were present.
- Games were conducted for the women in honour of women's day celebration at Siddakatte, Surathkal, Karunalaya and Kodikal. Winners were awarded the prize on women's day.
- Mrs. Nalini conducted training on preparation of Phenyle at Siddakatte, 25 members participated.
- 25 SHG women were trained in embroidery on sari at Siddakatte region.
- A session on Work Skills was conducted for 30 women by Mrs. Nalilni at Siddakatte .
- Cleanliness Drive was organized by 'Sinchana Mahila Mandal' Porkodi in view of Swacha Bharath.
- Certificates distributed for the Tailoring students in Maravoor jointly organized by Sahodaya, Maravoor Grama Panchayath and the Sinchana Mahila Mandal.
- A session on Vanitha Sangama Arogya programme from Mangaluru (East) Divine Park Trust was organized by SHGs at Karunalaya ,
- Mrs.Vanaja member of our SHG at Porkodi has been elected as the Vice-president of Maravoor Grama Panchayath.
- 8 drop out children from slum area (Meenakali) were re-admitted to Baikampady school after the field visit.

- Nalini and Nimisha conducted a session on “family and health care” to the members of the Dharmastala self help groups.
 - A workshop on POCSO Act and time management was organized for the children at Madari Vikasa Kendra. 70 children participated.
 - Two batches of 60 women completed their tailoring course at Kenjar and Porkodi. Women’s Polytechnic college collaborates with us in this venture.
 - Women are given awareness on Malaria, personal hygiene, clean surrounding and herbal medicines and home remedies. Women are supported and accompanied to avail good hospital services in times of their health needs. They are encouraged to make health cards from KMC as well as Fr.Muller’s hospital.
 - Every year the women’s Polytechnic, Bondel supports with various community based skill development courses
 - Women are given an opportunity for Exposure programmes through educational tours and picnics.
3. **Children and youth development Programmes:** Every year Sahodaya staff organises value based training programs to the students of St. Sebastian school, Bendur and St. Joseph’s high school Kankanady as well as Government schools at Maravoor, Mulki and Prokodi. Once a month classes are conducted on specific topics such as self-esteem, good manners, tips for concentration, respect for life, friendships, POCSO ACT, etc.

Children’s Parliament towards promotion of responsible leadership:

formation of children’s parliament is in process. At present there are two units at Mulki and Porkodi. Children meet once a month. They are given the various responsibilities as ministers and they perform the same with greater responsibility and confidence.

4. **Counselling Services:** are made available for individuals, students and families of the focus areas. Sr.Michelle and Mrs. Nalini mainly provide these counseling and rehabilitation services. Referral services are provided to those who need specialized professional assistance through net work contacts like DEEDS, Kadri, child line, police and the legal assistance whenever needed. Family Counselling Programmes such as Case works, Dispute settlements, family and marital conflicts are rampant. 11 cases were successful.
5. **Staff In-service Training:** Staff participates actively in all the meetings, workshops/Trainings conducted by other NGOs. During the meetings they discuss on issues concerning Gender sensitization, superstitious beliefs, women atrocities, Problems of adolescents, sexual abuse, human rights and health. Some of the trainings which they attended are:

- TB awareness programme conducted by District health Department at Wenlock Hospital.
- Mrs.Nimisha and Nalini participated in a decennial celebration, Jevanothsava - a programme of H.I.V. infected Aids victims organized by DKDRS at Vijnana Nilaya Belthangady.
- Workshop on Legal Aid conducted in 3 phases by DEEDS, Kadri
- Social workers participated in a “SIT DOWN” strike of the SFZ workers at Panamboor.
- Mrs. Nalini Participated in the meeting organized by the Karambar Grama Panchayath about the implementation of the new National Education policy.

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- A workshop was conducted to the children of 9th Std St.Thomas School and at Mulky on Time Management and good Manners.
 - Nimisha and Nalini conducted a session on POCSO Act, Atrocity against women and Registration of marriages for the women of Sanchalana Unit at Kadri. 40 women benefitted.
 - Women were educated on healthy food habits, clean surroundings and health education was imparted to the women at Siddakatte Zone.
 - Two TB information boards have been installed in our TB working areas by the District Co-ordinator for TB project to make that area “TB FREE’ village at Chembugudde and Ulla bus stand.
 - The staff has been sent for the Para legal training conducted by DEEDs kadri mangalore.
6. **Celebrations:** The International Women’s Day, Independence Day, children’s day, attidonjidina, Annual days, Christmas & New Year celebrations are held in the respective areas and in the centre. This provides women a platform to exhibit their talents, come together to celebrate their womanhood, share experiences and build mutual support system and unity among themselves.1575 participated in various celebrations in different zones.
7. **Health Initiatives:** In collaboration with CHAI Hyderabad Sahodaya is actively involved in creating awareness on TB through AKSHAYA Project. Door to door visits, identifying the patients, sputum collection and visits to primary health centers are done. Every month 250 houses are visited in and around Mangalore Taluka. As of this date 7000 households and 24,034 individuals are given the knowledge of Tuberculosis. The patients are identified and referral services are provided through the local PHCs.

A day’s training programme was conducted in Sahodaya for the animators who involved in this TB project at Sahodaya. Mr. Kishore the Co-ordinator of TB Project was the resource person dealt on the process of implementation and how to network with the other health related departments of the government.

International TB day was celebrated at Town Hall at Mangaluru. Our field work students from Roshni Nilaya had enacted a role play on awareness of TB. Nearly 800 were present.

8. **Availing of Government Facilities:** Through the constant awareness the people are able to approach the offices and demand for their rights and avail the schemes and benefits. Old age pension 10, senior citizen cards 15, Health cards 75, Beedi scholarships 100, Minority scholarships 125, income certificate 25, Ear phone 1, construction workers Cards 126, widow pension etc were availed for the people.

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Financial Assistance to the poor Children: Every year around 10 to 15 deserving students have been helped for their fees, uniforms, Shoes, books and other materials from the Trust fund.

9. **Resource Development:** Resources of Sr. Michelle are being utilized in conducting training programs to different groups. Two days' workshop for the students at RUSEMP on Self Esteem, Inter-personnel skills and leadership. 45 youth were present. The Staff of Sahodaya also visit schools, women groups, and conduct trainings on children's rights, human rights, influence of Mass media, Legal Aid for members of Sanchalana etc.
10. **Placement Agency for BSW/MSW students** : Sahodaya collaborates with the colleges of social work- Roshni Nilaya, St.Aloysius College and Mangalore University College in the placement of their students for field work. 4 Students were placed in Porkodi, Maravoor, Kodical, Raye-Siddakatte and Karunalaya, Babugudda.
11. **Collaboration with AMRAT:** Collaborating with Asian Movement of Women Religious against Human Trafficking the Bethany Social Service Trust endeavors to gather support for its activities towards anti human trafficking issues in all the Provinces. Sr.Michelle participated in the VII the General Body meeting held at Delhi. The various resource persons highlighted their challenging experiences and involvement in the issues of human trafficking, migration, child abuse, domestic violence and other crimes against children.
12. **Net Working with other NGOs:** the Trust promotes networking and collaboration on issue-based involvement with different local NGOs like School of Social Work, Roshni Nilaya, Family service Agency, Mahila Jala, Okkuta, Sanchi, Valored, Parisarasaktara Okkuta, Bhandavya, Spandana, DEEDS, CODP, Domestic workers Movement, and people's Movement for Enforcement of Constitutional Rights and Values. Sr. Michelle collaborates with CODP in the

“EDUCARE” Project of the Diocese, where the Catholic Students are given interest free loan for the higher education.

13. **Sanchi Trust:** SHGs women avail loan through Sanchi Trust. They have enhanced their capacity to engage themselves in self employment initiatives. 50% of the members have tailoring shop, grocery shop, garments sale, pickle sale, catering, dairy farming, Agriculture, rooms for rent, and tea stall etc. Women have developed their capacity for bank transactions and economic improvement of the family.

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14. **Sahodaya Competitive Examination (SCE):** The Bethany Social Service Trust through Sahodaya conducted Competitive Exams for the 12th year consecutively; for the students of Std 5th to 7th of Kannada medium schools to enhance their capacity and to prepare them for the future. This year 913 students from 15 Kannada Medium Schools appeared for the examination held in November 2016. Those securing 50% and above are awarded with merit certificates and toppers are given cash prizes. Notable improvement in the students who participated in this self development programme is recorded.
15. **Sahodaya Bulletin:** Sahodaya publishes quarterly News bulletin which highlights the main social work activities of the centers which come under the Central Administration and Mangalore Province. It serves as a link among the institutions and agencies, a channel to share views, success stories and challenging experiences in the field.
16. **Financial support for Sahodaya Projects 2015-16:** BES Northern province contributes Rs 5,00,000,00 as the Voluntary contribution for Social work activities of the Bethany Social Service Trust and Bethany Educational Society, Mangalore pays the salary of one of the Sahodaya staff every year. We remain grateful to them.
17. **Annual Meetings of the socio-medical coordinators** of the provinces is held each year. Sr Assumpta the then general coordinator for these apostolates has organized well planned programs to enhance the capacity of the sisters involved in these ministries. This provided for an interactive platform to share one’s own achievements, challenges, future thrust in response to the signs of the times and the chapter mandate.

Conclusion: I place on record the services Sr. Wilberta the former President of the Trust and Sr. Assumpta the former secretary for their tireless efforts and keen interest in keeping this Trust forging ahead. Presently I thank Sr. Rose Celine our Superior General for her keen interest, support and guidance in the development of

Bethany social service Trust. I am grateful to the Board of Trustees for their support guidance and financial assistance in realizing the goal and objectives of the Trust.

Sr Shanthi Priya.B.S.

Secretary

Bethany Social Service Trust ® Mangalore