



ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 22



DON BOSCO NATIONAL FORUM FOR THE YOUNG AT RISK

Bangalore - Chennai - Delhi - Dimapur - Guwahati - Hyderabad - Kolkata - Mumbai - Panjim - Shillong - Tiruchy

DATA SNAPSHOT

INTERVENTIONS WITH THE YOUNG AT RISK IN 2021-2022

PROVINCES

11

STATES & UTs

20

LOCATIONS

125+

CENTERS

69

REACH

3573

CHILD CARE INSTITUTIONS

CENTERS

338

REACH

21107

BRIDGE/NIOS & DROPOUT PREVENTION CENTERS

CENTERS

159

REACH

35026

STREET/MARKET, BUS/RLY STATION PRESENCES

CLUBS

1427

REACH

47929

CHILD RIGHTS/POLICE/ECO CLUBS

DESKS

37

REACH

144922

MIGRANTS' DESKS

GROUPS

1018

REACH

14475

SELF HELP GROUPS AND SAFETY NETS

CENTERS

12

REACH

3319

SUBSTANCE ABUSE, HIV/AIDS: COUNSELLING/REHAB

CENTERS

10

REACH

131

FOSTER/INDIVIDUAL/GROUP/KINSHIP CARE

CENTERS

62

REACH

365

ROOM PLACEMENT, GROUP/AFTER-CARE CENTERS

CENTERS

74

REACH

4799

VOCATIONAL TRAINING & JOB PLACEMENT CENTERS

TOTAL REACH 275,646

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends of Children,

Don Bosco YaR Forum, India is all about making difference in the life of children who are in difficulties and who are in need of care and protection. Our task of working with Young at Risk began over 50 years ago in India reaching out to lakhs of children at risk. We have over 2500 Don Bosco institutions all over the world working with the single aim of making every young person good, honest and responsible citizens. This is also the primary aim of our YaR centres in India. Besides this we do make lot of difference in the lives of young people thorough various programs and reach out activities.

The educational system practised and proposed by St. Don Bosco is called preventive system. This child centred education system demands the presence of educators with the children and to accompany them to become good, honest and responsible citizens. As we begin new year 2023, I wish all the friends of young people God's blessings, and the courage and strength to accompany the young at risk to make a difference in their lives.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Santiago Thomas SDB".

Fr Santiago Thomas SDB
President



Dear Friends,

On 25 February 2022 Don Bosco National Forum for the Young at Risk – also known as DB YaR Forum – completed twenty years as the national network of all Don Bosco institutions and organisations in India engaging with and on behalf of the Young at Risk. This marks a significant milestone in the momentous journey of the Salesians and their collaborators, accompanying and standing up for at-risk, deprived young people – from 1906 at Tanjore, to 1922 in Shillong, to the 1970's at various places in the then Madras Province, to the formal setting up of the Forum at Delhi in 2002.

Collaboration, partnerships, networks have been distinguishing characteristics of Salesian ministry with the Young at Risk particularly from the days it first ventured out into the streets of Bangalore. We at DB YaR Forum continue true to this heritage as we lead reflection and inspire innovation in our engagement with and on behalf of the Young at Risk across the country.

Our 80+ member organisations with presences in over 175 locations across 20 states and union territories of India, reach out to over 300000 Young at Risk each year with a diverse bouquet of services and programmes. This Annual Report 2021-2022 brings you glimpses of the nationally coordinated interventions of DB YaR Forum. We trust you will sense in these pages a sustained effort to actualize the priorities and preferred programme models delineated by the "Imagine YaR Ministry – Journeying Together into Tomorrow" process of 2019-2020.

We express our deep appreciation to the numerous devoted hearts and creative minds who make our programmes come alive in different corners of our country.

My heartfelt thanks to the brilliant team at the national office in Delhi and Bangalore for conceptualizing and putting together every aspect of this Annual Report.

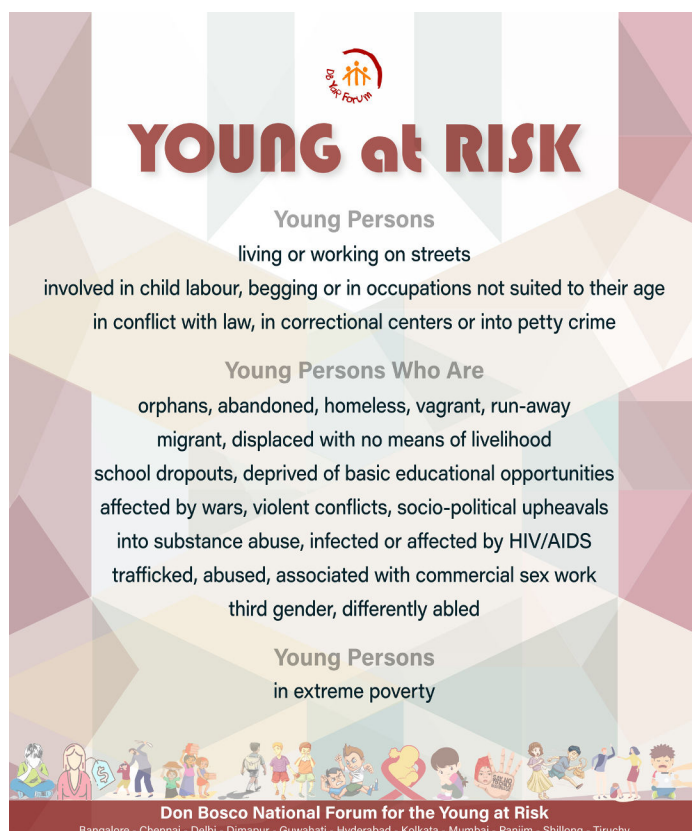
With every good wish,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony' with a stylized flourish.

Fr Tony Pellissery SDB
Executive Director

Don Bosco National Forum for the Young at Risk, also known as DB YaR Forum, is the all-India network of Don Bosco institutions and organizations committed to the rights of at-risk, marginalized, vulnerable children and young adults. Under the aegis of the Salesian Provincial Conference of South Asia (SPCSA), DB YaR Forum works towards a world where every child and every young person lives and grows towards “fullness of life” in secure, enabling environments.


The prime focus of the Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB), since its founding in Italy in the 1850's has been the holistic development of disadvantaged and marginalized young people. When the SDB's, arrived in South India in 1906, and in North East India in 1922, the same focus continued to guide every initiative. Interventions for specific groups of extremely deprived “Young at Risk” gained impetus from the 1970's.



Since then, these initiatives have attracted much talent and commitment from among the SDBs themselves and support and collaboration from the partner organizations, civil society groups and government departments.

By “Young at Risk” (YaR), we mean children and young adults, who are in or have been through situations of neglect, abuse, exploitation, exclusion, violence, or experiences that negatively impact their lives.

For us, the Young at risk are young persons living or working on streets, involved in child labour, begging, or in occupations not suited to their age, in conflict with law, in correctional centres, or into petty crime, young persons who are orphans, abandoned, homeless, vagrant, run-away, migrant, displaced with no means of livelihood, school dropouts, those deprived of basic educational opportunities, affected by wars, violent conflicts, socio-political upheavals, those into substance abuse, infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, trafficked, abused, associated with commercial sex work, third gender, differently abled, and young persons in extreme poverty.




We reach out to the Young at Risk through presences on streets, in market places, in railway and bus stations, in “slums”. We engage in rescue and emergency assistance to children in difficult circumstances. We run a variety of child care institutions, including drop-in centres; open shelters and reception units; children’s homes. We offer counselling, rehabilitation and social reintegration, vocational guidance, skill development and placement services. We run bridge courses, coaching classes and drop-out prevention centres. We offer young people opportunities for holistic and integral education adapted to individual requirements. From the first contacts, our multi-skilled and dedicated teams accompany young persons, enabling and empowering them to stand on their own feet and take their place in society.

We work in collaboration with individuals and groups, state and non-state actors and communities and families of young people to ensure for young persons – especially for those more vulnerable and deprived – safe, dignified environments, and rights, opportunities and resources for survival, protection, participation, and maximum development.

DB YaR Forum promotes and coordinates interventions with and on behalf of the Young at Risk across India through 11 coordination teams, known as Province YaR Commissions – in Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Dimapur, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, Panjim, Shillong and Tiruchy – each headed by a Province YaR Coordinator. A team of 3 SDB’s – the Executive Director cum Secretary and two Joint Secretaries – based in Delhi form the National Executive Team.

We are present for the care and protection, best interests and maximum development of children and young adults in 175+ settings in 125+ locations across 20 states and union territories of India.



VISION

Inspired by Don Bosco, our vision is of a world where every child and every young person lives and grows towards “fullness of life” in secure, enabling environments.

MISSION

Our mission is to inspire and lead Salesians and their collaborators to respond with courage, creativity, and commitment to the needs of the Young at Risk and to engage and collaborate with individuals, civil society organizations and governments to ensure for the Young at Risk safe, enabling environments and opportunities for growth, and development.

STRUCTURE

SPCSA

GENERAL BODY

GOVERNING BODY

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

PROVINCE YAR COMMISSIONS

SDB INSTITUTIONS ENGAGED WITH YAR

Imagine YaR Ministry - Journeying Together Into Tomorrow was a year-long process of reflection and planning by all our units across India, launched in February 2019 in Shillong, had its highpoint at the National Seminar on the same theme in September 2019 in Mumbai, with the participation of over 100 delegates from all over the country, and completed at Hyderabad in February 2020 with the approval and adoption of priority target groups and preferred programme models for DB YaR Forum both at the national and the province levels. In spite of the Covid-19 lockdowns that came into force about a month after this, DB YaR Forum strives to steer true to the strategic directions set by the Imagine YaR Ministry process.

PRIORITY TARGET GROUPS

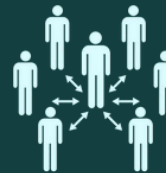
Young at Risk Addicted
to Substances



Young Migrant Workers



18+ Young at Risk
Leaving Care



PROGRAMME MODELS

Neighborhood
and Community Oriented



Focus
on Rural and Tribal Areas



Attention
to Prevention Strategies



JOURNEYING TOGETHER INTO TOMORROW

IMAGINE YAR MINISTRY

HOMELINK NETWORK

DATA-DRIVEN MANAGEMENT OF INTERVENTIONS WITH THE YOUNG AT RISK



HomeLink Network is the earliest and the longest running nationally coordinated programme of DB YaR Forum. As the work that started with children on the streets of Bangalore grew and spread to Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai and other cities, and DB YaR Forum itself was in the early stages of its formation, the need for reliable, consolidated data for advocacy and for organisational

decision-making was keenly felt. The desktop software “Street Children Rehabilitation and Protection” (SCRAP) was developed and implemented in 1998. “ThirdEye.org”, a website for reporting and tracing “missing children” was launched in 2000. On the request of the government of Maharashtra “Thalash”, a website for tracking “missing children’s complaints” was developed in the following year. The website, “MissingChildSearch.net” was developed in 2001 and operationalised by DB YaR Forum in 2002.

In 2004, the Ministry of Women and Child Welfare – New Delhi, UNICEF, Tata Institute of Social Sciences – Mumbai and DB YaR Forum collaborated to develop a software application that could be used at the national level: HomeLink. The first version of HomeLink was implemented in the cities of Bangalore, Coimbatore, Kolkata, Mumbai, Salem, Vadodara, Vijayawada. By 2006, HomeLink was being used by about 40 organisation's and its development was supported by UNICEF and Cordaid.

Data entry moved from offline to online, and data storage from desktops to cloud with the development and launch of Child Management Information Systems and Services (ChildMISS) in December 2013. With the support of friends and generous donors we were harnessing the best of information technology tools in the service of the Young at Risk.

Through Child PPa, an app developed and supported by ItWillBe, a Spanish non-profit organisation, feasibility assessment for facial recognition, palm scanner and related cutting-edge technologies to be integrated into ChildMISS was begun in 2017. The final testing and pilot phase of integration is currently in process.

2019 placed a new tool in the hands of ChildMISS users – a mobile app that made available particularly to the decision makers, up-to-the-minute data at the touch of an icon.

Membership in HomeLink Network with access to ChildMISS, is open to all organisation's – SDB and others – who share the ideals of HomeLink, which highlights its core value of networked, collaborative approach to Child Rights and the concerns of the Young at Risk.

HUBs	STATES & UNION TERRITORIES
Bangalore	Karnataka, Kerala
Chennai	Tamil Nadu
Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
Delhi	Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh
Guwahati	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland
Kolkata	Jharkhand, West Bengal
Mumbai	Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra
Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana

Today Homelink operates across 20 states of India, through 8 “Hubs” which are regional coordination units across India in Bangalore, Chennai, Coimbatore, Delhi, Guwahati, Kolkata, Mumbai, Hyderabad, each headed by a Hub Director and a Hub Coordinator / Trainer. A participating organisation in the operational area of a Hub is known as a “Node” and each Node would have multiple units or sub-centres engaging with YaR.

ChildMISS enables organisations implement a culture of data driven intervention planning, monitoring and documentation, and facilitates strategic decision-making, and apt responses to evolving scenarios flagged by data trends.

87 nodes with 168 sub-centres use ChildMISS today across India. The number of children documented in the database of ChildMISS from December 2013 to March 2022 is 110,000. ChildMISS has played a key role in facilitating the restoration of over 67,000 children. Including data of 140,000 children migrated from the older Homelink database, currently ChildMISS has data of 250,000 children.

HUBs	SDBs		OTHER ORGANISATIONS	
	NODES	SUB-CENTRES	NODES	SUB-CENTRES
Bangalore	11	31	10	38
Chennai	7	11	2	2
Coimbatore	8	10	3	8
Delhi	5	5	3	3
Guwahati	9	13	3	3
Kolkata	3	12	0	0
Hyderabad	9	17	4	4
Mumbai	6	7	4	4
	58	106	29	62

Between April 2021 and March 2022, teams across the 8 hubs made 31,389 data entries in ChildMISS. Among these were the data of 712 children who were newly institutionalised, of 4,767 children who were restored to their families/guardians, 49 missing complaints, and 3,777 who were reached through outreach activities. 4,797 help and rescue (helpline number 1098) services were recorded. 14,333 data entries were of various services rendered to children – like counselling, medical check-up, vocational training, job placement, home visits, events and follow-up. There were 2,502 records of Caring Community Group members and 39 entries of Sponsors and 413 of Volunteers.



31389

Data Entries in
ChildMISS



4767

Children Restored to
Families / Guardians

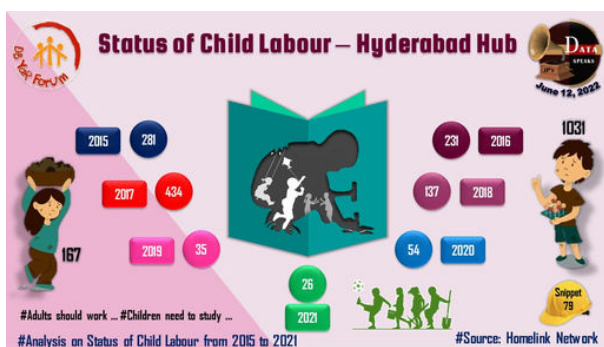


3777

Reached through
Outreach Activities

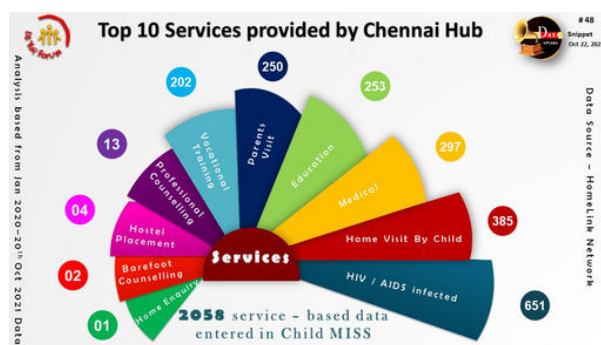
“Data Speaks” Snippets, introduced in 2019, infographic reports, and thought-provoking multi-media clips posted weekly on social media platforms, monthly infographic displays, analysis of data presented at monthly team meetings of nodes and hubs, gap-analysis discussions at the national level and similar initiatives have helped maximise the utilisation of the data accumulated in ChildMISS as well as promote deeper reflection on issues like child marriage, child labour, substance abuse among the young, dysfunctional families, abuse of and violence against children.



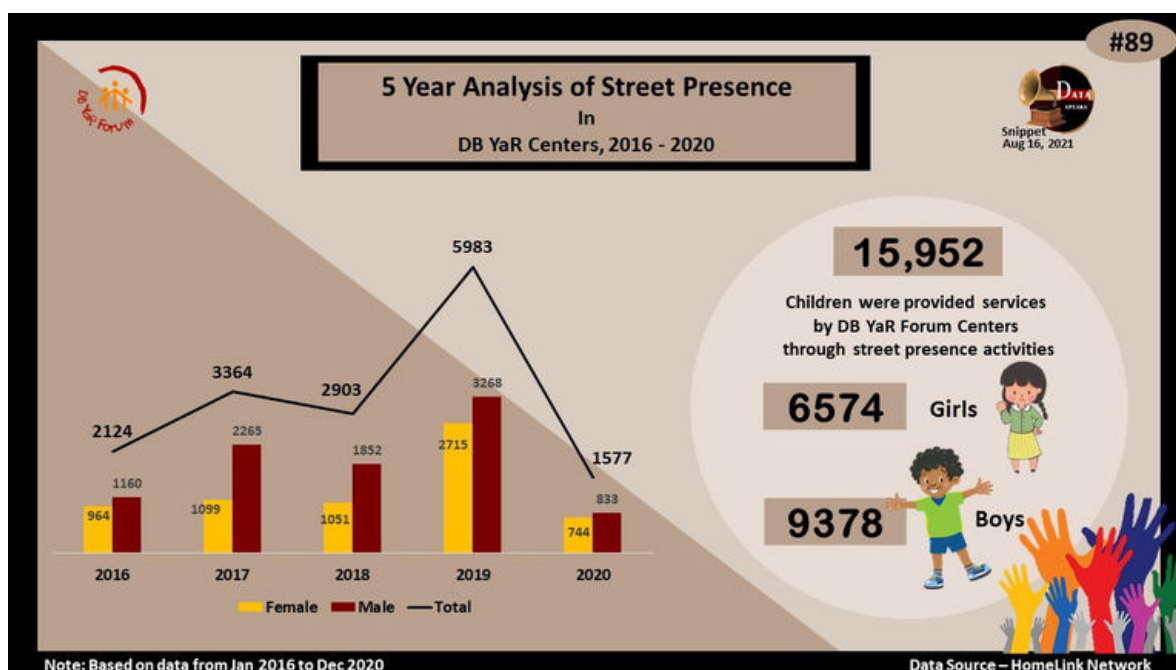


While previously they were in the image format, snippets in video formats and in regional languages were introduced in 2021-22. A total of 250 snippets, and 80+ infographic reports on issues like Child Marriage, Child Labour, Quality of Institutional Care, After-Care, and Services like Education, Medical, Vocational Training were published by the Hubs and Nodes.

With its pan-India presence, and networked approach among SDB's and partner organisations, HomeLink Network builds solidarity and synergy among those engaged with child rights and issues of the Young at Risk and continues to offer the Young at Risk, a trusted safety-net.



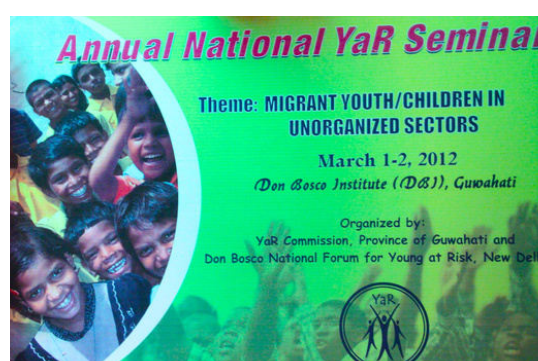
HomeLink and ChildMISS have been supported down the years by Kindermissionswerk through Don Bosco Mission Bonn and in recent years, partly by ItWillBe.



The magnitude and variety of internal migration in India as well as the distresses associated with it are enormous. Though migrants form the largest part of India's vast unorganized work sector, they work under the burden of severe disadvantages. Devoid of critical skills, information and bargaining power, migrant workers often get caught in arrangements that force them to work in low-end, low-value, hazardous work.

By "Migrant Young at Risk" we refer to children and young adults, who for the lack of better options are forced to move from their native places due to poverty, family distress, lack of opportunities, communal and / or socio-political disturbances, natural calamities, in search of safety or livelihoods.

The children on the streets of Bangalore, Chennai, Cochin, Kolkata and Mumbai in the late 1970's were "migrants" of sorts, without doubt. It was, however, the national seminar of March 2012 at Guwahati that first shone the spotlight and was probably the first country-wide



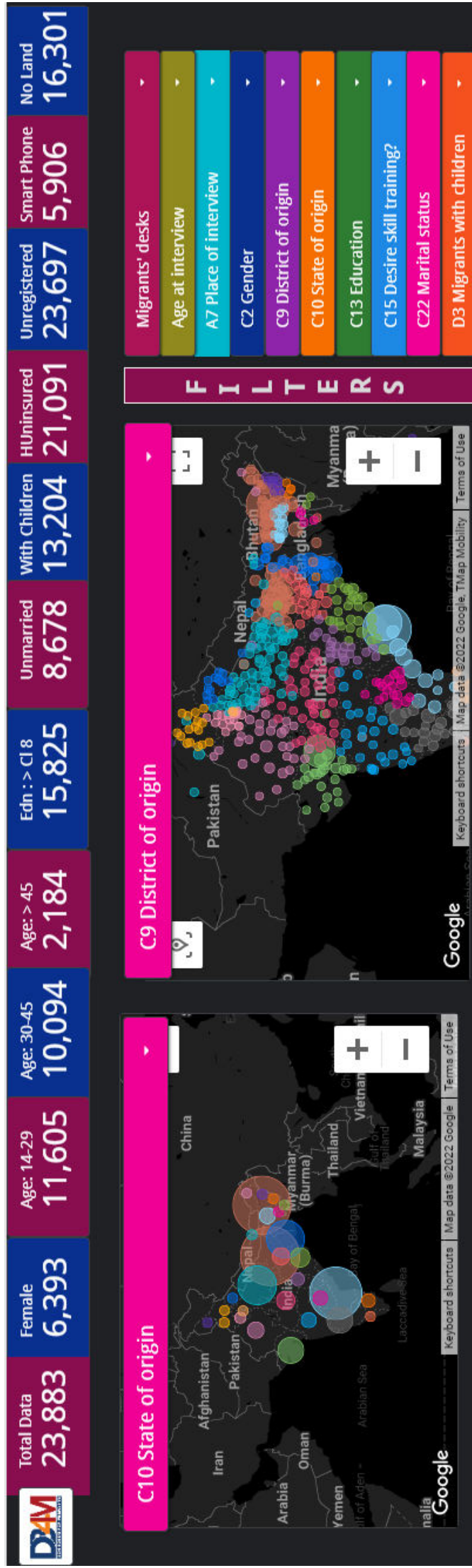
SDB effort to focus attention on the plight of the particularly disadvantaged migrant young-at-risk. In February 2015, "Migrant Young Persons" was part of the larger theme "Reaching the Unreached: the 18+ Young at Risk" at the national seminar of February 2016.



Addressing the issue of migrant workers in India was raised as a key concern for the Salesians at the Don Bosco Bicentennial Salesian



Family Congress in September 2015. DB YaR Forum was asked to take the lead in conceptualizing and drawing up a plan of action for Salesian ministry with young migrant workers in India. "Salesian Ministry with Migrants in India: A Framework for Action" was drawn up and adopted by DB YaR Forum and approved by SPCSA in September 2016.

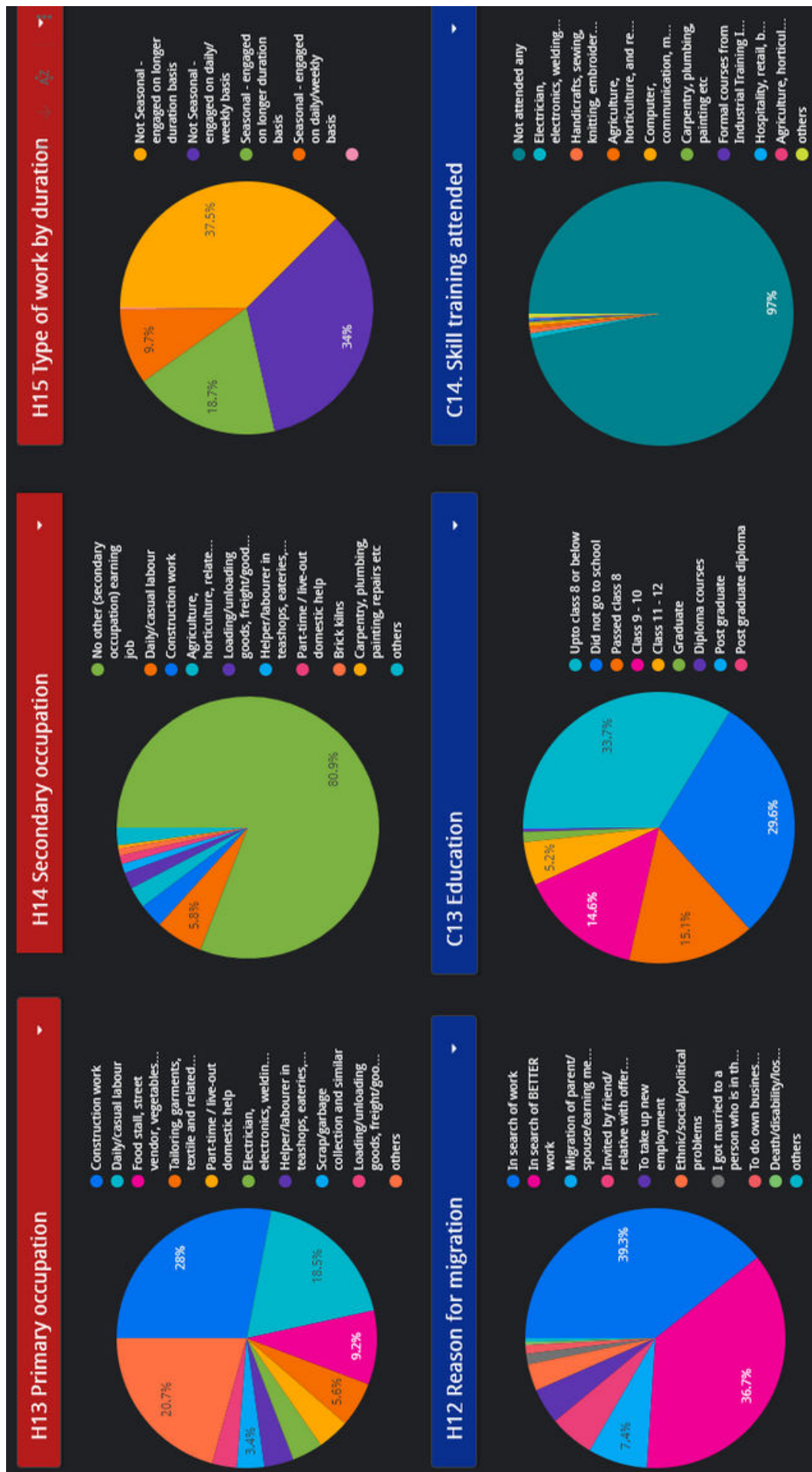


Following up on this, in 2017–2018, DB YaR Forum facilitated 8 “Migrants’ Desks” in as many cities in India. A research study of 2,400 respondents – 300 from each of these cities – was undertaken, and published in March 2020 under the title “Into the Life of Young Migrant Workers”.

The Covid–19 crisis of 2020–21 hit the Indian public in the eye with the shocking plight of migrant workers in India. Millions of citizens rose to the occasion in their own way engaging in immediate relief activities for beleaguered migrant workers. In significant ways, all our units across India also chipped in. In July 2020, an online national consultation was held

with all our units across India on strategizing and scaling up our work with young migrant workers. Building on the recommendations of the consultation, and the experience gained in previous interventions, a proposal, “Salesian Ministry with Vulnerable Migrant Workers – A Framework for Sustained Engagement” was presented to SPCSA, the apex body of Don Bosco organisations in India, who approved and adopted it in September 2020 as a priority for the Salesians in India and mandated DB YaR Forum to lead the work for all Salesian Organisations in India. Don Bosco for Migrants (DB4M), with a unique logo of its own, would be the name under which all Salesian interventions with migrant workers would be known.





In 2021-22, Migrant Desks (MDs) were set up in 13 locations across India: Bangalore, Hyderabad, Villupuram, Coimbatore, Delhi, Dimapur, Guwahati, Howrah, Shillong, Hubli, Vadodara, Vasco and Vijayawada. MD teams interacted with more than 30,000 young migrant workers during this period familiarising themselves with the concerns and challenges of young migrant workers, letting the migrant workers know of DB4M's solidarity with them, and offering them a variety of services. DB4M national team held more than 60 online and in-person sessions with MD teams during the year. Profiles of nearly 24,000 young migrant workers were collected through one-to-one interviews, which provide valuable insights into the life situations, working conditions, challenges and aspirations of young migrant workers.



Other Don Bosco organisations also contributed to this work by starting 20 other MDs in various locations bringing the total number to 33 MD's or SDB presences reaching out to young migrant workers.

DB4M teams from across India came together at Kolkata on 01 and 02 December 2021. Fr George Mathew, Executive Director, Don Bosco Tech India presented possibilities for upskilling migrants in collaboration with government schemes and with the support of Don Bosco Tech India. With Mr Umi Daniel, Director of Migration & Education, Aide et Action International, as a resource person, participants worked on planning the next steps and evolving long term strategies for DB4M. Six of the 11 provinces of India have identified construction labourers as their priority target group for interventions and four have daily or casual labourers as their priority group. Brick kiln workers, garbage collectors and segregators, rag-pickers, and street vendors have been identified by three provinces each.

The launch of our work with young migrant workers – the first 8 Migrants' Desks and the 8-city research study "Into the Life of Young Migrants" – was made possible by the support we received from Misiones Salesianas.



CHILD FRIENDLY CITIES INITIATIVE

COMMUNITIES & LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTED TO THE RIGHTS OF ALL CHILDREN

From initial presences with marginalised kids on the streets and in market places and bus and train stations, expansion and development led to steadily increased focus on services in settings

which are institutional. Reflection on this reality prompted DB YaR Forum to increase interventions towards creating – with the participation of children, adult citizens, civil society organisations and community leaders – in communities, towns and cities, environments that are safe, nurturing and conducive to the best interests of children. This has been at the heart of our programmes in recent years, the “Caring Communities” and the “Child Safety Net” programmes and more recently, the “Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI)”.

The concept of a “child friendly city”, though familiar in many parts of the world since a couple of decades or more, is an evolving concept. Though there has been very little done towards it in India, in recent years there is a growing interest among a number of organisations and cities within the country. The DB YaR Forum model of CFCI, though aligned with the goals and objectives as enunciated by UNICEF, starts with enhancing rights awareness, leadership, communication and citizenship skills of children organised into clubs like child-rights clubs, child parliaments or others. Adult and civil society organisations join and support the children as they engage with duty bearers and local administrations in the common effort to make their city “child friendly”.

The vision of CFCI is cities where all children, without discrimination of any kind, have access to their right to live in secure, enabling environments, and develop to their full potential. This implies that the best interests of children drive the city’s priorities, influence decision-making and implementation processes, and that the views of children are taken into consideration in all matters concerning them. The child friendly city is a continually growing realisation of all rights of all children in the city.

At a half-yearly national team meeting in Chandigarh in September 2014, DB YaR Forum conceptualized the “Child Friendly Cities Initiative” (CFCI) as a ten-years programme to be launched in 10 cities of India – Chandigarh, Coimbatore, Dimapur, Rajahmundry, Salem, Shillong, Trivandrum, Vadodara, Vellore and Vizag. This was followed by a feasibility study in these cities during October-December 2016.

In April 2018, DB YaR Forum launched the Child Friendly Cities Initiative in Chandigarh, Salem, Rajahmundry and Vadodara. The 39-months first phase of CFCI in these cities ended in June 2021.



Sensitisation of 33,700 children in these four cities, organising 10,061 children into 472 children's groups and child parliaments, interacting with 14,983 adult citizens, community leaders and members of civil society organisations and motivating 7,608 of them to be involved in children's efforts through participation in Civil Society Forums (for child rights), Caring Community Groups, as Child Rights Facilitators, and active support in campaigns and other interventions of children, engaging with 2,964 government officials and duty bearers on child rights related issues were highlights of the programme.

33700

CHILDREN SENSITIZED

472

CHILDREN'S GROUPS / CHILD
PARLIAMENTS FORMED

14983

CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS
SENSITIZED

2964

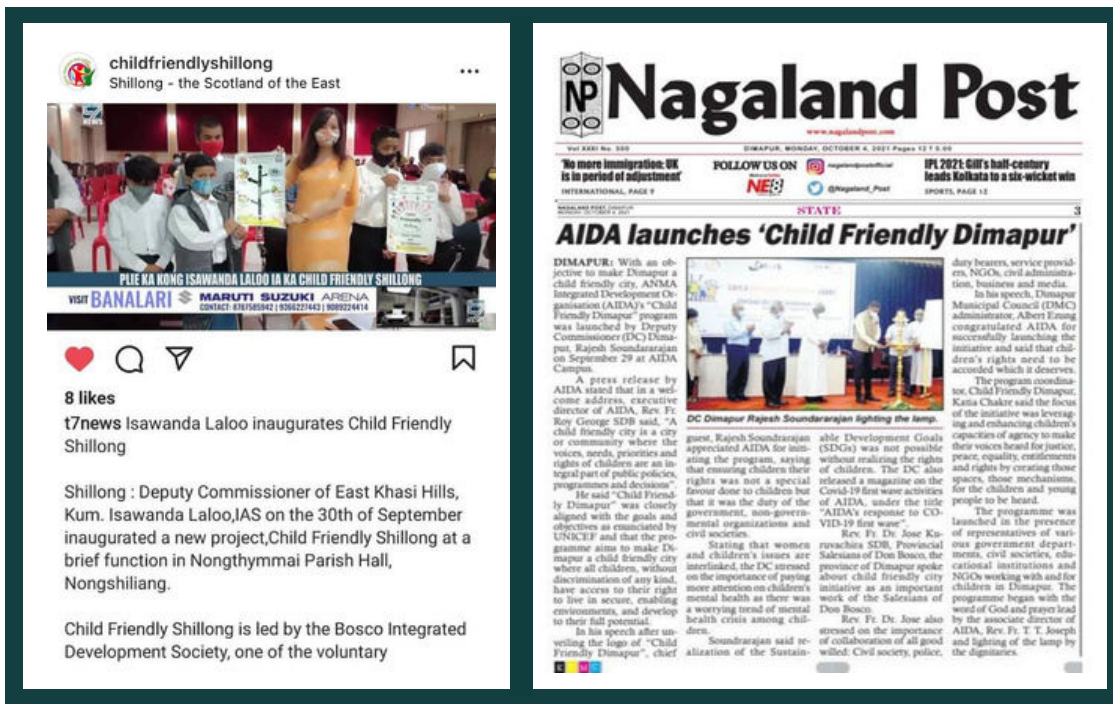
DUTY BEARERS SENSITISED



Children, together with the Child Friendly Vadodara team worked towards setting up Child Friendly Spaces across the police stations of Karelbaug, Harni, Bapod and Warasiya in Vadodara city. This initiative was guided by the Additional Commissioners of Police. Civil Society members and Caring Community Group members mobilized funds to paint the rooms, procure toys, furnishings and other items and make the place attractive and child friendly.



Children's groups in Sector 52 of Chandigarh campaigned to declare the market area, child labour free. They were guided by the Child Friendly Chandigarh team. This initiative was carried out in collaboration with Chandigarh Labour Dept, ChildLine, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and NINE is Mine. About 100 shopkeepers and vendors in the market area, signed a pledge not to employ any children. The Caring Community group members, Market Welfare Association and Local Ward Councillors showed their support in this initiative led by children.



In August 2021, while the second phase of CFCI is in progress in Chandigarh, Salem and Vadodara, a 48-months first phase of CFCI was launched in Dimapur and Shillong in India's North East.

The target of the first phase is the sensitisation of 13,000 children, formation and skill-building of 200 children's groups, enhanced leadership skills for 1,000 children, training and placement of 100 child rights facilitators in communities, 50 caring community groups, engagement with 1,000 duty bearers, community leaders and government officials, building child rights network of 80-100 civil society organisations all leading the whole community/city being mobilised, arriving at a consensus on key child rights issues of the city and beginning to collaborate to systematically address 2-3 of the identified issues.

**CHILDREN
SENSITISED**



1810

By March 2022, children sensitised in Dimapur and Shillong were 1,810 of whom 702 are in 20 children's groups and clubs. 1,079 youth and community leaders, and members of civil society organisations and 157 duty bearers and government officials like village chairpersons and council members, police, health and education department personnel, anganwadi and ASHA workers have been interacted with. 236 members have been organised into 'Caring Community Groups'. Waiting in the wings for financial support for take off are CFCI's in the cities of Coimbatore, Trivandrum, Vellore and Vizag. Child Friendly Cities Initiatives have been supported by Missean Cara, BMZ and Kindermissionswerk through Don Bosco Mission Bonn.



**Children Groups
Formed**

20



**Youth & Civil Society
Members Sensitised**

1079



**Duty Bearers
Sensitised**

157

DON BOSCO STANDARDS OF CARE

CARE AND PROTECTION OF YOUNG AT RISK – THE DON BOSCO WAY

The evolving juvenile justice system in the country, with strict control of procedures and activities relating to children in need of care and protection, might come across, at first look, as tedious or oppressive.

On closer study, however, it would be seen that beyond the requirements of legal compliance, are also offered the space and the opportunity to blend in the unique ingredients of the Don Bosco way of caring for at-risk young people.



A set of common standards that all Don Bosco Young at Risk centres and services are required to achieve and maintain had been drawn up in 2011-12. This list of standards and benchmarks has been continuously revised in succeeding years. In February 2018, this list incorporating the latest amendments to the Juvenile Justice Act and the unique characteristics of the Don Bosco way of care of the Young at Risk was adopted as the benchmark to assess all YaR centres and services.

In 2018-19 a round of 'Social Audits' based on these standards was carried out across all DB YaR Forum centres in India. The reports of these social audits highlighting gaps as well as achievements using infographics, data charts, and a graded system of scoring, were shared with the centres. The reports also showcased several 'Best Practices' of the centres, enabling YaR centres across India to learn from and emulate one another.

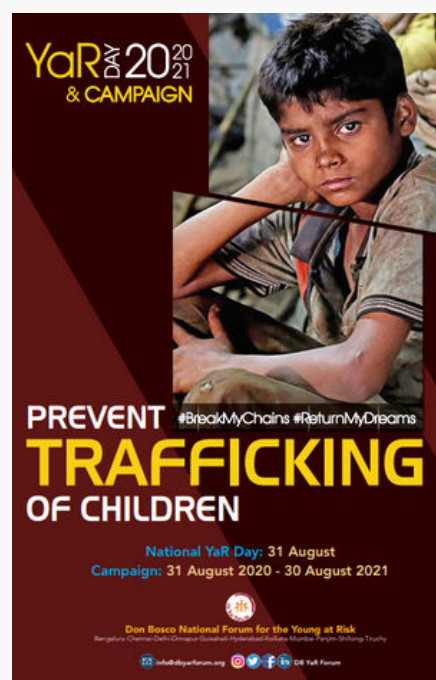
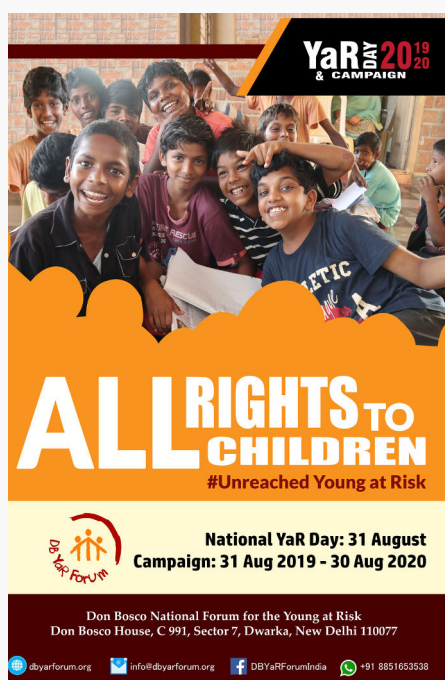
Though the audits were to be an annual feature, the Covid-19 pandemic brought about an abrupt pause to this activity. The interruption has been utilised to revisit the benchmarks and fine tune the rating tool. The revised and improved tool – the Don Bosco Standards of Care – will be in use in the next round of social audits planned for 2022-23 after a series of training programmes across the provinces to facilitate assessment by peers and inter-province teams and reduce dependence on the national team for assessments.



NATIONAL YAR DAY & CAMPAIGN

LEARNING THROUGH CELEBRATION AND ACTIVITY

The first National YaR Day was celebrated on 20 November 2010, a day for all DB YaR Forum centres across the country to celebrate their life with the Young at Risk, to give thanks for blessings, friends and collaborators, to reflect on and to recommit to sombre unfinished agenda against child rights denied, unfulfilled. The decision to extend the theme of the National YaR Day to a year-long focus through the National YaR Campaign was taken in 2016-17. Simultaneously, for a variety of reasons including the convenience of all regions of India and to emphasise its Don Bosco character, it was also decided to shift the National YaR Day to 31 August. The National YaR Campaign would start on the National YaR Day on 31 August and would continue up to 30 August the next year. The first National YaR Campaign, in 2017-2018, was on the theme "Caring for the Earth, Our Common Home".

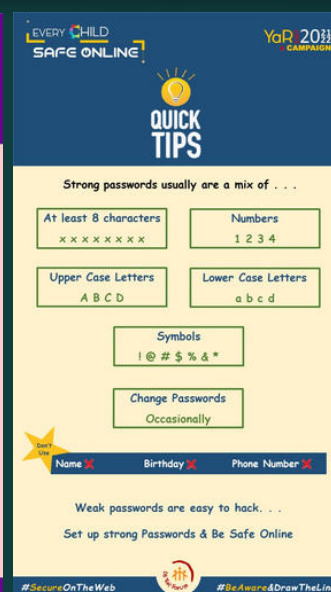


The Campaign of 2021 - 2022, on the theme "Every Child Safe Online" was launched on 31 Aug 2021.

The National YaR Campaign elicited active participation from children and care givers from all our centres. They participated online and offline in awareness programmes, learning and activity sessions on various aspects of the theme. Audio-visual clips, data bites, flipbooks, posters, images and resource kits were shared online and through social media platforms. Children showcased their involvement through dances, skits, producing video-clips, songs, poems, stories and posters.



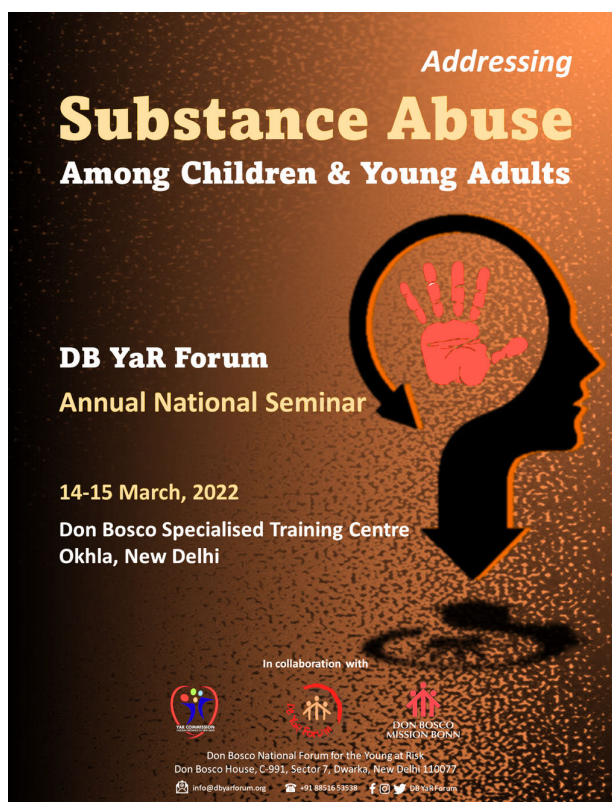
Whereas, adapting to Covid-19 situation, the campaign of 2020-2021 on the theme "Prevent Trafficking of Children" had a fortnightly hour-long online series "The Unspoken" hosted and presented by the national team and well-known experts, the campaign of 2021-22 shifted to monthly episodes of "The Unspoken" and focused more the active participation of children in all activities.



THE THEME SELECTED FOR THE CAMPAIGN OF 2022-23 - CHOOSE LIFE . NOT DRUGS

National YaR Seminar's date back to 2001 and earlier – before even the official formation of DB YaR Forum.

After the Seminar at Mumbai in September 2019 on the theme “Imagine YaR Ministry – Journeying Together into Tomorrow” Covid-19 forced the cancellation of the Seminar of September 2020 planned to be held at Delhi with the theme of “Prevent Trafficking of Children”. Due to Covid-19 related restrictions, the Seminar planned for September 2021 could only be held on 14 and 15 March 2022 at Don Bosco Specialized Training Centre, New Delhi. Titled “Addressing Substance Abuse Among Children and Youth” the seminar was attended by 82 participants from 23 states of the country.



Resource persons at the Seminar were Ms Sujata Ganega, Former Executive Director of SUPPORT, Mumbai, and Dr E Sinu, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatric Social Work in NIMHANS, Bangalore. There were also sharing of experiences in addressing substance abuse by the SDB practitioners present. The input sessions were followed by group work among participants to draw up an action framework for community oriented approaches to address substance abuse among children and young adults.



Annual National Seminar 2022, New Delhi

The Seminar of 2022 is scheduled to be held at Hyderabad on 30 November 2022 on the theme “Accompanying the 18+ Young at Risk Leaving Care : The Don Bosco Way”

YEAR	VENUE	THEMES
2009	Delhi	In Defence of the Young on Human Rights Path with Don Bosco
2010	Kolkata	Praying with Children in Multi-religious Contexts
2011	Chennai	YaR Child Policy
2012	Guwahati	Migrant Youth /Children in Unorganised Sectors
2013	Mumbai	Training in Advocacy on Behalf of Young at Risk
2014	Vijayawada	Care of Children with Behavioural Difficulties
2015	Chennai	Psycho-Social Support for the Young at Risk
2016	Trivandrum	Reaching the Unreached Young at Risk: Migrant Youth in Unorganised Sectors, Young Prisoners, Skill Training
2017	Guwahati	Restorative Justice and Children
2018	Kolkata	Building Resilience in Children
2019	Mumbai	Imagine YaR Ministry: Journeying Together into Tomorrow
2022	Delhi	Addressing Substance Abuse Among Children and Young Adults
2022	Hyderabad	Accompanying the 18+ Young at Risk Leaving Care : The Don Bosco Way



Annual National Seminar 2018, Kolkata



Annual National Seminar 2019, Mumbai

NATIONAL YAR AWARDS

RECOGNIZING TALENT, CREATIVITY & COMMITMENT

In 2013, DB Yar Forum initiated National Awards for outstanding achievements in service to the Young at Risk. For the first five years the awards were given for the best performing Hubs and Nodes of HomeLink Network and the awards were known as "HomeLink Awards".



HomeLink Awards 2013, Vijayawada

From 2017, the scope of the awards was broadened to include several new categories: Innovative Programme, Research, Short Film, Personalities of DB YaR Forum, YaR Lifetime Achievement - and the awards were renamed as 'National YaR Awards'. YaR Children's Awards, YaR Social Media Award and HomeLink Phoenix Award were added in 2021.



The 8th edition of National YaR Awards 2021 - was for the achievements and performances between 1st June 2019 and 31st May 2021, considering that the awards could not be held in 2020 due to Covid-19 related disruptions. The awards were announced at Kolkata on 30

November 2021, and the Awards Ceremony was held on 15 March 2022 at Don Bosco Specialised Training Centre, New Delhi. There were 75 nominations across all categories.



National YaR Awards 2021, New Delhi

AWARD CATEGORY	NAME, PROVINCE & DESCRIPTION
 YaR Children's Award 18+	Ms Arpitha K (INK); Mr Probir Kundu (INC) Ms Vaishali N (INK)
 YaR Children's Award	Ms R P Kanishri
 YaR Innovative Programme Award	Don Bosco Devadurga (INK) Bridge IT - Digital Entrepreneurship Programme
 YaR Research Award	Fr Casimir Raj (INT) Prevalence of Child Marriage in Salem, Dharmapuri & Namakkal Districts Social Work Perspectives for Intervention
 YaR Short Film Award	Don Bosco NITIKA (INC) Fr Nirmal Toppo (Director & Script Writer): Online Safety Documentary: Anline
 Homelink Award	Service of Excellence: Best Hub Mr Joshua John Nirmal, Bangalore HUB (INK)
 Homelink Award	Service of Excellence: Best Node Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Coimbatore HUB (INT)
 Homelink Award	Service of Excellence: Best Emerging Node Tirupur Auxilium Salesian Sisters Society Coimbatore HUB (INT)
 Homelink Award	HomeLink Phoenix Award Margaret Bosco Bal Sadan, Goa (INP)
 YaR Social Media Award	Navajeevan Bala Bhavan, Vijayawada (INH) People's Action for Rural Awakening (INH)
 Recognition for Awards Received by Individuals	Ms N Nirmala Devi Serving in Best interest of Children - From Mr Taman, IAD, The District Collector of Salem District
 Recognition for Awards Received by Individuals	Ms N Nirmala Devi Woman Candidate from Social Work Field - From IDFC First Bank, Salem
 Recognition for Awards Received by Individuals	Ms N Nirmala Devi Social Activist in Child Protection - From Government Arts & Science College, Salem

AWARD CATEGORY	NAME, PROVINCE & DESCRIPTION
 Recognition for Awards Received by Institutions	Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Coimbatore Dedicated Service & Commitment towards the Society – From Nehru College of Arts & Science
 Recognition for Awards Received by Institutions	Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Salem Providing Outstanding Service to Disabled People – From Collector & District Differently Abled Welfare Office Providing Relief Materials for Affected People – From Salem Corporation Commissioner, Mr Ravichandran IAS Recognition in Active Engagement in Signature Campaign & Emergency Relief Responses During Covid 19 – TN Alliance
 Recognition for Awards Received by Institutions	Salesian Province of Kolkata A Citation and Cash Award from the Vatican – From Elemonsiniere Di Sua Santita, Vatican
 Recognition for Awards Received by Institutions	Certificate of Appreciation The Don Bosco Anbu Illam Social Service Society – From Greater Chennai Corporation received by Fr Joseph Leo
 Recognition for Awards Received by Institutions	The Don Bosco Anbu Illam Social Service Society Excellent Humanitarian Service – From Don Bosco Niraivagam
 Recognition for Awards Received by Institutions	BOSCO Bengaluru Paramapoojya Dr Shivakumar Swamili Award – From BBMP
 Personalities of DB YaR Forum	Allam Melchior Raja Reddy Chairperson, CWC, Medchal District, Telengana
 Personalities of DB YaR Forum	Fr Cyril Sagayaraj SDB Member CWC, Davanagere, Karnataka
 Personalities of DB YaR Forum	Mr Ramanaik Chairperson CWC, Davanagere, Karnataka
 Personalities of DB YaR Forum	Fr Steven Lawrence Member CWC, Bidar, Karnataka
 Lifetime Achievement Award	Late Fr Sebastian Vadakethannickal (INN) Late Fr Antony Thaiparambil (INN)

COVID - DESTITUTE CHILDREN



The second wave of the Coronavirus pandemic hit the people of India in a tragic manner. Though it might be arguable that mismanagement at various levels exacerbated, if not led to, this situation, the painful truth is that it caused extreme loss, anxiety, pain and deprivation to many. Large numbers of the poorer folk found themselves in a situation where they had no avenues to bounce back to at least where they were before the pandemic hit them. Thousands of children across India lost their parents and family members on whom they depended for their lives.

At moments of crisis, people across the world reach out to each other with support and the essentials for survival. The grim reality which often escapes attention is the situation of the poorer people, when the immediate crisis has faded from public view, and the daily trudge continues.



A number of state governments, and the central government, announced programmes for children left orphaned or destitute by the death, due to Covid-19, of adults on whom they depended. While the programmes did sound and look good, the bureaucratic hassles and processes and the necessary documentation would involve months of tedious work, if not block out many of the more vulnerable groups due their inability to meet or to prove that they meet the criteria.



It was in this context that DB YaR Forum reached out to children and young persons who had been left orphaned or without livelihood or educational support due the death or incapacitation of parents or adults on whom they depended.



Financial assistance, through support from ItWillBe, was offered for one year to 24 selected children and young persons to meet their livelihood and educational needs, while our teams engaged with family members and government functionaries to connect the children with the schemes and grants that the government had announced for them. By March 2022, only 7 children had succeeded to get linked with the government schemes. But the support we extended offered them at least a temporary safety net. Efforts are on to continue to support the neediest of these young people.



FINANCIALS

Financial Summary 01 April 2021 – 31 March 2022

Interventions	Funds Available	Funds Utilised	Balance
HomeLink & ChildMISS	13,57,046	13,57,046	-
Juvenile Justice Alliance	6,62,875	27,455	6,35,420
Young Migrant Workers	6,13,114	6,13,114	-
Child Friendly Cities Initiative	5,20,706	5,20,706	-
People's Protection App	36,70,788	27,23,978	9,46,810
Young at Risk Interventions	57,03,442	23,16,562	33,86,880
Total	1,25,27,972	75,58,862	49,69,110

OUR DONORS

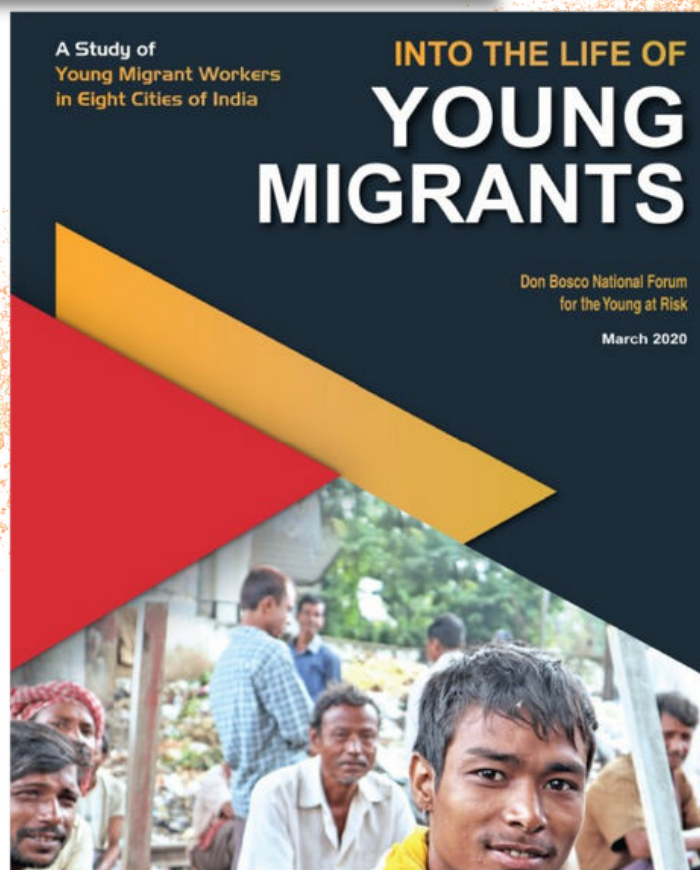


WITH SUPPORT FROM



Over the years our institutions and centres for the Young at Risk might arguably have grown into “centres of excellence”. To go beyond the boundaries of these institutions, to join hands with all stakeholders to make entire deserts bloom rather than create isolated oases for a handful – however wonderful – was the vision that emerged out of “Imagine YaR Ministry – Journeying Together into Tomorrow” and to which we are committed. Our nationally coordinated programmes, Child Friendly Cities Initiative, Don Bosco 4 Migrants, HomeLink Network, National YaR Campaign align with this vision and all our units across the country do the same.

We express a word of heartfelt thanks and invoke God’s Blessings, also on behalf of all our young people, on all our donors, supporters, well-wishers and friends.



THE TEAM



FR THOMAS SANTIAGU
PRESIDENT



FR TONY PELLISSERY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



FR JOSEPH LEO
JOINT SECRETARY



MS DORTHY AMARESH
FINANCE MANAGER



MS MAHESHWARI BALAN
SENIOR MANAGER, PARTNERSHIPS



MS SHRUTI ROY CHOWDHURY
SENIOR MANAGER, PROGRAMMES



MR AUSTIN FRANCIS
TECHNICAL MANAGER

PROVINCE YAR COORDINATORS



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KOLKATA



FR JAMES PAUL
BANGALORE



FR ARVIND SEVERES
PANJIM



FR JOE PRABU
CHENNAI



FR TOMY ANIKZHUIKATTIL
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-  Children's Homes
-  Open Shelters, Day-Care Centers



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