“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.”
“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

-Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi was a nation builder, a messenger of peace, a warrior of justice. A leader par excellence, his legacy continues to live till today. Peace and love is what the world stands in need of. Gandhi’s thoughts resonate with Don Bosco’s love for youth as the changemakers of civil society. There is immense potential in the children and youth of a nation to make it or break it. It is the responsibility of the elders to be the right guides and mentors to the young who look up to us for support.

Our interventions for children and youth are aimed at preparing them to be changemakers of tomorrow, to bring about a positive change in society. All our institutions – academic, technical, vocational or for rehabilitation have a holistic approach that transforms the students into agents for social transformation – from marginalisation to inclusion. Inspiring them to “Be the change” that they want to see in the world.

Fr P Arul Das sdb
Executive Director

From the Director’s Desk...

World Suicide Prevention Day

Don Bosco Warangal: On 10th September - World Suicide Prevention Day - Shelter Home for Urban Homeless and Spoorthi Swachandha Seva Samstha Mr. K Shekar Goud organized awareness program for inmates on prevention of suicidal tendencies and its impact on the loved ones. 'Connect, communicate, care' was the theme of the 2016 World Suicide Prevention Day. These three words are at the heart of suicide prevention. Mr.K.Prabhakar Reddy, Sub-inspector, Mattewada Traffic Police station, was guest of the day. He shared his experience of dealing with bereaved families of persons who committed suicide. He expressed about the opportunity the shelter provided in terms of a safe platform for sharing any grievances or troubles they faced. He emphasized on the value of life and difficulties in carrying on during rough phases with hope and courage. He encouraged the inmates to be the strength and support for each other and avail the counseling services provided.

A new DTH TV cable connection and Old TV were donated by Mr. Goud to the shelter. 13 new homeless persons sought shelter at the facility during the month.

Dhisha: 46 young men and women participated in a Career Guidance seminar at DBHRDC Gagilapuram. On 28th September, 22 women and 24 men undergoing training at Dr.Reddy’s Labs gathered at the hall for a fun and learning seminar on developing their personalities for a successful career. Sessions focused on interview skills, interpersonal communication and presentation skills.

SEMINAR FOR TRAINEES
DBHRDC: I am Kasthuri from Warangal district of Telangana. I am extremely happy to be in DBHRDC Gagillapur. I have come here to learn Electrical wiring. I come from a poor family. Before coming here, I did not know anything to do, but I learned after coming here many things in addition to the technical skills, like keeping the surroundings clean. The house where I am staying is nice and neatly maintained by us. Now, as I am here in this home which is built on love makes me to feel always as my home. All the works that are entrusted to me I do it very happily.

Before coming here, I was reluctant to build friendships, which is most important thing in one’s life. Since I was a village girl from a poor financial and educational background, I found myself lost in a crowd. With the limited knowledge that I have I closed myself in a small room or to say I built a boundary where no one could enter in. But after completion of my school and college studies my horizon started widening by looking at the reality and my friends whom I have encountered in day to day life. In the beginning I was shy and did not talk to anyone in the hostel, but after sometime I realized that life is short and I have to make it happy by making a place for myself in the world, one whom others should look up to.

I have received so much of love and affection from the staff and friends. These things brought me out from the clutches of underestimating myself as inferior to others. I realized that it was purely my misconception and not others’ treatment towards me. Staff of this institute motivated me a lot to come out of my world that led me to think out of box, to see the possibilities and potential that I possess as a human with full freedom to be who I am.

After coming to DBHRDC, I started to spread out the wings of my friendship with all those classmates of mine and even others too. I have experienced a family atmosphere in DBHRDC. I have seen and experienced different people from different states. Moreover, I learned to adjust with everyone in a friendly manner.

Lastly, I just want to thank this institute for making me a disciplined person, to get up in the morning and pray to the God whom I wish and worship. They say, with discipline and smart mind one can achieve anything in the world, I found that treasure in this institute to guide myself and to live a happy life with friends, punctuality, love. Moreover the motivation for myself as ‘I can do anything, in any circumstance, at any cost. What more do I need if I learn such a good qualities from this institute. It is better and the best time of my life that I have spent in this institute, where I received a complete formation of myself as human, to compete with the world. I just want to put in the way it is not a simple change, that has taken place but a Radical Change, that has transformed my life completely.

CHANDRANNA CHEYUTHA @ DB Tech Ongole

DB Tech: 22 September, 2016 was a special day for the 30 youth gathered in Don Bosco, Ongole as they eagerly participated in the inauguration of skill training program supported by the Government of Andhra Pradesh namely Chandranna Cheyutha.

Two trainings are offered in Ongole under Chandranna Cheyutha, namely Electrical and Automobile. Mr. Ravi, the Executive Director for SC Corporation, Prakasam District was the Chief Guest. He interacted with the trainees and motivated them to be regular for the training. He exhorted them to move out of their safe and secure environment to be job placed in new and faraway places, where there are plenty of opportunities to grow in their carrier. He distributed the uniforms to the trainees. We sincerely thank DBTECH for giving wings to our youth.

DLSA visits DBNJ, Warangal

DBNJ Warangal: District Legal Service Authority Hon. Judge Smt.G.Neelima visited Don Bosco Navajeevan Shelter Home on 16th September 2016. She felt happy and admired the Street/slum children, and the process of their rehabilitation and services by Don Bosco Navajeevan. Ms.Neelima enquired about their background and planned few more activities with children and parents. The objective of the visit was regular inspection of Child Care Institutions. She showed interest to plan slum educative programs in collaboration with DBNJ in targeted slum area. She gave sweets for all and spent more than hour interacting with children alone.

The visit of the Hon’ble Judge was featured in the local dailies the following day.
Breeding Goats For Better Living

**MACS:** G Narasamma lives with her husband in Khajapalem village of Guntur District. Their daughter was married off last year. The couple go to work as field labour. This is just enough for their subsistence. However, they have an additional burden of repaying the loan taken for the marriage.

Narasamma joined Manikanta SHG of Chaitanya MACS. This became a life-changing decision for the couple. With the first loan of Rs. 5000/- she bought a pair of goat-kids for breeding. She raised the animals with care while continuing to labour in the fields. Wages earned from labour work sufficed to repay the monthly instalments.

Narsamma did some prudent financial planning and used the MACS loans to repay the marriage loans that she had taken from private lenders at high interest rates. This eased her burden considerably. She feels more comfortable with the low interest rates charged by MACS.

The total number of goats now are 15. Narasamma is optimistic that the number will go up to 30 within the next year. She is proud of these assets which are a result of her hard work. “I am extremely grateful to BSK and to MACs for this wonderful opportunity. I am very happy and satisfied with the progress we are making as a family.”

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**Pallavi finds DB Tech training a reward**

**DB Tech:** An 18 year old Pallavi hails from Dews Sweet Home Orphanage. She finished her High School education from the Government High School. Pallavi, the youngest of five female siblings, is taken care by an orphanage since her childhood due to the unstable financial status of her family. The nuns at the Home supported her secondary school education and Intermediate. Her father always urged for the better future of his five daughters. One day when the trainers were on mobilisation activity, Pallavi had a meet with the trainees Mr. Satish Kumar and Mr. Nagoor. The trainers explained about the training program, duration, job placement etc. After knowing the details, there rose a ray of hope in her.

She always dreamt to help her father in managing the family expenses. Now, opportunity knocked the door to exhibit the hidden talent in her. The trainers met her parents, initially her father did not believe in the word of trainers. But on explaining the previous students’ success stories, he was willing to join her in the class. Sr. Sunitha, the sister from Dews Sweet Home Orphanage, highly recommended Don Bosco Tech, assuring the parents of the credibility and safety of the institute.

Pallavi underwent training in Hositality domain for three months. She is a very enthusiastic trainee with a zeal to learn and acquire knowledge in the core competencies and other general issues in the society. “The facilitators have taught me with a great patience and I received a positive response everytime I made a query. It is a wonderful experience being a part of Don Bosco Tech and I am overwhelmed thinking that I would work very soon and assist my father” says Pallavi. Apart from the academics, Pallavi also participates very actively in the extra-curricular activities held in the classroom. She is now absolutely prepared to reach out and fulfill her dream to work as an F&B steward.

An interview session was scheduled with Palavelli Resorts, one of the luxurious resorts in the East Godavari district. Pallavi cracked the interview with great courage and got selected as an F&B Steward with an extra benefit of food and accomodation. “Now I am extremely happy for what I received after leading a life away from my family for 17 years. This is what in return I had always hoped for. Thanks to my trainers and my friends who helped to achieve this.” Says the most happiest girl in the world-Pallavi.

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**TRIBALS INTRODUCED TO DENTAL HYGIENE**

**DB Kurnool:** The tuition centre program in Kurnool that is focused on Shikari Tribes made a new inroad into the otherwise closed community. The Centre organized an awareness camp for the families living there about the crucial role dental hygiene plays in a person’s overall health. Using pictorial charts, he explained about the various types of infections and hazards that can be caused by not keeping the teeth clean. The audience listened in rapt attention. Most of them were accustomed to use of tobacco and other substances that have adverse effects. Moreover, brushing teeth is not a part of their daily routine.

At the end of the program, the tribals said they were very touched by the concern the centre was showing in their well-being. It made them more assured about the need for their children to learn and educate themselves. They all left with the promise to follow the instructions on dental hygiene for elders and children alike and also to send their children to the centre regularly.