

FCDP - TMS

“Empowering the fisher folk”



FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

(Reg.No.Q.771/84)

THEERADESA MAHILA SOCIETY

(Reg.No.Q.1039/95)



WHO WE ARE

Who we are

Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP) and Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS) are two sister organizations founded and managed by the Salesians of Don Bosco, for the integral development of men, women, youth and children of the fishing community living along the coastal areas of Kollam. FCDP and TMS have been part and parcel of the development of the fisherfolk of Kollam since 1979.

Our Vision

Our vision is to build a fishermen community that is comprehensively developed in all spheres such as education, health, social status and economic growth.

Our Mission

- To provide financial support to the deprived members of the fishermen community
- To create and enhance alternative employment opportunities for women in coastal areas
- To cater to the health needs of the fisher folk through health care centers and health awareness campaigns
- To improve the level of education and related skills among the youth in coastal areas, through training and tuition centres
- To collaborate and co-ordinate with other agencies, governmental or non-governmental, to enable a better life for the fisher folk

OUR SOCIAL INITIATIVES



Vishapinu Vida

“Vishapinu Vida - Let us say No to Hunger”, a joint charitable program of The Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP) and Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS), is designed to build awareness and raise funds in an effort to eradicate hunger among the aged in the coastal areas of Kollam. Fund that is raised through “Vishapinu Vida” directly benefits programs focused on combating hunger among the aged and improving health-related issues. It aims to initially provide 100 nourishing meals a day and nursing care to the needy aged people of the coastal areas of Kollam.

Begun on 1st April 2017, ‘Visappinu Vida’ gives 120+ nourishing mid-day meals daily to the poorest and the neediest among the aged people of the coastal areas of Kollam. The Programme covers the area stretching from Thanni to Thangassery within the Kollam Corporation and food is distributed at the place of the beneficiaries with the help of volunteers. We believe that every elderly person has a right to live the rest of his/her life feeling loved, supported, appreciated and honoured for his/her contribution to the society. The Programme also supports the aged sick people with medicines and nursing care. Besides providing meals and nursing care, we’re also developing awareness, motivating activists and volunteers, and raising funds to help improve health conditions for the aged as well developing a positive attitude of care towards the elderly and the aged in the coastal areas of Kollam.

Santhwanam

Santhwanam “Empathy and Care” is a joint charitable programme of Fishermen community development programme (FCDP) and Theeradesa mahila society (TMS). The programme aims to support the financially struggling sick people among fisher folk who cannot go for further treatment. It is unfortunate that there are a large number of persons who succumb to their illness as they cannot afford further treatment. Santhwanam trusts well-wishers and benefactors to pool in their mite to assist those needing financial help for medical treatment. Building a culture of empathy, “Santhwanam”, helps create healthy community and a caring environment.



Pratheeksha

Pratheeksha - “A helping hand to Education” is an educational programme organized by Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP) and Theeradesa Mahila Society (TMS). “Pratheeksha” means hope presupposes encouragement and support. This programme supports and guides the poor school / college going students especially of the coastal area of Kollam. Education opens the door to development and fuller life both for individuals and communities. We at FCDP and TMS believe that no child or adult would ever have to stop their education because of lack money. Besides ensuring educational aid, this programme also provides career guidance, organizes motivational programmes, builds student fellowships and works towards training programmes for professional placement.

Women Empowerment Programme (WEP)

Empowerment of Women and Youth in Fisher folk community through Education, Health and Livelihood Promotion is another major intervention of FCDP. Through this programme, FCDP aims at bringing significant changes in the system of control over financial assets of fisher folk, improved economic empowerment of women through micro-credit activities, effective participation in Self-Help Groups, improved leadership attributes of SHG women leaders, ensuring of accountability in micro-credit activities, proper utilization of available resources, and development of income-generating activities through skill development programmes.



Women and Youth Empowerment Programme (WYEP)

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Women Empowerment Through Livelihood and Entrepreneurship (WELivE)

WELivE is a project for sustainable income for rural women through Micro Enterprises and Social Empowerment of Women. The project aims at the economic upliftment of women and to make them contributors of their household income through four main activities, namely, EDP & Production Training, Training on Organic Farming and Kitchen Gardening, Facilitation of IGPs/MEs/Kitchen Garden and Marketing & Finance Linkage Support.



KISMAT Kollam

FCDP is happy to partner with Don Bosco Veedu, Trivandrum and BREADS, Bangalore for the welfare of inter-state migrants in Kerala, towards a more egalitarian, just, and inclusive society. Kerala Interstate Migrants Alliance for Transformation (KISMAT) is a collective effort by Don Bosco across Kerala to reach out the growing population of young migrants at risk in the state of Kerala. It aims to give the marginalized migrant labour class a voice and enhance their standard of living through structured interventions and social inclusion programmes.



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AUTOS (WE-AUTOS)

The WE-Auto project aims to empower the fisher women belonging to the coastal area of Kollam towards sustainable livelihood and gender equality. This project has already made significant changes in the attitude of the people towards women in the society. It has helped break taboos and customs by giving a different job perspective. WE-Autos are not just women and child friendly but also eco-friendly.

The objectives of the We-auto project are:

- Ensuring a sustainable income for Fisher women and thereby finding a solution to the unemployment
- Bringing the women out from the stereotypical job orientation and mainstream the workforce of women
- Reducing the rate of environmental pollution by encouraging electric vehicles.



LEGAL AID CELL

The legal aid cell at FCDP is under the Kollam district legal services authority (DLSA). It aims to make competent legal aid to the fisher folk community and to create awareness among them about the contemporary legal issues. The clinic is open once a week on every Wednesday. The legal cases are brought by Para-legal volunteers (PLV). Making free legal services available has been a boon for the weaker sections especially of the fisher folk community of Kollam. The legal services clinic was officially inaugurated at FCDP on 13th November 2019.

Our Regular Activities



Primary Health Centre

In keeping with our motto of working towards better health conditions and facilities for the fishermen community FCDP runs a Primary health Centre at Don Bosco Nagar, Pallithottam. The Health centre is run in collaboration with Bishop Benziger Hospital Kollam. The health centre is open Monday to Saturday from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Free treatment and medicines are provided at this health centre on a nominal fee of ten rupees only. Those who require further treatment are referred to the hospital.

Self Help Groups and Income Generating Programmes



One of the major interventions of FCDP and TMS is through Self Help Groups founded as early as 1985. The SHGs meet every week. Each group has its own President and Secretary. The FCDP and TMS Board consist primarily of representatives of the various SHGs. The SHGs promote savings and members also avail loans for IGPs. Today FCDP and TMS have over 270 SHG's with over 2900 members. Over the years, a number of interventions have been made by FCDP and TMS through the SHG members and leaders to promote better economic and living conditions and to root out social evils.

Counselling Services

Counselling Services have been begun at FCDP with the intention of catering to the large number of people suffering from emotional and psychological stress. FCDP has a counselling centre and services of experienced and qualified Counselors are made available on request. As the number of incidents involving students as well married couples are on the rise, this intervention is most appropriate. The centre provides especially student and family counselling. The counselling centre functions from 10 am - 5 pm and services are provided with prior appointment only.

WE PRODUCTS & SERVICES

WE Products and Services is an effort to promote income generating activities especially by the women from the fisherfolk community and to provide a marketing platform for the products from the coastal area. Under the brand, WE Products and Services, presently there is a FOOD PROCESSING Unit that produces and markets healthy and unadulterated food items, masalas, pickles, snacks etc, a HOME CARE Unit supplying home care items at affordable rates and promoting an alternate life style, TAILORING Unit that makes cloth bags etc and HANDICRAFTS Unit that make varieties of sea shell flowers, paper bags etc.



OUTLET FOR PRODUCTS AND WE SCHEME

FCDP also has an outlet which is a marketing platform for the SHG members where products prepared by the SHG members like masalas, pickles home care, dry fish, candles, handicrafts items, textiles etc. Part of it also is the door to door (direct marketing) marketing team, who visit various areas during the week. There is also a WE-Scheme which supplies provisions materials at the home of the members on instalment basis.



Skill Training Programme

FCDP-TMS conduct different kinds of skill training every month for its SHG members. The ultimate aim of skill training is to improve the skills and knowledge of SHG the members and prepare them to start different types of income generating programmes thereby improving the living standard of the fisher folk.

Don Bosco Tailoring and Fashion Designing Centre

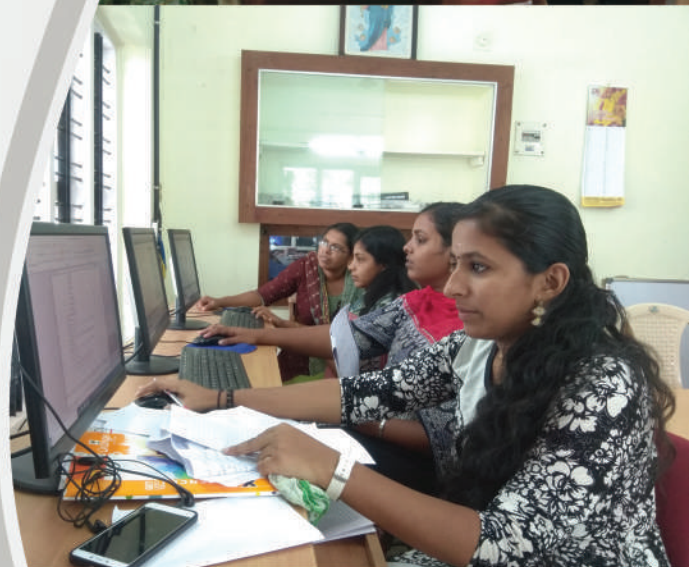
Aiming at entrepreneurial development of the fisher folk women, Don Bosco Tailoring and Fashion Designing Centre has been started for providing training to 90 women from the coastal areas in a year. The centre offers women the basic machine operations, cutting and stitching of fabrics to make kids wear, ladies wear, gents wear and also the basics of hand embroidery and machine embroidery. Commercial production of ladies and kids garments for local sale is already underway.

Don Bosco Computer Centre

Don Bosco Computer Centre is an effort to provide computer skills and knowledge to the youth of the fishermen community. The centre provides three months course in Tally and Data Entry including malayalam typing. 25 students are given training in each batch.

Auto Driving

Training in Auto rikshaw driving has been introduced for the fisher folk women to help them with a sustainable livelihood. The program aims at providing driving skills to 90 women in a year.





Home Based Nursing and Palliative Care

The training program for Home Based Nursing and Palliative Care was initiated to equip women from the fisherfolk community to care for bed ridden patients and elders. Through this training we are focusing to improve their social value from a domestic worker to a skilled home nurse and care taker. We aim to skill 45 women per year. The training is offered in collaboration with Holy Cross Hospital and Nursing College, Kottiyam, Kollam.

Fish and Food Processing

Fish and food processing course was begun to empower women of the fisherfolk community to emerge as successful entrepreneurs and thereby gain an alternate income for the family. The course of 30 days include training in Bakes and Snacks, catering items etc., besides providing also EDP training. The program aims at training 90 women per year in good processing.



Disaster Interventions

Covid - 19 Relief and Prevention

As part of the relief and preventive measures a number of awareness programmes were conducted in collaboration with the District Health Department, Kollam to sensitise the community people on the precautions to be taken against corona virus and highlighted the need for promoting positive health behaviours.



F.C.D.P. became the first voluntary organization in Kollam, to start the production and distribution of cloth masks, supplying over 60000 masks at the beginning of the first wave of corona outbreak. Liquid hand wash, soaps and sanitizers were also produced and distributed by our Production unit. Over 450 Grocery kits were distributed among the most deserving families and over 80 mid-day meals were provided every day during the lockdown. Frontline Covid Warriors including police stations, corporation workers, TRACK and other organizations were provided masks and sanitizers and other covid prevention essentials.



In an effort to reduce the digital divide for deserving students hailing from poor background during online classes, television sets and mobiles phones were given to deserving students.



FCDP also supported inter-state migrants through the Kollam migrant help-desk - KISMAT with grocery kits, online educational assistance, vaccine registration and commutation in collaboration with the labour department.



‘Team Covid’, an initiative of the Don Bosco youth forum, carried out immediate and emergency relief activities like vaccine registration, tele-counseling, door delivery of essentials, ambulance services, fumigation, blood donation, cremation services, etc. “Don Bosco Covid Cluster”, another initiative of the youth was also an effort to provide support during the covid.



Flood Rescue and Relief

Fishermen Community Development Programme (FCDP) and Teeradesha Mahila Society (TMS) were actively engaged in relief operations in the flood affected areas of Edathua (Kuttanad), Ulunthi (Mavelilkara), Vandiperiyar, Kumali and Eravipuram (Kollam) during the devastating floods that ravaged the state. The interventions of FCDP and TMS included:

- Immediate Relief Activities by providing them food and provisions, clothes, stationery and sanitary items,
- Participation in Cleaning up Activities at Chengannur, Kunnumkari and Edathua. Over forty wells and over 50 houses were cleaned apart from ration stores, hospitals, schools and houses.
- Distribution of House-hold Articles like mixer grinders, pressure cookers, mattresses, pillows etc to affected families and provision of Livelihood support for deserving families from Kainakiri (Kuttanad) and Vandiperiyar (Kumali).
- Livelihood support of Rs, 500000/- were also given to ten deserving families from Kainakiri for purchase of cattle etc.
- 150 Fishermen from FCDP FAMILY who participated in Rescue Operations were also felicitated.



Okhi Cyclone Relief

In 2017 December 15 a team of fifty members, board and staff FCDP and TMS visited the Okhi Cyclone affected areas like Poonthura and Vizhinjam and spent the day with them. On 29 January 2018, Mrs. Jane Lawrence, chairperson, FCDP, handed over a Cheque of Rs.50000 (fifty thousand only) towards Okhi Cyclone Relief fund to secretary, Church of St. Thomas, Poonthura. Dr. Sindha Mendez, chairperson TMS, handed over cheque of Rs.50000 (fifty thousand only) towards Okhi Relief fund to our lady of good voyage church, Vizhinjam.

Don Bosco Youth Forum

Don Bosco Youth Forum is a youth wing of FCDP that provides a platform for the youth especially in the coastal area of Kollam, Kerala to come together, meet, discuss and plan activities for their own development as well as that of the society. Youth being the major human resource, their energies and potential should be channelized and mobilized for development of the nation through formation of such forums.



Theeradesa Lahari Virudha Vanitha Samiti (TLVVS)

Theeradesa Lahari Virudha Vanitha Samiti (TLVVS), the Coastal Women's Committee against Drug Abuse is a strategic intervention in Capacity Building for Gender Equality in Development, Peace and Security. It is an initiative to thwart the increasing menace of drug abuse and alcohol in the coastal region especially among the fishermen community of Kollam. The committee not only endeavors to create awareness against this malady that is eating into the very innards of the fishermen community but also through the watchfulness of its 100 trained women volunteers works to stop public drinking and trafficking of drugs which otherwise happen openly in the beach.



Salesians of Don Bosco in the World

FCDP and TMS form the developmental wing of the Salesians of Don Bosco at Kollam, making them a part of the international network of Don Bosco organizations working in over 132 countries across the globe. Through a global network of educational and social service organizations which include 15 universities, 58 institutions of higher education and thousands of schools and social development centres, Salesian Society cares for the less privileged and marginalized sections of society. Salesians have been recognized by Government of India as the single largest provider of technical education in India, second to the Government.

More than 100 Salesian technical schools and 25 colleges have been established in India. Scores of non-formal training centers, agricultural training centers, relief and rehabilitation centers, literacy centers and shelters for street children in India are managed by the Salesians of Don Bosco.



Salesians of Don Bosco at Kollam



St. Stephen's Church, Thope Kollam:

Salesians of Don Bosco are actively engaged in the pastoral service of St. Stephen's Parish, Thope, entrusted to them in 1975 by the Diocese of Quilon.

Don Bosco Boys' Home, Mundakal, Kollam:

Don Bosco Boys Home is a shelter for poor children from challenging backgrounds where they are provided a healthy environment and given opportunities to pursue their studies and develop their personality.

FCDP-TMS, Pallithottam:

Fishermen Community Development Programme and Theeradesa Mahila Society are the social action wings of the Salesians of Don Bosco, Kollam.

DB Tech, College Junction Kollam:

DB Tech Kotlam is part of a network of 156 Don Bosco skill training centres spread across 25 states in the country. DB Tech aims at mainstreaming and ensuring economic security for youth who could be victimized by poverty. by helping them to acquire the required livelihood and soft skills in an environment of learning and mentoring that is responsive to the individual's emotional and developmental needs.

Childline, Kollam: Don Bosco is a partner of the Childline Kollam, a 24 hrs nation-wide free phone outreach emergency helpline for children in need of care and protection.



CONTRIBUTION OF FCDP AND TMS TOWARDS THE FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Since 1979 we have been accompanying the men and women of the coastal belt of Kollam, through interventions in their education, health, cultural and economic status.

The following activities of FCDP and TMS have made significant difference in the life of the fishermen community:

Educational Sponsorships, Capacity Building Programmes, Tuition and Remedial Coaching Centres, Primary Health Centres, Microfinance, Income Generating Programmes, Don Bosco Fish Marketing Centre, Construction of houses for the homeless, Formation and Training of Self Help Groups, Skill training, Don Bosco Career Guidance Centre, Tailoring Centre, Advocacy and Awareness Programmes, Training in Music and Arts, Youth and Women Empowerment programmes

We are happy to be the **FIRST.....**

To initiate **SAFE DRINKING WATER FACILITIES** in the coastal region

To pioneer **CONSTRUCTION OF TOILETS** in the coastal region

To launch **CONSTRUCTION OF PUCCA HOUSES** in the coastal region

We are happy at **OUR SUCCESS....**

In ensuring **BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS** for fishermen

In securing of **OWNERSHIP OF BOATS** for fishermen and

In founding of **FISH MARKETING SOCIETIES (FMCs)** and
FISHERMEN WELFARE SOCIETY (FWS) to protect and safeguard the
interests of fishermen

We are happy about our **CONTRIBUTION....**

In the **PROMOTION OF EDUCATION** by organizing numerous

TUITION CENTRES in the coastal area, through

AWARENESS PROGRAMMES and **SPONSORSHIPS**

We gratefully remember our **PIONEERS**

Rev. Fr. C.P. Joseph sdb

Rev. Fr. Sebastian sdb

Rev. Fr. Francis John sdb

Br. Kurien Kattikkaran sdb

Fr. Louis Panikulangara sdb



FISHERMEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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THEERADESA MAHILA SOCIETY

(Reg. No. Q. 139/95)

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