



ALEGALU

ISSUE 13



FROM THE DIRECTOR



Together, Let's Make a Difference!

As you glance through the newsletter **ಅಲೆಗಲು**, you would witness and reflect on the milestones achieved and the collective efforts that continue to drive positive change in our communities. Here are some highlights and an invitation to join hands for an important cause.

1. Support the Cancer Campaign

We urge everyone to come together and support our cancer campaign aimed at raising funds to fight this devastating disease. Your contribution, big or small, can bring hope and healing to those in need. Let's make a difference in their lives.

2. We are glad that KROSS with 14 partners have successfully institutionalised the safeguarding policy. The objective of the effort is to create a safe space to all in our working arena especially the vulnerables. Moreover a program on Child Protection Ecosystem in three districts is initiated in three districts. This initiative is a crucial step toward ensuring the safety, well-being, and protection of the rights of children in vulnerable situations.

Our achievements would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our partners, collaborators, donors, and stakeholders. We deeply appreciate your commitment and look forward to your continued partnership as we strive to build a better tomorrow. Together, we can bring hope and create lasting change. Thank you for being a part of this journey.



GENDER TRAINING

Gender Training sessions were conducted across multiple locations in September 2024. The first session took place at BDDS, Ballari on September 10th and 11th, followed by CMSSS, Hassan on September 12th and 13th, and CODP, Mangalore on September 17th and 18th.



These sessions aimed to increase awareness and understanding of gender issues, promote equality, and empower participants to integrate gender-sensitive approaches into their work. The training engaged participants through interactive discussions, case studies, and practical exercises designed to enhance their knowledge and skills.



WEP TEAM VISIT

The Women Empowerment Program team conducted visits to various partner organizations in October 2024. On October 3rd, the team visited CODP, Mangalore and SAMPADA, Udupi where they reviewed ongoing initiatives and engaged with local women leaders to assess the impact of empowerment programs. The following day, October 4th, the team visited KDDC, Karwar where they observed the progress of women-centric projects and discussed strategies for further empowerment.



On October 6th, the team visited BDDS, Ballari and BDSSS, Dharawada where they interacted with beneficiaries and staff, evaluating the effectiveness of the programs and identifying areas for improvement. These visits provided valuable insights into the challenges and successes of the empowerment initiatives, strengthening KROSS's commitment to fostering gender equality and empowering women across communities.





INTERNAL EVALUATION



An internal evaluation meeting for the Women Empowerment Program was conducted on 16th and 17th October 2024, with coordinators from 14 partner organizations. The meeting aimed to assess the progress of the program, review achievements, and identify challenges faced in their respective DSSS. During the sessions, coordinators shared updates, best practices, and feedback, fostering a collaborative environment for problem-solving. The discussions also focused on refining strategies for greater impact and sustainability. The meeting concluded with a collective commitment to strengthen the program's reach and effectiveness



An Orientation on DSP Formulation was successfully conducted at KDDC, Karwar on 04th October 2024, aimed at enriching participants from diverse fields with essential knowledge in the formulation of Diocesan Social Service Society's Strategic Plan (DSSSP). The orientation proved to be a significant milestone in equipping the attendees with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively contribute to the formulation and implementation of DSSSPs in their respective domains. The interactive sessions and discussions facilitated a comprehensive understanding of the key principles and practical aspects of the formulation.



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

An Organizational Development (OD) program was conducted at KROSS on 24th and 25th October 2024. The program aimed to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the organization by focusing on key areas such as leadership development, team building, communication, and strategic planning





REVIEW MEETING

Women Empowerment Program review meeting was held on November 6th and 7th, 2024, at KROSS. Coordinators from 13 DSSS gathered to present their reports, showcasing the progress and outcomes of various empowerment initiatives. The meeting provided a platform for sharing insights, addressing challenges, and discussing strategies for further strengthening women's participation and leadership in their DSSS's.



CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING PROGRAM

Capacity Building Program was conducted at KROSS on December 8, 2024, with 68 participants from 13 partner organizations. The program focused on enhancing skills and knowledge to strengthen the effectiveness of community-based initiatives. Participants engaged in interactive sessions, sharing best practices and strategies for development work. The session proved valuable in fostering collaboration and empowering participants to drive impactful change in their respective DSSS.

MISEREOR VISIT

On 31st October 2024, a team from MISEREOR visited KROSS and its partner organization, ODP. During the visit, they interacted with the staff, SHG members, and women from the Federation. The team engaged in discussions to understand the progress of the women empowerment program, gather feedback, and assess the impact of the programs in the community.





RFAP, SAFE- REVIEW MEETING



The RFAP and SaFE National Review Meeting was held on November 14th and 15th, 2024, in Agra. During the meeting, the KROSS team was represented by the Director and Coordinator, who presented a detailed report on the organization's progress and activities. The review meeting provided an opportunity to assess the outcomes of ongoing projects, discuss key challenges, and explore strategies for future improvements. The discussions reinforced KROSS's commitment to the success of the RFAP and SaFE initiatives, with a focus on enhancing impact and achieving the program's objectives.

MSW STUDENT'S VISIT TO KROSS



Capacity Building Program was conducted at KROSS on December 8, 2024, with 68 participants from 13 partner organizations. The program focused on enhancing skills and knowledge to strengthen the effectiveness of community-based initiatives. Participants engaged in interactive sessions, sharing best practices and strategies for development work. The session proved valuable in fostering collaboration and empowering participants to drive impactful change in their respective DSSS.



On November 19th, 2024, a group of 16 MSW students from Loyola College, Trivandrum, visited KROSS as part of their academic curriculum. The visit provided the students with an insightful experience into the functioning of the organization and its community-driven initiatives. During their visit, the students had the opportunity to engage with the KROSS team, learn about various projects, and observe the practical application of social work principles. This hands-on experience contributed to their understanding of organizational dynamics and the impact of social work in real-world settings.



SAMRUDI MONITORING VISITS

Samrudi monitoring field visit was conducted at ORBIT, Humnabad on 20th October and SSDS, Kalaburgi on 21st October, 2024 to assess the progress and implementation of the project. The visit involved discussions with the SHG members, beneficiaries. Key observations included findings, and recommendations for improvement of the project.

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING



The KROSS Governing Board meeting was held on December 9, 2024, at Anugraha, Udipi. During the meeting, key program reports were presented, highlighting the progress and impact of ongoing initiatives. The board members reviewed the updates, discussed strategies for future growth, and ensured alignment with the organization's goals. The meeting was a productive session focused on strengthening KROSS's mission and enhancing its community-focused programs.



SUCCESSFUL RICE TRADING VENTURE

Smt. Sharadamma a widow lives in a village called Hatti-famous for Gold mining in Lingasgoor thaluk of Raichur district. She has three children two girls and a boy; though she wanted to give good education to her children but she is not able to because she had no other income except her daily wage earning. She always thought of taking up some income generating activity to earn better so that she can take better care of her family, but there was neither opportunity nor guidance in this regard. Fortunately she became a member in one of the 15 SHGs formed by the BDDS diocese in Ballary district, the name of her sangha is "Sony". She started attending all the programs organized by the sangha and actively following the merits of being a member of the sangha. Once there was a program on EAP and after attending this program she decided to take up some income generating activity. Sharadamma discussed about this with sangha members and finally made up her mind to go for rice business, for this she borrowed Rs 5000/- as internal loan from the sangha and started rice business in a small scale.

Within few months she got knack of the trade and her business started improving, by this time she had saved Rs. 10,000/-, Smt. Sharadamma wanted to further expand her business, in addition to her savings she required some more money as capital to invest on the trade for which she approached SAMRUDI and availed Rs. 15,000/- as small enterprise loan. With a total of Rs, 25,000/- Sharadamma started buying rice in larger quantities directly from the rice mills in Sindhanoor at much cheaper rates, so that the profit margin is higher, With this kind of planned approach to the business she is at present earning Rs. 8,000/- to Rs. 10,000/- a month.

Now that she has gained experience, well versed in management of money and trade and also she is into business full time Sharadamma thought of adding one more enterprise to her trade, she has started investing her profits from rice trade on Cloth and Dress materials; she procures them from whole sellers in the district head quarters and sells in her neighboring villages for good profit.

Now she is fully engaged in her business and her financial position is comfortable such that she can afford to provide all that is required to her children and see the family is happy. If this is her personnel position in the society, she is a role model to her group members, neighbors and others; many are inspired and motivated by the way Smt. Sharadamma has been able to put an end to the condition she was in and finding solution by becoming a member in the SHG gaining awareness and knowledge to survive in the society with dignity and a model to others; She has become so confident she is an adviser to those in distress. She does not hesitate to express her gratitude to her sangha members, Diocese and SAMRUDI for their contribution in her progress and achievement.



Merry Christmas

KROSS wishes all our staff a Merry Christmas!

May this festive season bring joy, peace, and happiness to you and your loved ones. Thank you for your hard work and dedication throughout the year. We are truly grateful for each and every one of you.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and a fantastic New Year ahead!

