



CENTRE  
FOR SOCIAL  
ACTION

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOMBAY

IMPACT

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NEWS BULLETIN



Oswald Cardinal Gracias

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## OFFICIAL

### Advent Campaign Against Hunger and Disease

Pope Francis, in his message for the Second World day for the Poor, said, "I hope that this Day will encourage greater attention to the needs of the least and the marginalized".

Every year, the Advent Campaign Against Hunger And Disease organized by the Centre for Social Action of the Archdiocese of Bombay (Mumbai), is a way of drawing our attention, and focusing our love and concern towards the poor. The theme chosen this year is Connecting Communities Promoting Livelihoods through which we seek to create linkages between the urban consumer communities and the rural producer communities.

We have been training several vulnerable communities to revive their traditional livelihoods, explore alternate livelihood options, and provide employability skills development facilities to the youth. We are also working on connecting various urban communities and corporates to provide marketing as well as employment opportunities for the marginalized.

I whole heartedly endorse and bless this Campaign. I urge the faithful of our Archdiocese to continue our tradition of generosity and concern for the poor. You may donate online at [www.csamumbai.in](http://www.csamumbai.in) or send your Cheques / drafts favoring Centre for Social Action, to Eucharistic Congress Building No. III, 5 Convent Street, Mumbai 400 001. Those contributing Rs. 10,000/- and above are requested to send us their PAN no. Donations made to this cause are eligible for exemption under section 80G of the Income Tax Act.

The contents of this Official are to be made known to our faithful on the Sundays of Advent through appropriate announcements, posting it on your notice board as well as on your parish / institution website. Also, kindly ensure effective distribution of the donation envelopes to the faithful. I recommend that you appeal to children and youth to make a sacrifice during the advent season and save part of their pocket money to contribute for this cause.

My personal thanks to you for your efforts in this Campaign to make ours a more humane world and the Church a more Christ-like Church. May God bless the Archdiocese of Bombay abundantly.



November 25, 2018  
Solemnity of Christ the Universal King

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✠ Oswald Cardinal Gracias  
Archbishop of Bombay

**OUR VISION:** Facilitators of a just and humane society based on love, equality and harmony with creation.

**OUR MISSION:** To initiate, empower and sustain non-violent, collaborative, and integral development processes for vulnerable individuals and groups in Mumbai, Thane and Raigad Districts.

**Centre For Social Action (CSA)** is a registered trust (Reg. No. E17189 - Mumbai), and is the office of Social Work for the Archdiocese of Bombay (Mumbai). Its vision is to be “Facilitators of a Just and Humane Society based on Love, Equality and Harmony with Creation”. In order to fulfill this purpose, CSA networks NGOs and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) who share similar values. CSA uses a combination of strategies in its social work interventions:

**Community Organization:** CSA builds the capacity of grass root communities to develop Rights-based critical awareness of their social situation, prioritize its needs, build the will and ability to respond to these, and connect with various resources to address these needs.



**People Led Development:** CSA believes that the ownership of all its interventions should always be with the people, and consequently it facilitates the formation of local committees who own and drive the process of development.

**Engagement with Stakeholders:** CSA animates the interaction of the local communities with various stakeholders like the Elected Representatives, Government Offices, Corporate Houses, Funding Agencies, etc.

*We are successfully implementing the following interventions:*

## DOMESTIC WORKERS SKILLS ENHANCEMENT:

CSA realized that the status of the Domestic Workers can be improved through enhancement of their skills, with a view to add value in their place of employment and increase their own market value. Through various trainings the domestic workers are given inputs on basic Etiquette and Telephone Manners, Housekeeping, Child Care, Basic Health Care, Home Décor, Fire Fighting, First Aid, etc. They are also made aware of their rights as domestic workers. The objective of these sessions is to empower the Domestic Workers through increased self-esteem and identity as workers capable of delivering a worthwhile and respected service.

## CHILDREN’S PARLIAMENT:

Children’s Parliament (also known as Bal Sansad) helps to build leadership qualities and a sense of social responsibility among vulnerable children aged 8 to 18 years. With the guidance of an animator they are given knowledge and exposure to local issues that plague them. Then the children are led through an election process to form a children’s parliament, where children take up ministerial portfolios (e.g., education minister, health minister, etc.) This enables children from all backgrounds, as well as the differently abled, to work together and to share experiences that make active citizenship a reality. This project also sensitizes the children and further their parents about the rights of children through various activities.



## LIVELIHOODS & SKILL DEVELOPMENT:

Enhancing Livelihoods & Skill Development of Vulnerable Individuals and Groups is achieved through various trainings in traditional as well as professional domain skills, and by providing them opportunities for employment or access to markets for their produce. CSA is in the process of forming a federation of SHGs for marketing in order to further strengthen this process, which at present benefits about 300 persons across the districts of Mumbai, Thane and Raigad.

## MAAZA MAHARASHTRA MAAZA SAHABHAG [A Network of Children's Parliaments]:

The project in technical partnership with UNICEF focuses on training children of the parliaments in the art of advocacy and provide them platforms to interact with stakeholders at all levels beginning from the local level that is the Gram Panchayat right up to the state level for the children to take up issues of child marriage, violence against children and other issues of child protection. CSA networked with the NGO's in Maharashtra who are already working with children's groups and welcomed the directors of these organizations for a Director's Meet in Mumbai. They were explained the concept of children's parliament and were encouraged to adopt this concept in their area of work. Staff members of the organizations willing to adopt the concept were called for a training of trainer's event in Mumbai, because of an overwhelming response from the organizations a second training of trainers was held. These trainers were trained on how to conduct activities as per the children's parliament manual.

The project is now into its next phase of monitoring and evaluating, where they are being hand held and guided to ensure that the activities are conducted within the focus area. The idea of this process is not to judge any organization but to guide them and lend a helping hand in case any issues crop up.

Soon, a State Forum for Children will be created which will have child representatives of children's parliaments from different districts / divisions of Maharashtra. The capacities of children, within this forum, will be developed and they will also be provided



with training in the art of advocacy. This forum will basically be a platform where children can interact with legislators and other stakeholders to put forward the voices of the children of their parliaments at the state level.

## VOCATIONAL TRAINING:

During the interaction with youth leaders of the six CCOs from Uttan, Pali, Gorai, Dongri, Manori and Chowk, the CSA and CCO staff, realized that the level of education of the youth was making good progress, however they lacked information on career and job opportunities that were available. Further they had very less knowledge on the process of entering Competitive examinations, Government Jobs and even on Vocational and Technical Opportunities. The miniscule elite youth who did get through to higher education had no exposure to the various kinds of opportunities in various industries too.

Keeping this experience and ground reality in mind, a Youth Professional Development Program was envisaged where the youth from the economically poor, socially marginalized, academically backward background would be provided skill training and job placements.

Currently, CSA in association with the Retailers Association of India (RAI) and its



partner organizations in Dharavi Island (Thane) is conducting training for the third batch of unemployed youth as Sales Associates.

These students are given proper training as per the recommended manual and taken for exposure visits to retail stores so that they can get a firsthand experience of what the job entails. This training also focuses on the wholesome development of the student through English speaking, Personality Development, Proficiency to enter into the world of employment in terms of interview skills, group discussion abilities and a host of other personality related skills that would give them an edge over others. After the course is over the students are awarded with a certificate from RAI and are helped with job placement at reputed retail stores.



When I was  
hungry  
You gave me  
a livelihood



**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES, PROMOTING LIVELIHOOD**

Donate online: [www.csamumbai.in](http://www.csamumbai.in) or through envelopes available in your parish. Cheques to be drawn in favour of **Centre for Social Action**. Donations are exempt from Income Tax under section 80G.



**CENTRE  
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**CAMPAIGN AGAINST HUNGER AND DISEASE**