

Our Current Projects

Project Name	Concept	Coordinator	Key Activities
<p>Ujjivana: Empowered Communities foster Climate Resilient and Climate Adoptive Agriculture and Livelihood in Alnavar Taluka villages, Dharwad District</p>	<p>Strengthening community efforts in ensuring adequate and nutritious food and accessing its rights, entitlements and livelihood options through on-farm and off-farm, through strengthened community-based mechanism. The project functions in 15 villages of Alnavar taluka in Dharwad district.</p>	<p>Mr. A.B. Pathan, and 3 Animators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interface meetings at Taluka Level with officials and members on various Govt. schemes - Training on MGNREGA - Community based learning and experience exchange- Exposure - Training on Entrepreneurship Development Programme - Farmers' Groups and committees - Model Creation for sustainable farming, seed bank and crop protection - Training on organic farming at village level [Organic Manure, Organic Growth promoters, Organic Pest repellent, Organic Pesticides, Soil Health Management, Jeevamrutha, etc] - Trainings to staff and volunteers on Rain water harvesting, Soil and water conservation methods - Training on Food Sovereignty to the Target Villages - Leadership, Result Based management, Rights Based Approach, Communication skills and Leadership Qualities, etc - Alternative Livelihood Options for smallholder farmers

<p>WEP: Women Empowerment Programme in 42 villages of Chikkodi and Hukkeri Talukas of Belgaum District</p>	<p>This project aims at enhancing the quality of life of women through increased knowledge and skills, leverage economic stability & achieve self-sufficiency</p>	<p>Rev. Sr. Mary Thomas and 4 Animators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trainings on Taluka level and district level federations - SHG's self-management skills - Documentation of women's groups - Exposure visits to likeminded groups - Income generation, financial inclusion, self-employment opportunities - Rights based approach
<p>Childline 1098: [A Government of India project], Dharwad</p>	<p>Childline is a 24 x 7 toll-free child help, care and protection service started by the Govt. of India. BDSSS is the Collab organization for Hubli & Dharwad talukas. Nine team members are up 24 x 7 to provide rescue and rehabilitation services for children at risk. The project also sensitizes the people on child right violations.</p>	<p>Mr. Ravi Bhandari and 8 Animators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rescue services through 1098 calls and staff outreach - Counseling services to the children rescued and parents and guardians - Liaison with Child Welfare Committee of Dharwad district, District Child Protection Unit, Child Labour Dept. and other allied departments on regular basis - Awareness creation at public spaces, educational institutions and government offices - Working with the police and judiciary - Case management and reporting to Childline India Foundation Chennai and Mumbai - Handling 24 x 7 toll-free call services at Dharwad office - Working with Child Care Institutions [CCIs] by providing

			safe and healthy living conditions to the rescued children
Child Help Desk: [A Govt. of India project at Hubballi Railway Junction]	In Oct 2016, BDSSS was yet again honored by the Govt. of India [Ministry of Railways & Ministry of Women & Child Development] by granting a child rescue project at Hubli Railway junction. The project aims at providing security nets to children who are runaway, lost, being trafficked, etc.	Mr. Jayappa Doddamani and 6 Animators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rescue services through 1098 calls and staff outreach at Hubballi Railway Junction - Counseling services to the children rescued and parents and guardians - Liaison with Child Welfare Committee of Dharwad district, Railway Protection Force, Govt. Railway Police, ADRM and DRM, District Child Protection Unit, Child Labour Dept. and other allied departments on regular basis - Awareness creation at Railway premises for the passengers, railway officials, tender employees, shopkeepers, porters and other indirect railway employees - Awareness in trains - Case management and reporting to Childline India Foundation Chennai and Mumbai - Handling 24 x 7 toll-free call services at Hubli Railway CHD office - Working with Child Care Institutions [CCIs] by providing safe and healthy living conditions to the rescued children.
Empowerment of former	This project is aimed at overall	Mr. Basalingappa A	- Sustenance of women's groups -

<p>Devadasis and their children in 10 villages of erstwhile Jamkhandi taluka (now Rabakavi-Banahatti taluka), Bagalkot District</p>	<p>rehabilitation of Former Devadasis - temple prostitutes. It was started in 2012 with support from Kindernohtilfe, Germany. The project works with 240 Devadasi & Dalit women & 540 children of the Devadasis. The prime focus is on livelihood & nutrition of women & education of children and rescue of women from the murky practice by giving them alternative livelihood opportunities. Children's safety nets is one of the key deliverables of the project.</p>	<p>and 12 Animators</p>	<p>SHGs and their federation [Dalit and Former Devadasi women's groups]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evening tuition classes for 540 children of Dalits and former Devadasis in 10 villages of Jamkhandi - Training and sustenance of Village Development Committees [VDCs] in 10 villages of Jamkhandi - Micro credit accessibility for self-employment - Trainings and economic development of youth - boys and adolescent girls - Training on anti-trafficking and child abuse - Training of children parliaments and other community based organizations on Child Protection Policy [CPP] - Support to 80 Devadasi women through Devadasi Rehab Project - Nutritional support to 135 poorest children of 10 tuition classes - Liaison with government departments, police and judiciary on eradicating the social menace of Devadasi induction - Formation and strengthening of youth groups
<p>Flood Relief in the districts of</p>	<p>The first phase of the project saw</p>	<p>Director, Assistant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phase 1 saw momentous

<p>Belgaum, Bagalkot and Dharwad</p>	<p>immediate relief service to 8500 families across 61 villages of 3 districts of the Diocese of Belgaum- Dharwad, Belgaum and Bagalkot. The 1st Phase of the Action Plan involved visiting and spot survey of the beneficiary families, then packing and distribution of the Relief Material.</p> <p>As part of the second phase of recuperation i.e. rehabilitation of livelihood, reconstruction and repair of houses, BDSSS repaired 26 houses in its work area and constructed 14 new houses.</p> <p>BDSSS took up the responsibility of supervising Caritas India's flood relief work of 21 schools, 13 Anganwadis, 9 Primary Health Centers (PHCs), 19 construction of houses and 131 repairs of houses at Chikkodi. Income Generation Activity worth Rs.15,000/- each to 41 families in Khanapur and Alnavar talukas and Rs.30,000/- each to 50 families in Chikkodi taluka were given. 1700 volunteers worked with BDSSS to reach out to the flood affected families.</p>	<p>Director, Volunteers and Staff of BDSSS</p>	<p>immediate relief service in 3 districts of Diocese of Belgaum-Dharwad, Bagalkot and Belgaum, reaching out to 8500 families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phase 2 ensured refurbishment and reconstruction of houses and public spaces such as Schools, Anganwadis, Public Health Centers [PHCs] in Chikkodi and Khanapur villages of Belgaum district; Pattadkal in Bagalkot district - Restoration of livelihoods of the most affected people in the 3 districts - Psychosocial counseling of men, women and children - Training on Disaster Risk Reduction in Chikkodi area which is prone to floods
<p>Micro Credit</p>	<p>Leveraging income generation</p>	<p>Mr. D.P. Navi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessibility to loans and

	opportunities to underprivileged and under-served women. The project encourages women's enterprises and works with Samruddhi, Karnataka Regional Organization for Social Service [KROSS] micro credit arm and 'I Create India'. BDSSS also completed a similar project sponsored by NABARD.	and Asst. Accountant	subsequent income generation activities - Entrepreneurship Development Programmes [EDP] and Income Generation Trainings
PAUSTIK: In Hungund taluka of Bagalkot district	The goal of this project is to demonstrate sustainable approaches and strategies to reduce the prevalence of malnutrition among vulnerable groups, in 44 villages in and around Karadi of Hungund Taluka [Bagalkot district. The project's specific objectives are to reduce underweight and under-nutrition among children, low body mass index among adolescent girls and lactating women in the project areas in the shortest possible time.	Rev. Sr. Jeevalatha and 3 Animators	- Nutritional support for severely affected malnourished [SAM] kids and moderately affected malnourished [MAM] kids - Medicinal and health related awareness and primary, secondary and tertiary support for pregnant women and lactating mothers - Awareness on health and hygiene of women - Reaching out to families with enhanced care of women and children as a key focus - Advocacy and Networking
SPARSHA: Instilling Hope - Diocese of Belgaum	Awareness, Detection, Treatment and Prevention of Cancer. More than 70% of the cases present in advanced stage account for poor survival and high mortality. Of the estimated 45,000 new cancer cases reported every	Mrs. Sujata Banakar	- Awareness - Detection camps - Advocacy and Networking - Volunteers' group formation aimed at mitigative strategies and prevention of cancer cases - People led development - sharing communities

	<p>year in Karnataka, over 8,000 are breast cancer cases. The campaign is being implemented in the Diocese of Belgaum. The key strategic approach is to enhance the awareness of cancer through empowering animation, people leading the initiative, mitigative [lifestyle change] measures, dialogue with nature and sustenance, palliative care, volunteering and sharing communities</p>		
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Projects in the Past

<p>Good Governance</p>	<p>Good governance has 8 major characteristics. It is participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rule of law. It assures that corruption is minimized, the views of minorities are taken into account and that the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard in decision-making. It is also responsive to the present and future needs of society.</p>
<p>Escape from Marriage to Childhood</p>	<p>With a long term of objective of protecting the rights of children by reducing the incidences of child marriages and violation of child rights, BDSSS established community based structures such as children’s groups, adolescent girls groups, Child Protection Committees, women SHGs and youth groups to carry forward the changes that have been initiated. BDSSS’ work has created positive impact by reducing the incidence of child marriage in Kalghatagi taluka of Dharwad district where child marriages were rampant in the past. At the policy level the strong network has influenced the government to set up Justice Shivaraj Patil Committee to look into the status of child marriages in Karnataka and make recommendations. UNICEF, one of the key civil society stakeholders in the State has also taken up the issue of child marriage as its priority concerns in Karnataka.</p>
<p>Integrated Rural Development Program (IRDP)</p>	<p>In order to leverage opportunity to the villagers in rural Kalghatagi, BDSSS worked with Community based organizations, including women Self Help Groups to cater to the livelihood, health, educational and gender equitable needs of women. BDSSS worked with 400 SHGs with credit linkage, training</p>

	<p>and development and forward linkage. Women are successfully running their income generation venture buoyed by the success of the capacitating drives of BDSSS.</p>
<p>Water and Sanitation</p>	<p>BDSSS handled Govt. of Karnataka's watershed project. Individuals are now able to judiciously use water, talk to their communities, monitor progress, and ensure better decision making and management of groundwater. As a result of concentrated efforts of BDSSS, communities are more aware of the uses of water bodies and check dams –what their purpose is, and what that means for the rural areas. Panchayats are also now asking for knowledge and facilitation. By partnering with microfinance institutions, self-help group federations, housing finance corporations, social enterprises and the Government, BDSSS is sharing knowledge to increase access to improved sanitation and safe water. BDSSS also campaigns for safe and potable water in dry areas of Bagalkot and Gadag districts.</p>
<p>Development of Urban Slum and Poverty Reduction</p>	<p>Micro studies have always suggested that 75% of urban poor dwells in slums. The reasons for poverty in slums are illiteracy, joblessness, health and hygiene issues, discrimination, zero income generation plans, unorganized women and community power, etc. Below Poverty Line is an economic yardstick and poverty threshold used by the government of India to indicate economic disadvantage and to identify individuals and households in need of government aid. A large chunk of such people live in slums and majority of them are illiterate and unskilled. They are always involved in third degree shoddy jobs. BDSSS provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapprochement building with community through entry point activities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational, livelihood and human rights support • Assessing the existing community based organizations and ascertaining their functionality. • Social mobilization through formation of new SHGs and revival of existing SHGs through capacity building. • Identification of issues based on area specific problems through community participation. • Formation of senior citizens forum • Formation of unorganized construction workers group • Formation of slum tuition classes for overall education of the children living in slums • Child rights training and child participatory programs <p>BDSSS works in 9 slums of Dharwad empowering people at the bottom of the pyramid.</p>
<p>Health and Hygiene</p>	<p>BDSSS has been instrumental in tackling HIV AIDS in Hangal Byadgi talukas of Haveri and Khanapur taluka of Belgaum district. The project has put up strong community based organizations and mechanisms that have made bottom of the social pyramid impact. Community organization's like District's Positive People's Network and SHG movement of women tested positives have developed information education and communication, awareness and training on Do's and Don'ts and created.</p> <p>BDSSS executes health camps, awareness drives and campaigns across its projects to enable people's focus on enhanced quality of healthcare facilities. It also builds capacity of the people to ensure that they network with the</p>

	<p>primary health centers, community health centers and taluka networks for enhanced healthcare amenities. Special emphasis is always laid on children's health especially during the times of disaster, epidemic and pandemic. Various health stakeholders such as the Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and Anganwadi workers work closely within the projects.</p>
<p>Farm Resource Optimization for Sustainable Practices</p>	<p>Belgaum Diocesan Social Service Society (BDSSS) has many institutional farms located in its operational area covering Belgaum, Bagalkot, Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri districts of Karnataka and Chandgad taluka of Kolhapur district in Maharashtra. There are boarding attached to some of these larger farms and BDSSS envisaged adding some more boarding to some of the farms and make these institutional farms self-sustainable.</p>
<p>Sujala Integrated Watershed Programme</p>	<p>Integrated Watershed Development (Sujala) project was undertaken by BDSSS as partner NGO with Watershed Department, Government of Karnataka. The project functioned in 15 cluster villages of 5 gram panchayats in Dharwad taluka.</p> <p>In principal rejuvenation, conservation and maintenance of national resources such as soil and water, vegetation, plantation is spread over an area of 8761 hectares. As a result, cropping pattern intensified and diversified as a result per acre income increased. Land value is increased in the post project period and Farmers started livestock maintenance and management. This enhanced the family income. Water bodies were created, green coverage got maintained, shortage of food, fodder, fuel and fruit was solved, food and economic security was ensured and women enjoyed economic freedom.</p>

<p>Astitva – Elderly Care</p>	<p>Under this project, financially sponsored by India’s famous elderly care organization HelpAge India, BDSSS made Elderly Self Help Groups and capacitated them for income generation and emotional care and support. There are 80 Elderly Self Help groups being created in the Dharwad taluka and all these elderly beneficiaries have access to governmental schemes and entitlements. Their savings have ensured that internal loan facility happens at regular interval and the elderly too get into small businesses and enterprises to keep their income intact.</p> <p>BDSSS works with 80 Elder Self help Group’s consisting of 550 elders. Periodical training’s, awareness programs, linkage to Government departments, referral to health department to get health services, advocacy and lobbying with various stakeholders to demand for the rights of the elderly and enabling the elders to avail seed capital to start their own small scale business to improve their economic conditions are the key deliverables. These are the activities combined with self-help group’s as result of which elderly people are seen in the forefront. Not letting their confidence, elderly people are equally concentrating on their business to earn profitable income. Good rapport and linkage with banks, government department and NABARD is another source of strength to connect elderly people to access and avail maximum benefits.</p>
<p>Disaster Risk Reduction</p>	<p>Natural Disasters like floods cause deaths and damage to property and infrastructure. Monitoring floods and managing the rescue and rehabilitation operations during and after the calamity, has been BDSSS’ forte ever since 2005. Under the aegis of Caritas India, BDSSS has partnered and participated in its PEACH program which is European-Asian Partnership for Building Capacities in Humanitarian Action. Since 2005, BDSSS supports in emergency flood relief and post flood recovery initiatives. The organisation has</p>

	<p>even conceptualized projects in facing droughts in its work area.</p> <p>BDSSS built 200 houses for the Bagalkot flood sufferers in 2005 and continued the same in 2019 North West Karnataka floods. It has partnered with institutional donors like Caritas India, Kindernothilfe, Habitat for Humanity and Karnataka Regional Organization for Social Service (KROSS) and CSRs such as Collins Aerospace, United Way of Bengaluru and United Way of Mumbai. In 2019, with ample experience and expertise in dealing with floods, BDSSS reached out to 8500 families in 61 villages of nine talukas in three districts of North Karnataka- Bagalkot, Belgaum and Dharwad. Relief materials worth Rs. 4, 67, 50,000/- was provided. The individual relief kit amounted to Rs. 5,500/- each.</p>
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Other Projects

- Slum survey by the Slum Board of Karnataka
- Survey on Child labour by the NCLP
- Survey of Christ University's solar project
- Community based rehabilitation of persons with disabilities
- Skilling and employability enhancement project by Functional Vocational Training and Research Society (FVTRS)
- Imparting formal and non-formal education
- Organisation of women groups (SHGs)
- Income generation activity training and Entrepreneurship development
- Skill building of the youth – wage and self employment
- Sponsor a grandparent program