

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

Province of Central East India - Nepal

Workshop on child safeguarding policy for partners in mission

“Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Matthew 19:14



The two days' workshop on Child Safeguarding Policy was organized in three different regions of our Province on the basis of language: Andhra Pradesh and Telegana (Amaravathi, Mangalagiri and Mulakalapalli) on 25th and 26th August 2021 at Good Shepherd Convent Mangalagiri, Tamil Nadu region (Chennai, Pallavaram & Salem) on 24th and 25th September 2021 at Good Shepherd Convent Auditorium, Chennai and the North region (Chainpur, Balaghat, Garratola, Karjat, Virar, Andheri, Goa and Nagpur) on 7th –and 8th October 2021 at Good Shepherd Provincialate, Anukampa Nivas, Nagpur.

The workshops were headed under the effective, active, experienced and vibrant resource persons Mr. Peter Lasardo, Manager-MDO CEI, Sr.Kala, the PLT member, Sr. Annie Thomas the Link Counsellor for the Child Safeguarding Policy from PLT, Sr. Precilla Noronha from Focal Point of CEIN, Sr. Sabina Pathrose, our Former Province Leader, Sr. Maria Rose former Provincial, Sr. Mercy George, the Principal, Sr. Amala, the Community Link Person for the Chennai Community and Mr. Alex Kurian, M&E Coordinator MDO CEI. There were around two hundred participants including the partners in mission, teaching and support staff from school and sisters.

The workshop focused on the following areas:

- ≈ **Introduction to Child Safeguarding Policy, its background and Significance**
- ≈ **Understanding the difference between Child Protection and Child Safeguarding Policy**
- ≈ **Mapping potential abuse – Risk Management**
- ≈ **Understanding Barriers to Reporting**
- ≈ **Understanding Religious Abuse**
- ≈ **Overview of Province Child Safeguarding Policy, CEIN**
- ≈ **SWOT Analysis**



The group discussion and sharing among the participants brought more clarity on the understanding on the policy and its importance to implement in the working area. The participants were given space to express their views, opinions and share the experiences that each one holds in their hearts. The focused areas were explained through group activities, discussions, role play and

projecting documentary films like Jogva (Marathi film), I am a child and true stories from Satya Meva Jayate. The role plays were acted out based on education, religion, culture, gender and social issues regarding children.

The knowledge gained by the participants from the workshop were:

- Better understanding of the concept of the Child Safeguarding Policy
- Increased awareness level among the participants in order to reduce the barriers in reporting
- Gained clarity on terms such as child protection and child safeguarding
- The importance of valuing each child who comes in contact with us
- Not to harm any child
- To work for the wellbeing and interest of the children
- To be courageous in fighting for justice



Our Lady of Charity of Good the Shepherd Sisters have been providing services to women, girls and children for more than 400 years. All ministries, units, communities, partners in mission and sisters have to comply with this policy and set standards of implementing methods to them along with responsibilities and practices. The incredible days of workshop ended with oath taking by all the participants.





**“We all have a role to play
in protecting and
safeguarding our children”**

