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Slum girls receiving training at the camp run at the Stella Maris College Social Welfare Centre by the Madras Christian Council of Social Service.

Social Service Camp for Slum Girls

By Our Staff Reporter

A social service camp is being held at the Stella Maris College Social Welfare Centre. Organised by the Madras Christian Council of Social Service, the seven-day camp (from September 17 to 23) seeks to better the lot of slum girls.

The camp, attended by 28 teenage girls drawn from the nearby slums, offers training in cooking, sewing, child care, hygiene, nutri-

tion, character formation, sanitation, etc.

Sister Eanswida, Convener of the camp, said that the main aim of the Madras Christian Council of Social Service was to bring about improvement in the conditions of the slum girls through welfare measures. "Our welfare centre is dedicated to the service of the poor. We have nursery classes, a dispensary, and a co-operative society. We are also dis-

tributing since 1952 free milk, wheat and rice in slums like Anthony-nagar, Theruveedian Street (near Cathedral Road), Pachayappan Thottam, Erikarai," she said.

Miss Karin, an American Peace Corps Volunteer helps the campus with giving drawing lessons and attending to the needs of the children. Sewing classes are conducted by a full-time sewing teacher. The main emphasis laid on hygiene and nutrition is to drive home the need for cleanliness and the importance of going for nutritious food.

Soft-spoken, Miss Usha Bharathan, who is in charge of the camp, said that this was just an experiment and the organisers had plans to conduct similar camps in various parts of the City.

The Stella Maris College had organised a camp in Anthony-nagar and Theruveedian Street slums in 1965.