



AFFILIATED TO GAUHATI UNIVERSITY

Best Practice 2

Title of the Practice:

Developing social values and fostering social responsibilities among students through Community Engagement

Birjhora Kanya Mahavidyalaya Bongaigaon, Assam Pin-783380







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Title of the Practice: Developing social values and fostering social responsibilities among students through Community Engagement.

Objectives:

Birjhora Kanya Mahavidyalaya is a premier institution of higher education for women. The main aim of establishing this college was to empower the women of the region not only by developing their cognitive domain but also by developing their conative and affective domain. Hence the institution tries to give opportunities to the students to work in the neighbouring areas with an aim of developing social values and fostering social responsibilities among the students. This also gives an opportunity to work for the marginalized group in the society and establish a harmonious relation with society.

Context:

The institution is the result of persistent endeavour of the people of Bongaigaon and hence the people have great expectation from the college. Therefore, Birjhora Kanya Mahavidyalaya is committed to work for the wellbeing of the society. The institution strongly believes that dissemination of knowledge cannot be an isolated academic endeavour; it is also related with development of social values and responsibilities. Hence the institution tries to inculcate a feeling of social responsibilities among students by exposing them to work for different social issues through field study and community engagement. While working with the community they develop different social values such as love and affection, sympathy, empathy, sharing and caring etc. This practice envisages the growth of required social qualities such as cooperation, assimilation, adjustment, accommodation, tolerance, patience etc among the students.

Practice:

The Planning Commission of India has made a recommendation regarding inclusion of fostering social responsibility as an integral part of the strategy for advancing higher education in 12th plan. The Birjhora Kanya Mahavidyalaya makes a constant effort to engage the students in social work from time to time through departments and different cells mainly the NSS cell and Women development cell. This practice has been adopted in order to accomplish one of the mission statements of the college as developing social values and stimulating respect and sensitivity for others. For this the college organizes various programmes throughout the year. Extension programmes are organised in different nearby areas consisting the people of the under privileged classes. The different departments such as Education, Economics and political Science have conducted many awareness programmes on girl's education, women health and hygiene, child labour etc and encouraged the students to understand the problems and issues of the particular section. Apart from these, the Women development cell and NSS





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are also conducting many community extension activities. The NSS cell of the college is very active and the NSS volunteers are always engaged in many community work such as cleaning the market area, awareness drive, social work in the villages, visiting the orphanages and mental hospital, blood donations etc. The students and the NSS volunteers along with the teachers also are engaged in various community works in the adopted villages.

These activities not only help in developing social values and responsibilities among students, it also increases the level of confidence and also teaches them how to work with other people in cooperation and in different conditions.

As most of these activities are group oriented including students from different niches it gives them an opportunities to know about people of different passion and culture.

Apart from many such extension activities the college also engages students in project work on different social issues organizes field trips and excursion. However sometimes it becomes a challenge to convince the parents for allowing their daughters to attend such programmes as they feel it may hamper in their studies.

Evidence of success:

The success of this practice can be noted by the service of the alumnae of the college towards society even after leaving the institution. Many of our students and alumnae are engaged in different social work such as working for the underprivileged children, transgender, the slum dwellers etc. Some of our alumnae are also working for the welfare of the children and women in both Private and Govt Sector.

Durning the recent Covid 19 pandemic our NSS Volunteers have provided the best services towards society. They adopted various measures to spread awareness among the masses regarding the importance of washing hands, need of sanitization and wearing mask etc.

Homemade masks were prepared and distributed among villagers by the NSS volunteers. Food items were also distributed among the poor families by both students and teachers. One of the NSS Volunteer, Miss Chitralekha Ray was appointed 'Protirodhi Bandhu' by district administration for giving services in the quarantine centre. She renders her selfless service to the covid patient in the quarantine centre risking her own health. This practice helps in developing each student as a self-disciplined, socially active and socially responsible person.





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Problems encounter and resources required:

The main problem of carrying on these activities is allocation of fund. As the college does not receive any fund or sponsorship for doing this kind of community services, the departments have to bear the expenses. If proper funding is available these programmes can be extended further to a larger area.

Sometimes problem is also encountered from parents side as they are reluctant to send their daughters for participating in the programmes conducted outside the campus.













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