

OUTREACH (LEARN)

INTRODUCTION

Loyola outreach programme, now an activity of the Loyola outreach department, was introduced in Loyola College during the academic year 2001-2002, with a view to make the students experience and express concern for the society, especially the poor and the needy. The idea of this extension programme is to make Loyola College a role model for serving the neighbourhood community. With this spirit, the outreach unit works in collaboration with Chennai Corporation and the schools in the neighbourhood ever since its inception. To make the initiative meaningful, the second year undergraduate students of both aided and self-supporting courses from 32 departments numbering to 1817 students are involved in various activities. The activities are streamlined and focused on women, children, and youth covering health, Literacy, women empowerment and other concerns of our times.

The project was initiated by Rev.Fr.Joseph Xavier S.J, the former Principal, and is carried out under the supervision of Rev.Fr.Xavier Vedam S.J., Vice-Principal and Mr.Gladstone Xavier, the staff in-charge. The outreach has successfully completed seven year.

VISION

- To enable students to have a positive concern over the society.
- To make our institute, a role model for serving the neighbourhood community.
- To conscientise people in the community and bring about attitudinal changes on literacy, health, and women empowerment.
- To make students take pride in doing community service.

AREAS ADOPTED

The neighborhood areas covered under this project are zones 5,7 and 8 which comprise of 76,77,78,107,108,118 and 120 which includes the Choolaimedu, Nungambakkam, Chetpet and Kodambakkam.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND SEMINAR FOR THE OUTREACH STUDENTS

Orientation session for all the second year UG students was organized for a week with the view to motivate the students and prepare them to do community service by the Staff of Outreach department. To learn the social realities, the students had training session on social evils and later, the students had workshop on HIV/AIDS, organ donation, domestic violence and alcohol and drug abuse.

ORIENTATION TO THE OUTREACH STAFF IN-CHARGE FROM THE RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENT

In the month of August, The outreach staff in-charge from every department had orientation on outreach activities and responsibilities of the staff in-charge. The orientation was held on the theme of facilitative role of the staff handled by Rev.Fr.Henry, National adviser for AICUF and Mr.John Kaviarasy, a programme associate, the dept. of Outreach, Loyola College.

WIDOWS EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

The identified widows were brought together to AICUF whereby they had a planning session of what they could do to sustain their economic status. 50 widows were given Rs.5000/- each for doing small business in the localities. The businesses are sari selling, Petti-shop, Itli shop, Flower selling, Milk selling and Green leaves selling.

STUDY MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION FOR WIDOW'S CHILDREN AND THE NEEDY.

The widow's children and the deserving children who are studying in corporation school and government school were given study materials and school fee. The total beneficiaries are 102. The one more programme to the school students was conducted in Sauliere hall, for this 250 deserving students from neighboring communities were

invited and bags and notebooks were supplied by Indian Oil Corporation.

LITERACY DAY CELEBRATION

As usual, this year too World Literacy Day was celebrated in Loyola College Campus in a grand manner. 145 students from 16 corporation schools were participants who showed keen interest by taking part various inter-school competitions. The headmistress of the school were invited and were honoured and Lunch was provided to every participants. All students who participated were given study materials with the sponsorship of Lion Club.

CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION

Christmas Day Celebration was arranged by the Dept.of Outreach at the Social Work Department premises for the children of widows & deserted women. The chief guest for the day was Fr.Cyrac. Rev.Frs.Sebastian, Henry and Fr.Xavier Vedam, Prof.Venkataesan and Prof.Antony samy were the guests of Honour. Santa Clauz along with a big team of dance group arrived from Chennai Mission for the celebration. The celebration started at 5.00p.m with an invocation song and this was followed by a cultural programme for the children by the college students and the children. The chief guests felicitated & shared the Christmas message. Our students put on an awareness drama and a dance along with the Santa Clauz. This was followed by distribution of prizes. Crayons, Pencil boxes and bowls were distributed along with sweets & savouries to all 350 participants.

PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

The students belonging to school teaching groups had gone to 16 corporation schools and actively involved in the school teaching activities and remedial coaching. They conducted talent competitions, sports day, annual day, and children's day, Republic Day, Independence Day and teacher's day. Moreover, they celebrated important days such as Pongal, deepavali, Christmas, and conducted career guidance programme, speech and drawing competitions and

other awareness programme. The school teaching groups totally conducted 72 programmes benefitting to about 9000 children.

PROGRAMME FOR BALWADI

66 programmes such as nutrition day, children's day, paediatric health camps, pongal and the celebrations such as Christmas day, Pongal, New Year, Deepavali day, Independence Day, picnic programme and drawing competition were conducted.

MEDICAL CAMPS, HEALTH AWARENESS PROGRAMMES AND RALLIES

15 Medical and health camps including eye camp, dental camp, diabetic camp, blood donation camp were conducted benefitting to 2780 people.

The Outreach students organized 46 awareness programmes to the community people and school children on various issues such as cancer, Dengue fever, Malaria fever, mosquito awareness, AIDS, environmental cleanliness, health and hygiene, communicable diseases. These awareness programmes were beneficial to 6700 people.

The student organized campaigns and rallies to spread awareness among the community people on various social issues and with a view to cultivating social responsibility among the community for community involvement and their area development. Totally 16 campaigns and rallies benefitted to the whole outreach community.

PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN

- Self-employment programmes for women belonging to 5 self-help groups on candle making, simple chemicals etc, were conducted.
- Career guidance programme was organized to 75 women.
- To build up the rapport with the women and to derive their full support, different programmes such as Kolam competition, Rongoli competition, Elders day programme, child-care awareness programme, awareness programme domestic violence, cooking competition, women's day

celebration, counseling drive and so on. The various competition and programmes numbering to 64 were beneficial to 2500 women.

PROGRAMMES FOR YOUTH GROUP

- Friendly matches such as carom board, cricket matches and Kabaadi were conducted.
- Awareness programmes such as alcohol and drug abuse, job and employment were conducted. About 23 programmes of such were conducted benefiting to 425 youth.
- 8 programmes on Personality development was conducted to youth in different areas benefiting to 290 youth.
- Youth rejuvenation programme was conducted to unorganized youth in Loyola College for which 80 students from slum community participated.
- 4 youth groups were newly formed.
- Awareness programme conducted on Alcohol and drug abuse collaboration with Padam organisation for U.G students

PROGRAMME FOR TUITION CHILDREN

- Totally 19 tuition centres with 390 children benefited from the tuition centre
- Various competitions such as speech, poem writing, essay writing and drawings were organized and the winners given prizes.

SPOKEN ENGLISH PROGRAMME

The meritorious students numbering to 170 from the corporation school who are receiving scholarship from hot breads Mahadevan are having spoken English classes on all Sundays from the month of August, 2007.

PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008

S.NO NATURE OF THE PROGRAMMES /ACTIVITIES NO. OF PROGRAMMES
/ TOTAL BENEFICIARIES

1. Christmas day celebration for the children of deserted women and widows	1	350
2. Widow's empowerment programme	1	50
3. Literacy day celebration	1	145
4. Study materials distribution to the poor school children	1	250
5. School fees payment to children	1	102
6. Programme for school children	72	9000
7. Programme for the children at Balwadi	66	1988
8. Medical camps	15	2780
9. Health awareness programme	46	-
10. Programmes for women	73	2650
11. Programme for youth	36	855
12. Spoken English Programme	1	170

FUTURE PLAN OF ACTION

1. Residential training programmes for slum youth in self-development community welfare will be conducted in the month of May.
2. Summer camp for corporation school children
3. Environmental awareness and health and hygiene project will be taken up with the support of science and technology
4. Having a tie-up with TANSACS for making the outreach students to be the trainers of trainers of health programme on HIV/AIDS.