

## Department of Service Learning (Outreach)

### About us

As of now, Outreach is working in 32 neighbourhood slums in Chennai Corporation in the Zones of 5, 8 and 9. The key areas of interventions include Women Empowerment, Early Childhood Development, Caring the Aged, Health Care Services, Education and Youth Enrichment.

The students of undergraduate programme spend 120 hours in the one of the assigned neighbouring slum communities over a period of one year. The students of shift-I visit their respective areas in the afternoon and those from the shift-II visit their areas in the morning twice a week. Students are formed into different teams of about 10 to 12 students each and they concentrate on children, women youth, elderly persons, and persons with disability. The teams are trained according to the theme they choose. They further study the situation and plan accordingly to carry out interventions in the neighbourhood slum areas they are assigned to and they make a difference by organising awareness programmes, medical camps, rally, skit, etc. It is a mandatory requirement for all the second year undergraduate students and first year postgraduate students to attend this program.



**Vision :** To facilitate the student community to become socially responsible citizens and to be sensitive to the needs of the disadvantaged sections.

**Values:** To imbibe the love and concern for others, students should dedicate themselves to community service, thereby shaping themselves as men and women for others.

**Mission:** To create a society with committed youth to promote equality, Justice, education, health and environment for the underprivileged.

**Aim:** To help the neighbouring communities to transform themselves through programmes like literacy, health promotion, women empowerment, youth clubs and reduction of dropouts in schools.

### Objectives:

- To enable the students to learn social responsibility.
- To provide an exposure about slums and create an ambience to reflect on the possible ways of intervention in their development.

- To learn from the people's experience and try to create facilities that would empower them.
- To make our institution and individuals to realize our duty towards serving the neighborhood communities.

**Adopted Areas:**

Right from the inception of Outreach, we have been working in slums in the city of Chennai in the zones of 5, 8 and 9. We have adopted 33 slums where the second year undergraduates and the first year post graduate do their interventions.

The following are the slums we have adopted for our interventions.

Sl.No	Informal Settlements (Slum Name)
1.	MGR Nagar
2.	Muthumariamman koil street
3.	Ayyasamy st
4.	Varadharajapuram
5.	Aathma Nagar
6.	Jothiammal Nagar
7.	Kalaignar Nagar
8.	Muthumariamman Nagar
9.	Alaiyamman Koil st
10.	Thomas Road
11.	Gankai Puram
12.	S.S. Puram
13.	Giriappa Road
14.	M.K. Radha Nagar
15.	Pallavan Nagar
16.	Nedunchezian Nagar
17.	Koyyathoppu Street
18.	Ayyasamy Street
19.	Anjukudisai
20.	Amma Nagar
21.	Sastri Nagar
22.	M. S. Nagar
23.	Osankulam
24.	New Boopathy Nagar
25.	Appa Samy Street
26.	East Namachivayapuram
27.	S M Nagar
28.	Gandhi Nagar
29.	Jothiammal Nagar,
30.	Avvaipuram
31.	West Namchivayapuram
32.	Pallam
33.	P.P. Garden

**Team Activities:**

**Team 1:** Remedial Classes in Corporation Schools

**Team 2:** Early Childhood Development

**Team 3:** Health, Sanitation and Clean Environment

**Team4:** Women Empowerment

**Team 5:** Youth Welfare

**Team 6:** Welfare of the Aged and Differently Abled

**Team 7:** Evening Tuition

**Assessment:** Students of UG and PG are assessed based on Regular Attendance, Special programmes/activities conducted effectively in communities, schools and college, Innovativeness/creativity, team work, leadership qualities and assignments and reports.

**Evaluation:** Community Based Evaluation is done with community people, local leaders, ward councillors, women SHG members and youth members. Evaluation with the staffs-in charge from the respective departments and Evaluation with Outreach professors.

**Our Collaborators in Charge**

- Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board
- Department of School Education
- Department of Health
- Commissionarate of ICDS
- Chennai Corporation
- State Resource Centre
- Jansakthi Abiyan (Makkal Kalvi Niruvanam)
- NGOs working in Urban Community Development

**Impact of the Programme**

- Development of positive attitude among student community and exhibit proactive role in nation building.
- Skill development in the areas of leadership, communication, relationship, social analysis, community organisation, planning, execution, reporting, evaluation, documentation, public speaking and so on.
- Value formation in terms of transparency, accountability, answerability, identifying with the poor, marginalized and other vulnerable sections of the society.
- Becoming a role model as men and women for others with Jesuit charisma.

## **Outreach for Post Graduates**

Outreach for Post Graduates is known as LEAP which was initiated in the year 1993. Every year first year postgraduates are taken for Outreach activity to various rural areas in the districts of Kanchipuram and Thiruvallur. The main objective of taking the students is to have a feel of the outside campus reality and to strengthen the positive forces present in the area for social and cultural transformation. Every year about 400 postgraduate students representing from all the 16 PG departments visit the rural areas as part of the academic requirement.

The students are given class room orientation and then they are taken to a village where they stay in the village for five days and interact with the community, understand the dynamics of the community and present their observation of the field exposure and also plan programs for their second year outreach program. The students are given orientation on Leadership; rural dynamics at the campsite and finally social analysis is done with the students about their experience during their community visit.

### **Objective of Outreach Programme for PG students (LEAP):**

1. To enable students to develop people oriented attitudes, and to imbibe the spirit of compassion for others.
2. To initiate team process within the students groups as well as with the public.

### **Outreach Programme Framework for the II year PG Students**

Departing from the previous welfare activities in the past, we have introduced Rights Approach to the students. This will involve in actively supporting campaigns of urgent importance. The Right to Information Act, the Domestic Violence Prevention Act, Anti-alcoholism and drug addiction, rights of transgenders and child rights are the chosen campaigns for field testing. Hence the Outreach program mandates the students to partake in these campaigns to educate and spread the message to pursue social change.



## **Dynamics:**

In each department, if they are more than 20, Students will be divided into two teams and each team will choose a particular campaign/awareness programme and engage in it.

Each team is responsible for the following actions

1. **Preparation:** collecting materials, knowledge generation and making things available for the program on time.
2. **Establishing contact:** contacting the community, schools or colleges and interacting with the leaders concerned.
3. **Organizing:** deciding the venue, mobilizing and financial management.
4. **Input:** creating awareness through rally, campaign, exhibition and also through lectures and PowerPoint presentation
5. **Plan of Evaluation:** It is the last step to analyze and evaluate the program.

After choosing the issue, the students will be asked to work in small groups as follows:

1. The students will be trained on a given social issue by an expert
2. Students should plan in clusters and implement the activities. The activities could be in the form of awareness programs, theatre, games and other creative forms of spreading the message.
3. The work area will be determined by the Outreach coordinators.
4. Outreach hours will be given based on their performance