



TIDINGS

Department of Social Work, Loyola College, Chennai



Year: 2014

Issue: August



Hearty welcome to the office bearers of

SWASS – SHIFT I

President	: Fr. A. Louis Arockiaraj, SJ
Vice President	: Mani
Secretary	: Preeti Piarina
Joint secretary	: John Milton
Treasurer	: Monica

With immense joy, we, the members of Association of Social Workers - Shift I, release this E-Newsletter about the activities held in the Department of Social Work, Loyola College, Chennai.

It is an effort to record the events, reflections and challenges, so that it paves way for newer, innovative and much more realistic Social Work interventions in our communities. This is also an opportunity for the members to enhance our knowledge, skills and attitude components and become effective and efficient in our profession.

Let this tidings bring about ripples of joy, questions about the reality of the society and concrete models of intervention of Social Work practices for empowerment of the weaker and marginalised sections of the society.

I appreciate the efforts of student body that has planted the seed of SWASS TIDINGS. Let this seed grow into a beautiful tree bearing good fruits for all.

Best wishes,

Fr. A. Louis Arockiaraj, SJ
President, SWASS – Shift I



A note for Swass,
Social Workers from Loyola College have traveled far and wide spreading the love for humanity. In other words every social worker who comes through the portal of Loyola College has been transformed and has been instrumental

in transforming individuals, groups and communities. Swass Tidings comes as a fresh breath to many of our initiatives. It aims to inform, educate and inspire our alumni, friends and well wishers. I believe that this will be a vital link to stay in touch with the happenings of the department. I take this opportunity to congratulate the team that is behind it and call upon the readers to contribute your ideas and wisdom in the form of articles that can be included as a column.

peace

Gladston

Head of the Department

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

“True motivation comes from achievement, personal development, job satisfaction and recognition”

HUMAN RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Department of Social Work conducted a HR Enhancement Program for its students. The highlighted ones are industrial visit at Sarvocraft and a guest lecture by Mr. Sylvester. The program was arranged by Dr. J.M. Arul Kamaraj. All the HRM students participated in the enhancement programs and benefited from it.

INDUSTRIAL VISIT

“Learning through practice” is one of the ideal ways of acquiring knowledge. **With this perspective, the first industrial visits for the students of Human Resource Management were planned on 26.07.14 at Servocraft HR Solution Pvt Ltd.**, a decade young, dynamic and fast-growing HR solution provider. The organization is based at Kilpauk, Chennai with branches at Ambattur, Sriperumbudur, Coimbatore and Bangalore.

Area of Expertise

- Staffing
- Temporary Staffing
- Facility Management
- Training (Tech & Soft skills)
- Payroll Administration and
- Liaison work.

Services Provided By Servocraft

- Manufacturing - Engineering and Automobile
- Infrastructure - Construction and Projects
- Pharma, Chemical and FMCG
- Banking, Finance and Insurance
- Hospitals, Hotels
- Logistics, Supply Chain, and Freight Forwarding
- IT, ITES, BPO and KPOs.

Mr. Dhinakaran conducted an interactive session about the consultancy and the present HRM scenario. The visit to Servocraft was useful in many ways. There was an active interaction by the students with the presenter. The visit lasted for two hours. It was an eye-opener to the numerous opportunities that await the HRM students in the future.

GUEST LECTURE



The resource person shared about HR competencies. What's competency? It is the skill that one needs for a particular job or task. Competency can be divided into two types. They are:

1. Functional Competency
2. Behavioural Competency

1. Functional Competency

Functional Competency is the technical skills that a person needs to have in a particular discipline to perform a job. It is also called hard skills as it helps to lay down a solid foundation to one's own career.

2. Behavioural Competency

Behavioural Competency is the soft skills that are needed for a job. It includes interpersonal skills, communication skills, problem solving skills, creative thinking etc. Then, the resource person detailed about the various elements of competency drawing an example from a picture. The various Elements of Competency are:

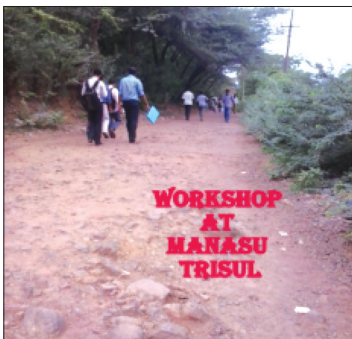
1. Performance
2. Knowledge
3. Skills

4. Attitude and
5. Aptitude

CONCLUSION

These are some of the HR Enhancement programs that were conducted in the Department of Social Work in the month of July 2014. The students were enlightened to have HR competencies in the first program and an exposure of industry in the Industrial Visit.

MEDICAL AND PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORK



A workshop was held in Manasu on 19.07.14, and 11 students from Shift I of Medical and Psychiatry participated.

The workshop helped the students to understand the rehabilitation of persons with mentally illness.

Manasu is an NGO that works for community based mental health services in the society without stigmatization and discrimination. It always focuses on strengthening and enhancing mental health and promoting better living through counselling, training, community based programmes and publications.

Orientation on Manasu:

Rev. Fr. Antony briefly introduced the organisation and the service provided by them. He taught the students how to use the Mudras in different types of gestures that help the individuals to overcome various diseases. In the life of human beings, there are different gestures and practices, which are used without the knowledge of its goodness. Mudra helps to recover from the diseases or illness of both the body and mind of an individual.

Rev. Fr. Antony also talked about the various food particles and how to utilize them in our daily life through Mudras. **Types of diseases which are caused by the imbalanced food habit and their relationship with Mudras were clearly explained. The talk was highly informative.**

Students understood one of the various practices of medicine other than allopathy medicine, which cures the mental illness without side effects. They identified the power of fingers and the healing powers through Mudras.

KNOWLEDGE GAINED

- Mudras- Types and features
- Introduction and reflexology
- Systematic approach towards food habits
- Natural medicine practices and its uses

Finally, there were many questions and ample clarifications. The students departed from the organisation with great knowledge on Mudras and drug free life.

CONCLUSION

“The doctor of the future will give no medicine, but will interest his patients in the care of the human body, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease ~ Thomas Edison”. This is the world which is hidden by the modern world, is the actual lifestyle of Indian culture.

HUMAN RIGHTS



People's Union For Civil Liberty (PUCL) organized a programme “Remembering Emergency – 39th anniversary” to create awareness among the people about the impact of emergency state which was proclaimed on the midnight of June 25,1975 by our former Prime Minister - Indira Gandhi.

Seven Social Work trainees from Social Work Department, Human Rights specialization, Loyola College participated in the meeting. The meeting started at 6:00 pm in a conference hall, ICOSA centre, Egmore. It was headed by Prof.Sankaralingam, co-ordinator, PUCL, Tamil Nadu.

He shared about the purpose of the meeting and the importance of PUCL, which raised after emergency period in India. He pointed out several historical events which took place during emergency state in his speech.

He introduced the speakers and their connection with emergency period. After his talk, Dr.V.Suresh, Director, PUCL, India shared about dictatorship policy of Indira's government during emergency period, which violated the fundamental rights of Indian citizen for their political gain. He explained about the role of press in nation's developmental process. He radically

compared the present nation's situation with the days of emergency and made the people to think about the existence of democracy in the nation.

M.G.Devasahayam IAS, who was a collector during emergency period, recalled about the brutality done by Indira's government against other political party leaders. He highlighted about the rise of JP Movement (1973) in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Gujrat. He expressed the thoughts of Jeyaprakash Narayanan, who placed a vital role during the emergency period to brought back fundamental rights to the Indian citizens. He mentioned about the hidden agendas which were planned and implemented during emergency state by ruling government and corporate sectors for their own gain. He pointed out the present human rights violation issues in India that ruined our nation's development.

Dr. Kantharaj, who worked as a doctor in prison during emergency period, shared about the physical and cognitive tortures given by the congress government by undertaking the army and police force against other political party members. He expressed the situation of Tamil Nadu during emergency period. TSS Mani shared briefly about the press freedom during emergency state and the importance of Shah commission in 1977.

After his talk, Trichy Siva recollected his personal experience during emergency

period. He explained how the college students took an active role to withdraw emergency state in India against the congress government. He highlighted about the role of DMK against emergency state and how all the political leaders were united to oppose the congress government.

Finally, K.I.Veeramani, leader of DK party shared about his experience and the country's situation during emergency period. He also quoted the ideology of E.V.R.Periyar in his speech and the PUCL's active role in bringing a developed nation by providing and protecting the rights of all citizen in our nation.

Prof.Sankaralingam shared his gratitude to all the participants. The meeting ended at 9:45 pm. Several books that held the

ideology of E.V.R.Periyar were displayed in the meeting and human rights struggle along different countries. Nearly 60 people participated in the meeting, most of them were the members of PUCL (Chennai, Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur). The members of PUCL made all the arrangements for the programme and the seven human rights Social Work trainees gathered a wide knowledge about the emergence of human rights movement in India which was structured after emergency period.

Rural Exposure Visit at



(SIRD), Maraimalai Nagar, Kanchipuram

On 18-07-2014 and 19-07-2014

Villages are backbone of our country.

- Mahatma Gandhi (FoN)

Under the strong support of Head of the Department, Dr. Gladson Xavier and our Professors, we the Social Work trainees organized the Rural exosphere visit of two days 18th & 19th of July 2014 to SIRD (State Institute of Rural Development). The Community Organization students from the both shifts (Morning & Evening) went together along with Prof. Balamuthu Murugan and Prof. John Jeyakumar. On the first day the trainees went to SARAM village for meeting the government officials and to visit the government programs in the Panchayat. The second day, they went to SIRD, Maraimalai Nagar. There the trainees had input sessions about the various state and central government programs. The food and accommodation was provided to trainees with concession by SIRD organization.

OBJECTIVES:

- To know the SIRD (State Institution for Rural Development) Duties and Functions in the Panchayat level
- To study the state and central government policies from the rural area people side.
- To observe the implementation of government schemes and policies to the Panchayat levels.
- To visit the government projects in a Panchayat.

The two days of training used these methodologies

- Lecture with presentation
- Experience sharing
- Interactive discussions
- Games
- Film shows
- Energizers
- Exposure visit to best practices

Learning Experiences:

We were able to learn a lot through this exposure visit. We came to know and understand about the various Government schemes available for the rural community, need and importance of agriculture, the need for collaboration and networking with voluntary organisations and Government programmes. We also gained the importance of using rural

development strategies such as people's participation, social work research, grass root level planning and implementation. The needs of the people can be prioritized and policies can be evolved to fulfil them through community participation, decision making, implementation and evaluation.

After the input session, the SIRD Officials gave the participation certificates to trainees.

Conclusion:

The Exposure visit was highly beneficial for us to know about the community and about ourselves personally and collectively as a team. We were able to acquire clarity of the subject, develop our sense of team spirit and organising skill. Thanks to the organizing committee for making arrangement for a meaningful activity.

THE NEW BEGINNING OF THE 1st YEAR TRAINEES

Orientation report

The social work orientation programme was held on 9th July. It was a memorable day. The head of the department, DR. GLADSTON XAVIER welcomed the social work trainees and their parents. He introduced each and every staff members of the department and gave a brief explanation about the course, and that was a fabulous beginning of the academic year 2014 – 2015.

DR.ARUL KAMARAJ initiated the orientation with ice breaking session and helped us to know about the fellow trainees. We continued the session with information about various activities of the Department of Social Work.

- CURRICULUM FRAME WORK – PROF.JOHN JEYAKUMAR.
- FIELD WORK – PROF.FRANCIS ADAIKALAM.

- EXAMINATION – PROF. H. KIRUBAKARAN.
- RURAL AND NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVE – PROF.MARY JESSY RANI.
- SWASS – REV.FR.LOUIS AROCKIARAJ.SJ
- TRAINING AND PLACEMENT – PROF.AKILESWARI.

We the social work trainees had an opportunity to know about the skills acquired through the orientation. They are: co-operation, planning, practice, adaptability, problem solving, hard work, creativity, leadership skills, etc. It was very useful to all the Social Work trainees to know about the different parts and division in the course, and the core subject of social work.

Observation visits

- “MERCY HOME” :

On 10th July all the Social Work trainees gathered at Mercy Home by 8.45 A.M. REV.FR.LOUIS AROCKIARAJ

& PROF.H.KIRUBAKARAN accompanied us. We met Mother Superior and gathered information about the history, aim, objectives, etc of Mercy Home.

Mercy Home is a social and charitable institution founded by LATE ARCHBISHOP LOUIS MATHIAS of Madras in the year 1958 with an active collaboration of Salesian Missionaries of Mary Immaculate. It has continuously been as a heaven of hope for thousands of destitute and abandoned young and old people, physically handicapped people.

The current projects of Mercy Home are medical help, occupational therapy, religious guidance, counselling services, Mathias social service centre. The aim of this institution is to provide a secure home for the homeless, to provide a good atmosphere, supportive services and guidance, undertake vocational and social rehabilitation service, etc. We the trainees learnt how to get adjusted with fellow beings, how to communicate, co-operate, etc.

“IRCDS” (INTERGRATED RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY) :

On 11th July, we, the trainees, travelled to Villampakam panchayat in Thiruvallur district. PROF.MARY JESSY RANI accompanied us. The orientation was about IRCDS, NGO. It works mainly for the benefit of women destitute, children, etc. It works for the welfare of women in different places like Pondicherry, Kadambattur, Thiruvallur, Puzhal blocks. For the differently-abled people they work in places like Ellampuram, Poonthamalli, Villivakam, Kadambattur, and Thiruvallur blocks. There are 1650 self-help groups and 150 self-help groups for differently-abled people. IRCDS is connected with government for constructing homes, helping the needy. Through the visit to this village we observed that IRCDS has given a big hand and support to thousands of people. They help people to be employed. They work for marginalised rural people very effectively and efficiently.

MITHRA :

On 14th July our observation visit was to Mithra. PROF.AKILESWARI accompanied us. We met MR.SUBRAMANIYAM and gathered information about the history, mission, vision, etc of Mithra. We met mentally and physically handicapped children of Mithra. It was started on 1977, march 19th by SR.MARY THEODORE. This institution

was started with 5 students, now at present there are 150 students. Current projects are tailoring, vocational training unit, envelope making & weaving unit, physiotherapy unit. Their mission is to rehabilitate special children to live independent life, to create balance in the world of imbalance. We the trainees learnt the spirit to work among the special children & their family.

DON BOSCO BEATTITUDES :

On 15th July, we, the trainees, visited the organisation. REV.FR.LOUIS AROCKIARAJ & PROF.H.KIRUBAKARAN accompanied us. We met SR.AGNES and gathered information about the organisation through her orientation. It was founded by Italian priest, FR.MANTOVANI, in the year 1965. Their aim is to provide training to youngsters, educate and certify them, empowering the women, improve the standard of living in slum area, provide care for children from womb to tomb. The following are the programmes and projects of the organisation. They are: day care centre, balwadies and creches, old age home, self – help groups, typing class, jute bags making, etc. We observed that how the institution works for the benefit of all aged people. It works hard to maintain and develop the name and fame of the institution.

GREMALTES :

On 21st July, we, the social work trainees assembled at Gremaltes. MR.SRINIVASALU the training officer gave us an orientation about the Gremaltes hospital. It was started on 15th April 1971 by the German leprosy & TB relief association. Founded by LATE MR.WILLAM GERSHON. There are 300 hospitals all over the world and 70 centres in India. This institution works to eradicate leprosy, TB, skin diseases, HIV, visual impairments, diabetes, etc. We the trainees learnt how to be tolerant, communicating with leprosy, other skin alignments, and to treat with dignity.

T.I METAL FORMING :

On 24th July, we, the trainees, visited the company. PROF.ARUL KAMARAJ accompanied us. The main motive of this visit is to know about the administration of the industries. T.I Murugappa Company was one of the leading companies in India. It has eight branches in India. There are 700 million people working for this company all over the world. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR was the founder of this company. MR.ARUN KUMAR HR of the company gave us the orientation about the industry and its work. MR.LAKSHMAIAN, the trainer of Murugappa Company, took the trainees to visit the company and to come to know about the process of the industries. They manufacture doors for different types of cars.

The social work trainees learnt the administration setup, projects and programmes carried out. They also informed about the recruitment process, manufacturing unit, purchasing of raw materials and learnt how to have networks with leading company.

TRAINING CLASS “THEATRE FOR TRANSFORMATION”

“THE ONLY PERSON YOU SHOULD TRY TO BE BETTER THAN IS THE PERSON YOU WERE YESTERDAY”.

THE SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT TOOK INITIATIVE TO CONDUCT A FOUR DAYS RESIDENTIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME (16.07.2014-19.07.2014) IN AICUF FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE 1ST YEAR MSW STUDENTS.

Dr.GLADSTON XAVIER, the Head of the Department, welcomed the chief guest, the trainers and introduced them. He described that the importance of the programme is to transform the individual.

Dr. S.VINCENT the Dean of Research, Loyola College, was the key factor of the entire program.

Principal, REV.FR.G. JOSEPH ANTONYSAMY, motivated our Department to have international quality.

Secretary, REV.FR.ALBERT WILLAM, shared about a better infrastructure in the offing.

PROF.VINCENT, the co-ordinator of Shift II, proposed the vote of thanks.

DR.ARUL KAMARAJ, the co-ordinator of the programme, made sure that everything went on well.

The trainers were SR.CLAIRE & MR.MANIMARAN.

We started the 1st day with “Vanakkamuga song” by Mr.Manimaran with a full spirit of enthusiasm. Sister Claire positively initiated us to make an agreement with them. The agreement is to give oneself fully. We

got suggestion from trainees as how to make this session as success. There was involvement and interaction without fear and shyness. The other aspects of learning are to develop leadership skills, taking responsibility, cooperation, happiness, flexibility, patience and enhancing interest.

After the vow, there was a game called “UN PAKKATHIL YAR”. The trainees had a discussion regarding their feelings in relation to this game. The highlighted feelings were happiness, childhood behaviour, tired, hesitation etc. We learnt the relationship of the game with the society and also learnt about the responsibility as social workers towards the society. The outcome of the game was adaptability, giving space for others, forgetting past and doing the present, should take a new step if failed, should be aware always, etc.

We had other games and exercise like mirror, socio metric, fox and rabbit. These games main motive is unity in diversity. We experienced the trust on each other. We analysed our mistakes. It was a game not only to protect ourselves but also to save others.

17th was a black day for all the trainees, because it was a completion of 10 years of Kumbakonam fire accident, where hundreds of children were burnt. In remembrance of the day, we learnt a heart melting song, which was performed on the final day.

On 18th, Malaysian air crash was remembered and we had a silent prayer for the victims. Trainees were asked to update themselves with the current affairs.

We were motivated with the life story of Dr. Ambedkar, who is chosen as one among 6 genius in the world 106 years back. We assured that, we would create another 50 Ambedkar from our class in near future.

Each trainee was separated into five groups and given topics to perform street plays. First group performed a street play on the topic "SAVE NATURE". Second group performed the play on the topic "CAUSES OF DRINKING ALCOHOL". Third group performed the play on the topic "CAUSES OF CRICKET". Fourth group performed the play on the topic "THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH". Fifth group performed the play on the topic "EDUCATION AS BUSSINES". We the trainees learnt the different techniques and skills to be used in street play.



On 19th, the final day of the training class Sr. Claire mentioned that a social worker should not think that he is serving the society or the working class, but he must think that he is just returning the favour which they have done to the society.

Sr. Claire also spoke about the dignity of labour and to bring equity and equality in the society. And also she advised the trainees to be more humble and grateful when they work in the field for the people.

We had a cultural programme in the evening performed by both SHIFT-I & SHIFT-II. After the programs Prof. Arul Kamaraj thanked all the people who were helpful and supportive in making this workshop a grand success. The Head of the Department, Dr. Gladston Xavier, felicitated the trainers Sr. Claire, Mr. Manimaran, Mr. Kaleeshwaran and his team.

The trainers also spoke a few words of appreciation about the trainees. With that the program came to a happy ending. All the trainees were really transformed.

It was a breakthrough opportunity to explore greater heights and to improve oneself.

Concurrent visit

The first year shift-1 students are being placed in different NGOs for their concurrent field work visits. The students have started to go to their respective NGOs and began their work as professional social work trainees. Some are working with children projects where they are asked to go to the police station and rescue the street and orphan children. We are happy to report that some of our trainees have rescued four children from bonded labour. In this same manner our trainees are adventuring a lot of new experiences.

"GOOD THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO WAIT, BUT ONLY THOSE THINGS LEFT BY THOSE WHO HUSTLE"