

## Best Practice II

### TNC CARES

#### Title of the Practice:

- TNCAS always having social responsibility, taken efforts to connect with and engage various stakeholders, such as the public, target audiences, or specific groups, to achieve specific goals or objectives. It is mandatory for all undergraduate students to render at least 90 hours of community service. TNC brings under its banner TNC CARES, wings of all extension activities initiated by the college and executed by different student bodies.

#### Objectives of the practice

The major objectives are:

- To engage with the local community and build positive relationships between college students and community members.
- To integrate community service with academic learning, allowing students to apply their knowledge and skills in real-world settings while addressing community needs.
- To promote health and wellness in the community by offering health education, screenings, and access to resources that improve overall well-being.
- To foster a sense of community involvement and engagement by encouraging people to actively participate in events, projects, or initiatives that benefit the community.
- To arouse the spirit of common interest to participate collectively for social cause.
- To create a community of selfless, caring and committed individuals.
- To provide the students with leadership opportunities and experiences that help them develop important skills for their future careers.

#### The Context

TNC CARES which houses the student bodies such as National Service Scheme (NSS) and National Cadet Corps (NCC) highlighting their community service activities. Other than NSS and NCC, all the departments of TNCAS have organized many schemes to reach out to the community. Education and Awareness like educational campaigns, Healthcare like visiting to hospitals, Environmental Conservation like planting trees are various activities conducted by TNCAS students, as a result the number of beneficiaries addressed is multifold.

#### The Practice

In recent years, the college has been picking an annual theme for its service activities to organize them better. This way, the college can support many important causes. Once they choose a theme or cause, different college departments involve their students in making it happen in their own creative ways. This gives students a chance to take charge and be part of the effort while still achieving the broader goal of the chosen theme. We need to create a detailed plan for our outreach program, including what we'll do, when we'll do it, how much it will cost, and what resources we

need. This plan should match our goals and address the needs we've identified. The Centre for Excellence at the college, along with the NSS unit, is responsible for finding meaningful causes and organizing student volunteer efforts to support those causes effectively. With the NSS unit, is responsible for finding meaningful causes and organizing student volunteer efforts to support those causes effectively.

- The department of Social work celebrated World Nature Conservation day, an outreach programme was organized on 01.08.2022 for planting saplings in Panchayat union Primary school at Red hills. Students of Social Work Department raised funds to buy 10 saplings to be planted in the school campus.
- The department of Social work went to ICH to encourage and motivate children.

#### **Evidence of Success**

- Continuous implementation of the schemes every year stands a proof for their success.
- The enthusiastic support of the Community and Government School for the existing and new schemes.
- The responses from the beneficiaries and their enthusiastic participation in all the programmes initiated by the college stand a testimony to the success of the events that the college initiates.
- The College is awarded as the "Excellent Volunteer Award 2023 -" by FCWA. (Friends City Welfare Association.) and Best NSS Award – by American Muthamizh University.

#### **Problems encountered and Resources required**

- The Students engaged in outreach activities may encounter several challenges and problems, which can vary depending on the nature of the outreach program, the community or population being served, and the specific circumstances. Some common problems faced by college students in outreach activities include students often have busy schedules with classes, assignments, exams, and extracurricular activities, making it challenging to find time for outreach activities.
- Striking a balance between academic commitments and outreach efforts can be difficult, leading to academic stress and potential burnout.
- Outreach programs may have limited budgets and resources, which can restrict the scope and impact of the activity students can undertake.
- Some community members may resist or be skeptical of the intentions of college students,
- Encouraging them to step out from their comfort zones to reach out to the society.
- Continuous motivation is required as the students are capable of losing their confidence when things don't go in the expected way.
- Monitoring the safety of the students when they go out into the community.

**Resources Required:**

- Skilled and committed staff members are essential for outreach activities.
- Funding is often needed to cover expenses such as materials, transportation, venue rentals, promotional materials, and staff or volunteer stipends.
- Often require promotional materials, communication tools to raise awareness and attract participants.
- Ensuring the safety of participants may require first aid kits, safety equipment, and trained personnel in case of emergencies.
- Legal or administrative resources may be necessary, such as permits, liability insurance, and legal counsel.