



SRI JAGADGURU MURUGHARAJENDRA ARTS COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

B.D. Road, CHITRADURGA - 577 501 Karnataka



Email : sjmwc.cta@gmail.com

No. SJMACW / /20

Date... 28 / 06 / 2021

7.2.1 BEST PRACTICES

Best Practice-I

Title of the Practice: Financial Support to Economically Weaker Section.

Objectives of the Practice

It has been learnt from the parents of the students who join various courses of the institution that majority of them represents the surrounding rural areas of Chitradurga, a socially and economically backward district of Karnataka. As the parents are from poor economic background they are unable to provide a sound financial support because of the agricultural occupation as their only source of income. Agriculture in this region is seasonal and fetches no assured income. So, the very objective of the practice is

- To extend possible financial support to the deserving poor students without any discrimination of caste and creed.
- To provide equality among the students
- To inculcate human values with a sense of social responsibility among the students

The outcome expected is to reduce the number of students discontinuing education owing to poverty and they should be able to complete their degree with good academic record. So that, the beneficiaries shall develop an attitude to treat the needy with helping hand without any discrimination.

The Context

The objective had challenging troubles in its implementation.

- Generating the required resources for extending financial support is not an easy task
- After preliminary discussions the faculties have finally agreed to work out on this noble task
- At the beginning we had difficulty in deciding the eligibility criteria for the students to select them for financial support
- It was decided to check the financial backwardness of the parents of students who feels not comfortable economically owing to poverty



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- After comprehensive discussions it was decided to extend the benefit to only deserving poor students whose parents do not have any permanent source of income to admit their wards to pursue their higher education in institutes of higher learning

The Practice

There has been a long history of frequent drought and famines almost in many surrounding areas of Chitradurga. These have really uprooted the rural life of agriculturists and putting them into miserable conditions of dire poverty, illiteracy and ill health.

In this pathetic situation, the available meagre resources are used primarily to meet the basic requirements of life. So, sending children to cities for pursuing higher education becomes almost impossible to poor parents of rural areas, as they think it demands high amount of money. Even though, somehow they think to admit their children to college in cities, they feel it extremely difficult to give sustained financial support through out the course of study because of the agriculture being a gamble with rain in the district does not fetch them an assured income.

So, it is clearly evident that without an external source of financial support, the rural women students cannot have the hope of completing their higher education successfully.

Innovation and Best Practice of our institution

The faculties are motivated to extend all possible financial support to the deserving students in order to help them to realize their dream of acquiring higher education.

The financial support is extended to few deserving poor students without any discrimination of caste or creed. The students whose parents do not have any assured source of income are made eligible for the support. Senior faculty members after due verification of financial background of students give their consolidated opinion to the principal with an assurance of extending financial support for such deserving poor students. In addition, endowment scholarship is also advised to avail. They are paying tuition fee and examination fee of meritorious students who are unable to pay the fees owing to poverty. Lack of will on the part of many of the elite and successive droughts and famines in the district are the major constraints in the system.

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Evidence of Success

The scheme is made known to deserving students. College staff have made a policy to support 5 deserving students for Admission fees, examination fees. During the last five years more than 20 students are on the record of recipient. Similarly, students who get this beneficiary is kept confidential with the aim that there should not be any kind of complex problem among students.

This way the practice impacted on the development of academic ability and attitudinal changes among the beneficiaries. The review results of the support indicate that the financial support not only enabled the poor students to acquire higher education but also moulded them to be the responsible citizens to extend helping hand to other students who are in need of pursuing higher education.

Problems encountered and Resources required

At the beginning when started adopting this best practice to deserving poor students we come across the following impediments:

- The parents of other students having learnt about the practice started demand for extending financial support to seek admission for their wards also.
- Few of our faculty also opposed the idea as they get into an impression that they may be compelled to share financial support. It is clarified to them that the practice is very noble in its nature and it is only with whole heartedness faculty can extend financial support for the needy. Even then, few have not turned up and came forward. Some of them even blamed that the idea is not based in social justice.

The institution had to overcome few of these impediments while implementing the above Best practice. Even then the practice is being continued as one of the innovative and best in its nature and essence as far as the outcome is concerned.

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Best Practice II

1. Title of the Practice : Empowerment of Women for better status in society

2. Objectives of the Practice

Students are the resources of our institution. Majority of them are from surrounding drought and famine ravaged rural areas of Chitradurga where miserable conditions of poverty, illiteracy, ill-health and superstition take hold of their lives. Undoubtedly they are affected by the backwardness and discrimination. Hence, our institution has resolved to take up the cause of Empowerment of Women for their better status in society with the objectives of shaping the overall career of students. The initiations involves are -

- Mentoring of students with one teacher as mentor for every 20-25 women mentees.
- Developing an environment by conducting awareness programmes to make them understand their potentiality in learning and getting their problems solved independently
- Conducting programmes with police authorities and social workers making the women students to be aware of the various types of evils exclusively the exploitation taking advantage in the background of poverty, innocence and ignorance.
- Exercising care for maintaining confidentiality of the private life of women student victims to protect the dignity of women kind
- Enlightening the students by arranging programmes involving social activists and government officials on human rights and fundamental freedom for equal rights and opportunities
- Organising programmes on gender equity and gender discrimination to enable the students to realize the gender sensitization so as to witness more equality and harmony in family and society
- Conducting seminars and special classroom sessions on ragging, dowry system and other evils to expose their ill effects
- Developing technical skills by providing special training to women students to enable them to become self reliant
- Extending financial support to the deserving poor women students of disadvantageous sections to complete their degree programme

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- Organising health programmes for women students by lady doctors for free counselling and treatment for women related health problems and for creating awareness on the importance of sanitation, personal hygiene and prevention of health disorders
- Tackling the social, health centred consequences and prevention of HIV/AIDS from a gender perspective

3. The Context

- The women students were not so enthusiastic to participate the programmes, at the beginning.
- Some parents expressed their opinion that such sensitization programmes affects the purpose of sending their children to college.
- The coordinator and members of the women empowerment cell had to visit such parents and convince them that all the programmes were meant for the betterment and empowerment of their daughters.
- Various legal provisions for protecting women interest were misunderstood as laws unfavourable for dominance of men.
- Few parents even found fault with the institution that their children were made to be at college beyond class hours for attending unconnected programmes.
- Under these circumstances, the institution has thought that it is admirable to go ahead with the implementation of objectives for which the women empowerment cell is constituted.

4. The Practice

It is a devastating reality that discrimination against women is being continued even in 21st century. Gender inequality has been a matter of serious concern across the globe. As Indian we have a long way to go before achieving gender equity and empowerment of women. The rural life is ravaged by miserable conditions of poverty, illiteracy, ill health and superstition. Most of our women students come from surrounding rural areas and they belong to weaker sections including scheduled caste, schedule tribes, backward classes and minorities without proper access to education, health and other productive resources. Hence, they remain largely as marginalised poor and socially excluded.

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Getting admission in a degree college in the city for acquiring higher education involves money and other things. As a result the poverty and traditionally oriented parents admit their daughter reluctantly to colleges of higher learning. The women students are most vibrant and most valuable human resource. We cannot neglect them to be the victims of discrimination, exploitation and segregation. So the institution resolved to empower women students to face the life with boldness and courage for leading a successful life with peace, harmony and dignity.

In order to achieve the aim the institution has established a Women Empowerment Cell with a senior women teacher as its coordinator and other senior teachers as its members. All women students come under the purview of this cell irrespective of their status.

The coordinator and the members of the cell conducts meeting periodically and decides for designing awareness programmes to sensitize the women students in order to understand the causes for giving them sub serviant role inspite of their equal or even more abilities than their counterparts. They also plan for conducting awareness programmes, workshops and interactive sessions in association with NGOs, Rotary Club, Inner Wheel Club and Government departments like Social Welfare, Women and Child Welfare, Law and Health etc.

The Empowerment Cell is striving for the protection of women's rights and empowers women by gaining confidence in their potentiality. It aims at controlling social evils like ragging, dowry system, eve-teasing, etc., so that women students become aware of gender equity, discrimination, human rights, and various legal provisions allowed in the constitution for the protection of their rights, to acquire higher education for enlightenment, mental and physical fitness.

The institution has organised several programmes for the empowerment of women. The cell also arranged counselling by professional psychologists and psychiatrists and medical checkup camp for women related health problems by local lady doctors.

5. Evidence of Success

During the assessment period, college has conducted good number of Women Empowerment activities. Special lectures being conducted. Invited Experts, Lawyers, Professionals, women Entrepreneurs to deliver special lectures. The women empowerment cell has taken a responsible and sympathetic view of the girls who were misled to involve in love affairs throwing the families of both sides into pain.

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6. Problems encountered and Resources required

Most of the students were reluctant to cross their academic borders and it has affected the successful conduct of awareness programmes.

The first awareness programme for women students on HIV/AIDS received a fading response as women's feel talking about AIDS is still a taboo.

Organising women related programmes sometimes has led to sacrificing the class work.

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