



## **ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), MANGALURU, KARNATAKA**

### **IMMERSION PROGRAMME**

#### **ANNUAL RURAL IMMERSION PROGRAMME- IT STUDENTS**

The annual Rural Immersion Programme for IT Students was held from 31st May 2016 to 5th June 2016. 96 students and 4 staff members spent 5 days at Mundgod, Karnataka and surrounding villages for 5 days. The students were grouped and put up in 10 different villages for four days. Students expressed that it was a different feeling to stay and many felt that it was a wonderful experience altogether. The Immersion programme concluded in June.

#### **VILLAGE EXPOSURE BY SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

Dept. of Sociology organised a one-day village exposure as a part of academic programme for the II BA students on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at Pandi, Kerala. The team consisted of 26 students & Ms Prema Dsouza the staff supervisor. It helped the students to experience more about village life & rural institutions like joint family & caste system.

#### **Rural Immersion Programme**

From JANUARY 12 to 18, 2017, the Department of MBA provided us with a beautiful experience called Rural immersion programme in remote villages of Mundgod and Hanagal. This event brought in us curiosity, thrill, excitement and sense of solidarity with the poor, neglected and less cared for. We, the students of MBA department were fortunate to stay with the poor and learn much from them. We experienced their genuine love, positive attitude towards life, commitment towards their family and compassionate gesture to the strangers. When corporate teaches us to ignore the poor and unprofitable, these poor people taught us to embrace the unwanted. They taught us what is life all about. They are poor not by option but the corporate has made them to be so in economic terms. They are denied basic facilities by government. The rich and the powerful exploit them. They are rich in many ways. They are rich in hospitality, concern towards others and in sharing whatever they have. They are ready to sacrifice to take care of strangers. They may not have ornaments or jewellery to wear but their smile, helping nature, concern are the permanent jewels that they wear every day. Prajwal Bhakta would describe his experience as “those were really a beautiful days in my life, on my last day in the rural camp, I really didn’t want to leave

that village and come back to Mangaluru, this was just because of the love that I received from the people, the hospitality that they provided, the food that they served every time when we visited their homes, the cooperation they gave, made me never look back and spend some more time in village with them”. Rachel Stanley describes her experience as “.....the care and concern we received was pure. They genuinely kept a check on us to see if we felt at home. The people in the village are very hardworking. The common issue we came across was that, on an average, 30%-35% of the inherits were unemployed or rather unaware of the employment opportunities in and around the village as they lack a lot of relevant data and information about new opportunities, reforms, policies and schemes. Sad truth is that, women are still dominated by men, to keep it simple, they live in a male dominated environment. Adopt a village? NO! Adopt a family? May be! Adopt one child each to educate? Yes! That’s exactly what my team decided because education is one thing which can turn negative vibes into positive vibes and bad into good and Education can make a difference in the society” Sandria Rodrigues shares her experience as “We were welcomed warmly by the villagers. The great hospitality shown by the people, their love and affection made us feel that we were one among them. We learnt a lot by interacting with them. We got to know the culture and traditions of the village by attending their Sankranti festival. Though they do not have enough money to fulfil their needs they are happy in their life. This is an important thing they taught us in those four days. Sometimes the smallest things take up the most space in our heart this rural camp is one such experience. I am grateful to AIMIT”. It is clear that all the students enjoyed their rural immersion programme and as they prepare for their future jobs, they have a soft corner for the poor. Jesuit education has taught them not only to get information but to have an integrated formation so that they transform themselves and the society they live in.

### **Rural Immersion Programme 2018**

118 students (MCA and MSc-ST) along with the faculty members Dr Santhosh B, Dr Hemalatha, Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Mr. Riyaz Mohammed and Mr. Srinivas departed from AIMIT Campus on 24th July 2018 for the rural immersion programme. The whole group of students were divided into three groups – one to Mundgod and two groups to Hangal. Fr Francis Balraj, Director Loyala Vikas Kendra, Mundugod explained the students about the rural exposure, its aim and objectives and then formed a group of two students and assigned them to TEN villages. Sr. Dimple, Roshni Trust divided the students into groups at Hangal and assigned them to various places. Students experienced the village life. The third group of students went to Loyola Vikas Kendra, Hangal.

Fr. Jerald D'Souza interacted with the students and put them to different villages and assigned them various tasks, Students experienced the village life, interacted with the people there and worked along with them. They also found out what facilities they were deprived of. They also visited the Govt. Schools and spent time with the students there and taught them as well. On 30th morning all the students returned from their village to the respective centres and shared their experiences with the heads and faculty members. Evening the students visited Golden Temple, Mundugod and night they departed from Mundugod and reached Mangalore on 31<sup>st</sup> morning to AIMIT, Mangalore.

### **Exposure training camp-Growing and working together to reach the unreached-Krista Sevaki Ashram Karkala.**

The second Exposure cum Training camp for the members of Sahodaya was held on September 01-02, 2018 at Krista Sevaki Ashram Karkala. There were 45 students of Sahodaya who volunteered to be moulded and to be shaped. We were able to achieve this through the interaction with the Aged along with the Session on Teamwork. The volunteers showcased their talents to the inmates through a cultural programme and were surprised to see the talents of the Inmates who in turn entertained our volunteers. Ms Jenice Jean Goveas was the resource person who provided the best learning on the topic Team Work. This session was instrumental in convincing the students how each could learn from Sahodaya which motivates to grow together and to work together to reach the unreached. The members of Sahodaya distributed 35 Pillows to the inmates.

### **Social Extension Programme**

PG Dept. of Economics - On 26th October, 2018, our first- and second-year students paid a visit to TELCO Deaddiction centre in Ullur, Mangalore. Students had a great time interacting with the staff and members of the centre.

### **AICUF Rural Exposure Camp 2018**

The AICUF Rural Exposure Camp 2018 of St Aloysius College Unit was organized from 5 - 11 November 2018 at St Jude's Church, Pakshikere. Around 66 students of the college, a few passed out students and the Animators participated in the camp. The camp began with the inaugural programme by lighting the lamp and watering the plant by the chief guest Mr Ashith Pereira, President of Youth Congress, along with the Parish Priest Rev. Fr Melwyn Noronha, Asst Parish Priest Rev. Fr Rahul D'Souza, Rev. Dr Fr Praveen Martis SJ, the Principal, Rev. Fr Felix Victor SJ, the Campus Minister, Mr Jackson, the vicepresident of the parish and the animators,

symbolizing the hard work the students were going to involve in, to experience the hard labour the other fellow humans go through. We started our day with the Eucharistic celebration followed by the breakfast. We were divided into groups and the various works were distributed accordingly. The students were involved in chopping the grass, tending the areca nut trees, cleaning the surroundings including the fish tank and the cemetery, constructing steps in the garden, carrying fire woods and coconut shells and doing many more things. The students themselves prepared meals according to their turn. In the morning, after working for three hours, we used to have our lunch. Afternoon sessions were taken by various resource persons who enhanced our knowledge regarding the youth, life skills, government job opportunities to the minorities, self- realization, society and the country at large. Fun games were also conducted that built up team spirit and coordination among the groups. In the evenings we used to have rosary followed by cultural programme competitions where everyone got opportunities to showcase their talents. The students were given chance to evaluate the day's programme and provide constructive feed-back. Basically we followed the same timetable every day. We had a camp fire in the evening of the last day of our camp and all the students were given chance to share their experience. The closing ceremony of the camp was held on November 11, the Asst parish priest gave away the prizes to the winning groups. Even though the technology brings the world into a global village, this camp brought us closer to each other. The camp was beneficial to everyone present there. We realized that there is a life very different from the way we live. We were exposed to situations through which we experienced the difficulties and pain that the daily labourers face. In spite of the struggle, we made a lot of memories that will be cherished throughout our life.

### **Knowledge comes from Learning and Wisdom comes from Living - Exposure and training program with Mithra Jyothi**

Knowledge comes from Learning and Wisdom comes from Living This was the feeling of the Sahodayans who sacrificed their holidays and discovered wisdom by being part of the exposure cum training programme held at Bangalore from November 10, 2018 to November 13, 2018. The members of Sahodaya started the programme by visiting Deepa Academy for the Differently Abled. Sahodayans spent their first three hours by being with them and knowing them which ended with the cultural programme. Fr George from Project Vision spoke about their different activities and how they promote awareness on Eye Donation campaign. Sahodayans had the privilege to listen to him and find out the different ways to help a visually impaired person. National

Association for the Blind was the place where Sahodayans got see a lot of different methods used in providing the mobility to the visually impaired. The coordinator of NAB provided all the details on their activities and urged us to spread the awareness on the different benefits that are available for the Visually Impaired People. We were really taken up at Association for People with Disability with the skills of the Physically Challenged. We visited the Horticulture Department of APD which trains people with disability to be independent through gardening. We felt that we were in a paradise where all are ready to face life by mobilising the Physically Challenged. The last day of the exposure was the challenging day since the Sahodayans had to go through with the hands on experience at Mithra Jyothi. Sahodayans experienced the life of a visually impaired person by blind folding and learning how to use the white cane. It was not easy since the task was challenging and hurdles were too many. They also got to see the different programmes run by the institute and a beautiful sharing session with the visually impaired trainees. Exposure provides new directions and these help in shaping the minds of so many. I am sure the 20 Sahodayans will remember these days throughout their life and wish that they carry the message to others in spreading the awareness on the facilities for the differently abled.

#### **Exposure- Visit to Pachanady waste dumping yard and vermicomposting plant**

Centre for Social Concern has organized visit to Pachanady waste dumping yard and vermicomposting plant, for the first year degree students as a part of SAHAYA exposure. On 21, 22,27and 28th of October, students along with Lecturers visited the plant and learned about the procedure of waste disposal. This initiative aims to make students aware about the increasing threat of waste production in Mangalore. Ms Rashmi, Ms Roshal, Dr Vaishali Rai, Mr Vineeth, Mr Kiran, Dr Rose Veera and Dr Ishwar Bhat, faculties from different UG departments, along with Mr Sharon CN, Coordinator Centre for Social Concern, accompanied and guided the students.

#### **Exposure- Visit to Care & Support Centres:**

Centre for Social Concern organized visits to care & support centres working for different target groups, for the first-year degree students as a part of SAHAYA Exposure. Snehasadan care & support homes working with HIV infected Children at Kaikamba and Avemaria care & support home working for Palliative care at Mangaljyothi, were visited on 25th and 26th of November 2018. Students along with staff made interaction with the inmates and conducted recreational activities for them. Visit was aimed to sensitize students towards different social issues. Mr Arvind Kispotta, Ms Sahana and Ms Gopee, faculties from different UG departments.

**Exposure- UBA ( Unnat Bharath Abhiyan ) Survey:**

Centre for Social Concern conducted the base line survey for UBA (Unnat Bharath Abhiyan) scheme at Kandavara Panchayath, Mangalore. Students from different U.G departments were actively engaged in this activity as a part of SAHAYA programme. Students along with Lecturers made home-to-home visits in the community and collected the details regarding the social and financial aspects of families. It was on 20, 25, and 26th of October, in various areas of Kandavara Panchayath. Ms Shahana, Ms Gopee, Mr Arvind Kispotta, Mr Avinash, Ms Priya Monteiro, and Dr Ambarish, faculties from different U.G departments has accompanied and guided students along with Mr Sharon CN Coordinator, Centre for Social Concern.

**Exposure- Visit to Pachanady waste dumping yard and vermicomposting plant:**

Centre for Social Concern has organized visit to Pachanady waste dumping yard and vermicomposting plant, for the first-year degree students for SAHAYA exposure. On 10th 20th 27th and 28th of December, students along with Lecturers visited the plant and learnt about the procedure of waste management. This initiative aims to make students aware about the increasing threat of waste production in Mangalore. Ms Vinaya Dhurga, Mr Arun Dsouza and Mr Dileep, faculties from different UG departments, along with Mr. Sharon CN, Coordinator Centre for Social Concern, accompanied and guided the students.

**Exposure- Visit to care & support centers:**

Centre for Social Concern organized visits to care & support centers working with different target groups, for the first-year degree students as a part of SAHAYA Exposure. This exposure was conducted on 9th, 16th, 22nd, 27th, 28th, 29th and 31st of December. Institutions were Snehalaya, (Psychosocial rehabilitation Centre, Manjeshwar,) Sevasram ( Home for destitute, Derlakkatte) Paschim ( Rehabilitation centre, Ullal) Ave Maria (Palliative care, Mangal Jyothi), Animal care trust, Shakthinagara and Snehasadana ( Home for special children, Kaikamba). Students were active in interacting with the inmates, conducting recreational activities and providing physical assistance in these institutions. Mr Arun Dsouza, Dr Sana Shaik and Mr Harshith, faculties from different UG departments along with Mr. Sharon CN Coordinator Centre for Social Concern accompanied and guided students.

**Kalarava - Social outreach program**

Sahodaya an outreach programme for the empowerment of the differently challenged has over the past 19 years contributed significantly to the quality of the whole process of growing in knowledge

and experience by touching the hearts of the students. The etymological meaning of the word — Sahodaya is —Blossoming Together. The purpose of this unique programme was to befriend the physically challenged and in the very process be educated by blossoming one's own heart. Thus, both the benefactor and beneficiary, blossom together in the very act, in the very gesture and in the resulting process of such mutual interaction. It is a unique project towards the hearteducation of our students. This year we had embarked on an innovative and very unique event called Kalarava 2019 - a two-day state level interschool Cricket & cultural fest for the Visually Impaired on January 13-14, 2019. The event aimed to bring together the talented Visually Impaired students from the entire state and provide them a platform to display their talents in various performing arts and display their cricket skills. The special attractions of this year's Kalarava were the Cricket Tournament, Variety Entertainment, Mimicry and Quiz competitions for the visually impaired children. The event was inaugurated by Padmashree Shekhar Naik, former Captain of the Indian National Cricket Team of the Blind and Rev. Fr Dionysius Vaz SJ, Rector of St Aloysius Institutions was the president of the function. Sri Mahantesh G K, Founder & Chairman of Samarthanam International, President of World Blind Cricket Ltd. WBC and CABI was the Chief Guest of the valedictory programme and Rev. Dr Praveen Martis SJ, Principal, St Aloysius College (Autonomous) was the President of the Programme. Each participating school received a sum of Rs. 10,000/- as honorarium. Outstation schools were provided free accommodation and a travel allowance of Rs. 12,000/- each. The winners of Cricket Tournament were awarded a Trophy along with a cash prize of Rs.10,000/- and the Runners up of Cricket Tournament were awarded a Trophy along with a cash prize of Rs. 6,000/-. The winners of the Cultural Fest were awarded a Trophy along with a cash prize of Rs. 6,000/- and the Runners up were awarded a Trophy along with a cash prize of Rs. 4,000/-. Following are the names of the schools participated in the Cricket Tournament and Cultural Fest. The Deepa Academy for the Differently Abled – Bangalore, Sri Sharada Devi Andhara Vikasa Kendra – Shimoga.

### **Visit to Care and Support Centres –2**

Centre for Social concern organized visits for UG to care and support centres working with different target groups. These exposure were conducted on 19th and 20th of January 2019. Institutions were Paschim Rehabilitation Centre, Ullal (working for the destitutes) and Spporthidhama, Kundapura(Orphanage). Students were active in interacting with inmates, to understand their difficulties and also conducted recreational activities. Mr Avinash, Mr Nealdeep

Goswami, Ms Nisha, Ms Saritha, faculties from different UG Department and Ms K Gopika Coordinator Centre for Social Concern accompanied and guided the students.

**Visit to Care & Support Center:**

On 21st February Centre for Social Concern organized visit to care & support center Home for Aged, (Olavina Halli) working with different target groups, as a part of SAHAYA. Sr Andros Superior has given brief orientation about objectives, history and functions of the institution. Students were active in interacting with the inmates, conducting recreational activities. Ms K Gopika Coordinator Centre for Social Concern accompanied and guided students.

**Exposure- UBA (Unnat Bharath Abhiyan) Survey:**

Centre for Social Concern conducted the base line survey for UBA (Unnat Bharath Abhiyan) scheme at Gulpura and Kandavara villages on 18th,19th and 20th of February 2019. Students from the U.G department of Commerce were actively engaged in this exposure as a part of SAHAAYA . Students made House-to-House visits in the community and collected the details regarding the social and financial aspects of families. Sharon CN, coordinator Centre for Social Concern has accompanied and guided.

**Exposure- Awareness programme on the ‘need to segregate solid waste into wet and dry before handing it over to the waste collectors’:**

Centre for Social Concern organized an awareness programme for the General Public on the need to segregate solid waste into wet and dry before handing it over to the waste collectors on 03-02-2019 at Kooeikkatte area of Tannirbhavi. This programme was organized in collaboration with Mangalore City Corporation. Students from the U.G Dept. of Commerce actively participated in this effort as a part of SAHAAYA exposure. Students made house to House visits in the community and spoke to people regarding the matter. In addition to oral awareness, Students stuck posters regarding the matter on the walls of Houses which they visited. Students were accompanied and guided by Mr Arun Kumar, Assistant Health inspector, and Mr. Dileep, faculty from the U.G department of Computer applications along with Mr. Sharon.CN, Coordinator Centre for Social Concern

**Exposure-Interaction with the members of Narcotic Anonymous team:**

Centre for Social Concern organized and gave an opportunity to U.G students from various Science streams to interact with the members of NA (Narcotic Anonymous) team regarding the matters related to substance abuse as a part of SAHAAYA. This programme was conducted at TELOCA,



an NGO working with substance abusers at Ullal. Students had a very active interaction with the members of Narcotic anonymous team, who were addicted to different substances in the past and, now trying to discourage people from experiencing these sorts of drugs. Members were very successful in explaining the students about various aspects of substance abuse such as ways of getting attracted towards drugs, reasons for getting addicted and need to live a sober life etc. Students were accompanied and U.G department of Botany along with Mr. Sharon CN.

### **Exposure- Source reduction programme to control Malaria and other vector- borne diseases**

Centre for Social Concern organized a source reduction programme to control Malaria and other vector-borne diseases on 10- 02-2019 at Jyothi Nagara, which is a semi –urban slum nearby Kavour. This programme was conducted in collaboration with Mangalore City Corporation. Students visited houses in the community and poured out water from the stagnant water resources which are mainly the breeding source of Mosquitoes. Students were addressed by Dr Arun, District Malaria control officer in the morning, about the need for participation of general public in these kinds of efforts. Students were accompanied and guided by Mr Shown D Souza along with Mr Sharon CN.

### **Exposure- Assessment of English language skills of the Government School children:**

Centre for Social Concern organized an Assessment of English language skills for the Government School children as a part SAHAAYA. This exposure was conducted on 16th and 21st of February 2019 at different institutions. On 16th, it was conducted for the inmates of backward community hostel, Gulpura and on 21st, for the children of ZPHS, Kinnikambla. Students with the help of assessment tools and written materials assessed the abilities of children in speaking, reading and writing English language and sorted children into different categories based on their performance. Centre for Social Concern plans to arrange tuition classes in a continuous manner for the children whose performance is unsatisfactory, with the help of students from different U.G streams, in future, as a part of SAHAAYA.

### **Visit to Paschim Rehabilitation Centre**

On February 7th 2019, First year and Second-year students of PG Dept. of Economics paid a visit to Paschim Rehabilitation centre, Ullal. Students had a very memorable experience there interacting with the inmate at the centre.

### **Joy of Giving- Aloysius Boys Home visit by MBA**

MBA students under the guidance of Mr. Lestan Dsouza, Coordinator for JOY OF GIVING along with Prajwal, students' coordinator and the team organized Children's' Day program to entertain children from Aloysian Boys Home. Fifty children attended the program. The program ended with a sumptuous lunch sponsored by the fund collected by students for various activities to celebrate Joy of Giving.

### **Exposure- Visit to Care & Support Center - Paschim Rehab**

Centre for Social Concern organized visits to care & support centre, for the first year degree students, as a part of SAHAYA. These exposures were conducted on 14th and 16th December 2019. A total of 58 Students from B.Com Department visited to PASCHIM (Psychosocial rehabilitation Centre, Ullal) and 53 students from BA department visited Ave Maria Palliative Care Centre Mangalajyothi. Students were active in interacting with the inmates, conducting recreational activities and providing voluntary services in this institution.

### **Play ground renovation and wall painting at Chithrapura and Katipalla Government Schools**

Play is the key to physical, mental, intellectual and social well being of children. It influences hugely on almost every developmental aspect of children's lives holistically and with multifaceted ways. School playgrounds play important role in their daily life for fulfilling their interest, development and learning needs. Therefore, on 15th December 2019, as a part of SAHAYA exposure Centre for Social Concern has helped to prepare a playground for Government Higher Primary school children at Katipalla and Chithrapura by using waste materials. Around 58 students from Arts streams took initiative in it. Ms. Shruthi and Mr Sathish Nayak from the department of UG Computer Animation guided the students. Students utilized their skill of art and painting in order to create an attractive playground.

### **Rural Immersion Experience program in checking the reality of rural people- AIMIT**

The Department of MBA, AIMIT took the students into remote North Karnataka for their annual Rural immersion experience program from 13-19 January 2020. Total number of Students who participated was 182. Students were divided into four groups and visited four main regions- Hangal - Roshni Nilaya; Hangal – LVK; Pannur and Nesargi. The program commenced with an orientation session where some ground realities of what the students can expect when they visit the backward villages for the rural immersion program were aired, followed by the purpose it serves. The dual purpose of the visit is to promote the urge to pursue higher education in the students of villages as

well to create an image in the minds of the parents of what higher education represents. The students stayed with the family members of the Self Help Group (SHG) members of the villages which is run in tandem by the Jesuits society.



*Brenna*