

7.2 Best Practices I

1. Title of the Practice:

Women Empowerment

2. Objectives of the Practice:

Besant Women's College caters only to women at the undergraduate level and has a majority of women at the Post graduation level. Most of them come from the under privileged, economically disadvantaged and are first generation education seekers. As they are multifariously affected by the backwardness and discrimination. The college has a vision and Mission statement to admit all without discrimination and has resolved to take up the cause of women empowerment for the students with the objectives of :

- Providing adequate opportunities for the students to take part in the various associations / Committees / Cells/ & student council activities, to develop and excel in the requisite skills besides academics.
- Mentoring, tutorial and counselling initiatives is provided in order to understand and reflect upon subjects, issues and challenges with a ratio of 1:20 students the mentees help them in the pertinent problems at the one-on-one discussion. If any advance level problems exists, specialized services are arranged.
- Creating a conducive atmosphere through awareness programmes to enable the students to realise their full potential for learning and solving their problems independently through peer learning, quality circle, and flip learning initiatives.
- Arranging leadership programmes / sessions to inculcate the qualities of leadership and helping them pursue the path of entrepreneurship in various sectors.
- Providing special sessions on gender issues to create awareness of the evil design's by professional criminals who indulge in the worst type of exploitation their by taking advantage of their innocence and emotional blackmailing .
- For Analytical, Reflective thinking and decision making, numerous sessions were organized throughout the year by the Research and development cell and the Women Cell of the college. The students are monitored and follow up is given at different levels.
- Extra Co-curricular activities including organizing debates and discussions, touching upon the areas of gender equity and a special thrust on the issue of Transgenders was also made not only to broaden the academics but also to realise gender sensitization, thus leading to more equality and harmony in family and society.
- Extending financial assistance and midday meal facility to the poor and deserving students and helping them acquire their degree
- Awareness through display campaign and sessions on ragging, eve-teasing and dowry system to expose the ill effects of the evils were conducted by the department of Sociology and Anti-ragging cell.

- Providing for free primary health services of women related health problems by lady doctors and creating awareness through the student council by word of mouth on the importance of sanitation, personal hygiene and prevention of seasonal diseases like Malaria and Dengue. Encouraging students to participate in the Swatch Abhiyan conference as well as outreach activity.
- Developing Vocational and Technical skills among the students by providing career guidance and placement cell services to enable them to become economically independent. Various short term skill oriented certificate programmes are in operation
- Organising Blood donation camps, Hemoglobin test, tackling the social and Health Consequences.
- Bequest/ MEDHASS / INNOVISION – a quest for excellence and cultural programme is organized in the campus. The fests broadens the students' academic horizon and thirst for culture. Development, protection and preservation of Dakshina Kannada culture in particular and Karnataka at large.

3. The context

- The students in the beginning were hesitant and had shown moderate enthusiasm to participate in the discussions and deliberation due to first time higher education seekers
- At the Parent Teachers Association level, some parents opined that the awareness / sensitization programmes are less effective and hence the very purpose of sending their wards to college is baseless.
- The deans and faculty members had to visit certain families and persuade the parents that all programmes were meant for the welfare and empowerment of their daughters.
- Some parents even found fault with the college as their children were made to stay in the college beyond working hours for irrelevant and counter productive programmes without releasing it as extra curricular activities.
- Gender sensitization sessions were designed to expose the many disparities and inequalities that were not noticed earlier.
- The various legal protective provisions for women were misunderstood as an undue favour meant to belittle men.

Under these circumstances, the college has thought it appropriate to forge ahead with the implementation of its objectives, for which various associations / Cells / Committees are created.

4. The practice

In spite of liberalization, Privatization, Globalization, Computerization and Digitalization, Discrimination against women is a reality. India still has a long way to achieve the fullest potentials of women growth and development referred to as empowerment. The majority of our students belong to the weaker sectors, other backward classes and minorities without proper access to higher education. Therefore, they remain largely as the marginalized poor and socially inequitable. Joining higher education and acquiring a degree involves finance and other resources. So the Economically disadvantaged and traditional bound parents reluctantly admit their daughters to college. However, being the most vibrant and dynamic segment, they are the most valuable human resources. One cannot afford to neglect our feminine race to be the victims of discrimination, exploitation and segregation. Thus the Management of the college has resolved to empower students to face Home and the world successfully leading to a life of peace, harmony and dignity.

To achieve the objectives the college has strengthened Women cell, Entrepreneurial Development cell, the Besant Skill Development Centre and other auxiliary cells with a faculty member as its coordinators along with other members and students secretaries. All students are eligible to take membership of the cells irrespective of their status and can pursue short term skill oriented certificate programmes along with the enhancement of subject domains. The co-ordinators and members meet every Saturday from 11.30 to 12.30pm. A plan of action is drawn semesterwise for organizing for various programmes including seminars/Workshops and interactive sessions. The Principal, IQAC Coordinator and NAAC Coordinator along with the respective Coordinators monitor the implemented plan of action.

The coordinators and its members are responsible for the execution of the programme in consultation with external agencies, Academicians, Technical expertise including Govt agencies. These cells work for the protection of women's right and actively empowers women by creating conditions for gaining confidence in their abilities. It aims at curbing the social evils, providing necessary counselling and guidance. It also takes care of the wellbeing and overall holistic development of the students.

- The college organised several programmes including tailoring course to help students gain the skills for employability, higher education, entrepreneurship and social life.

5. Evidence of Success :

- The student President Nisha III B.Com(1), Vice President Varsha Pawar a successful NSS co-ordinator of IIIB.Com(2) and Swasthika - IIIB.Com(1) student secretary of the Women cell and other members of the students council were inspired by various awareness programmes which also included leadership training.

- Many of our students secured distinctions and are pursuing studies in M.Com, M.B.A, M.A , M.Sc & B.Ed.
- The credit of organizing the college fest Bequest/Medhass/Innovision which was organized on 14th & 15th Feb 2019, goes to the students. 37 colleges participated which was a record created in the history of the college.
- Innovarious a National conference was also organized by the PG students on “Youth entrepreneurship in current competitive arena”. 250 delegates from different colleges participated and the proceedings of the conference is brought out through a journal.
- Students have also taken part in the campus placement. Few of them have entered the corporate sectors.
- To boost their abilities and energies, students participated in the brain storming sessions, promoted Quality Circle and have come out with so many solutions to the college on green initiatives, Swachh Abhiyana and community development services. Students also took part in the various sports competition at the University level. Ms. Suhani Shetty of 2nd M.com secured 2nd place in the state level volleyball Tournament held at Mysore

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required.

- The modest and diffident students were reluctant to cross their academic borders affecting the successful conduct of awareness programs
- It is difficult to retain the students after 3.30 for any special programmes as most of the students come from the neighbouring state of Kerala.
- Ensuring the all round support and participation of faculty members in the programmes is also a tough task.
- Students impulsiveness on issues of love in the adolescent age is a sensitive issue to be dealt with by the lady faculty members.
- Organising various programmes during working hours, has caused hindrance to class work.
- Due to inadequate financial resources, It is often difficult to choose subject expertise (Resource Persons) in the domain subject area.

Best Practices II

1. Title of the Practice: “Financial Aid and Midday meal”

2. Objectives:

a) Financial Aid

- To help the economically backward students to meet their educational costs
- To reduce drop outs and absenteeism
- To help students to focus on their studies by limiting the distraction such as worries about how to pay the fees

b) Midday Meal

- To better the nutritional status of the deserving needy students
- To meet the needs of those students who travel from distant and rural places
- To address two Sustainable Development Goals i.e. Zero Hunger and Quality Education.

3. The Context: The students are most likely to be successful in college when they are able to focus on their studies. Financial aid provided in the college can make that possible by limiting distractions such as students’ worries about how they will be able to afford college admission and examination fees. The purpose of Financial Aid is to ensure that each student has sufficient resources to enable them to attend college. The vast majority of parents are beedi roller, single parent or unemployed. Though the students want to continue their education, parents are not willing to send them to the college due to financial problem. In this context, our college management provides fee concession. Our friendly teaching staff helps those needy students by providing financial assistance during admission and also helps them to pay examination fees. The PTA and Alumni also provide financial aid to the poor students.

The College provides free mid-day meals in the canteen to deserving needy students who belong to socially and economically deprived sections of the society and those who travel from distant and rural places. Most of the students who start early from home, cannot have breakfast at home or bring tiffin to the college. Due to this fact that students are not able to concentrate in their studies with empty stomach and there is a need to focus upon the Mid-day meals scheme, to overcome student’s short term hunger.

The Practice: While selecting the students for financial aid and mid-day meal preference will be given to the deserving students who are economically poor. The College Canteen has made special provisions for serving midday meals. Students are expected to maintain discipline, cleanliness enforced by the College authorities.

Procedure:

- Applications will be available in the Office of the college.
- Duly filled in applications with signatures of the parents must be submitted to the Principal with the recommendation from the Class Mentors within the stipulated date.
- The list of selected students will be notified to such students by the Principal through the class mentors.
- To avail mid-day meals facility the selected students are required to collect token from the office every day morning.

4. Evidence of Success:

Mid-day meals:

Sl. No.	Year	PTA	Alumni	Management	Syed Khader	Staff Club	Total
1	2018-19	86	05	40	-	-	131
2	2019-20	100	05	40	05	04	154

Financial Aid

Sl. No.	Year	PTA	Alumni	Management	Fee Concession	Teaching Staff	Aubrey D'souza Charitable Trust	KSWF	Total
1	2018-19	30	16	30	PG- 08 UG - 111	35	21	12	263

Fee Concession	- 4,83,435
PTA	- 30,000
Alumni	- 16,000
Management	- 30,000
Teachers	- 1,36,260
KSWF (aided)	- 8,160
KSWF (Unaided)	- 7,320
Aubrey D'Souza Charitable Trust	- 32,500

5. Problems encountered and Resources Required

Many applications are received for Mid-day meals. But, the fund is not enough to provide this facility for all those students who have applied. If a few NGO's, clubs or Trusts come forward to donate, more number of students could be included and to provided financial aid and mid-day meals. This year for the first time the fund is utilized from the staff club towards mid-day meal by increasing Staff club membership fees.

7.1.4 Inclusion and Situatedness						
Enlist most important initiatives taken to address locational advantages and disadvantages during the year						
Year	Number of initiatives to address locational advantages and disadvantages	Number of initiatives taken to engage with and contribute to local community	Date and duration of the initiative	Name of the initiative	Issues addressed	Number of participating students and staff
2018	1	18	21-08-2018	Flood Relief Fund	Financial assistance to the people affected by flood in Kodagu district	92
2018	1	1	5-12-2018	Blood donation camp	Highlighted the importance and benefits of donating blood & saving lives	15
2019	1	1	1-03-2019	Workshop on First Aid training	Awareness on simple first aid techniques	44
2018	1	1	7-09-2018	Literacy Day	To instil the importance of higher education among primary students of Bokkapatna Government School	25
2019	1	1	29-01-2019	'Comedy Premier League'-Tulu comedy skit shooting for local channel V4	Opportunity to watch the process of recording	200
2019	1	1	March 2019	Conduct of English classes	Kannada medium students of Besant school were benefitted	70
2019	1	1	4-01-2019	Blood Donation Camp at Wenlock Hospital	Highlighted the importance and benefits of donating blood	34
2019	1	1	8-03-2019	Menstrual Hygiene programme	To bring awareness on sanitation and hygiene – extended to Besant Primary School children	150
2018	1	1	5-10-2018	Free Eye check-up Camp	To get their eye checked and get treatment free of cost	100

2018	1	1	26-07-2018	Community service for the special children of Ria Hope Farm	To know how to handle such children	61
2018	1	1	21-07-2018	Ban Plastic campaign and planting of fruit plants at Ullala	Awareness on environment protection through distributing cotton cloth bags to the people at Ullala and planting the saplings	300 + 10
2018	1	1	1-08-2018	Extension activities at Ave Mariya Paliative Care Centre, Vamanjoor	Financial aid - Lectures and students raised Rs.7000/and given to the Paliative care Center. This taught the students to be compassionate towards the weak, and elders.	70
2018	1	1	22-09-2018	Students and staff participated in Clean up and Anti-pollution drive at Mangalore Railway station organised by APD (NGO) and Anti-pollution Board	Social Responsibility and Community Services by the students by cleaning the public place	137
2018	1	1	2-10-2018	Community service programme at Mudushedde	Assisted the public to fill the application and to get Labour card	30
2018	1	1	31-10-2018	'INNOVARIOUS'- National Conference	Helped to develop entrepreneurial mindset among students in order to enhance their employability	340
2019	1	1	20-02-2019	Camp on Haemoglobin count test	Testing of haemoglobin count of the residents of Naringana Panchayath and created awareness on the importance of haemoglobin and eating habits	50
2018	1	1	28-08-2018	Anti-drug Rally	Creating of awareness among the general public on anti-drug	86
2019	1	1	11-04-2019	Financial assistance towards one day's food expenses to the inmates of orphanage- Bala Samrakshana Kendra, Kuthar	To create human values	65 beneficiaries
2019	1	1	23-03-2019	Dance and music training at orphanage- Bala Samrakshana Kendra, Kuthar	Contribution to the local community	20 + 3
	1	1	21-09-2018			39

2018				Visit to orphanage- 'Baalikashram'	Distributed fruits, vegetables and grocery items	
2019	1	1	10-01-2019	Drug Awareness Programme	Won I prize in Placard making competition and participated in drug awareness rally	39
2019	1	1	4-02-2019	Cancer Awareness Programme	Rally / walkaton on Caner awareness	39
2018	1	1	1-09-2018	Attended inaugural function of 'World Alzheimers month'	Interaction with Alzheimers affected people	90 (approx..)