

BEST PRACTICES -1

TITLE OF THE PRACTICE: My Birthday with MCC

THE CONTEXT:

Government Brennen College is one of the prominent centres of education in Malabar area. It delivers quality education to the society and also works as an effective organization for formation of civic culture in the society. The institution has undertaken many socially useful assignments to make students socially useful and also to make the college a centre for social action and reformation. Thalsseery is a medical hub for the nearby hilly areas and villages.

Malabar Cancer Centre, Thalassery (MCC) is an autonomous institution under Health and Family Welfare Department, Government of Kerala. It is located at Kodyeri, Thalassery of Kannur District and was established in 2001. At present MCC has 220 in-patient bed strength and the Institute caters to patients from 7 Districts of Northern Kerala in addition to the neighbouring states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Mahe. The centre provide comprehensive cancer care. Majority of the patients belong to socially and economically weaker sections of the society. Around 90-97% are treated either free of cost or at subsidized rate using any of the financial assistance scheme.

The disease affects the person and family in divergent ways. The mental and emotional distresses even cause some patients to detach themselves from the medicines. Many patients need community support and personal attention.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE:

Institutions of higher learning are conceived as centres of social transformation. They have to build up good citizens who has to acquire intellectual and social learnings. It is understood that voluntary contributions and personal level sacrifices are a very effective social learning process. It can make students into accomplished citizens who are morally upright and socially-oriented. The future leaders of social transformation have to inculcate values of empathy and compassion for the poor and the needy . The college considers ‘ *My Birthday with MCC*’ as an act of social commitment and social formation. The project is also a platform to promote the awareness on charity and social involvement. It is an attempt to realize the objectives and visions of the institution.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- To make students and academic community aware about the need of charity and social involvement
- To extend necessary financial aid for the patients in need
- To make the students aware about the issues of the disease-Cancer
- To build up a network of voluntary charity organisations outside the college.
- To transform the students into responsible citizens and active respondents.
- To train the students in social ethics and social values

THE PRACTICE:

In beginning of the academic year an orientation programme is conducted by the college to make students aware about the social involvement. This message is also conveyed through the induction programmes organized by various departments. After the commencement of the classes, students were asked to form groups and group co ordinators were selected. They have to work as '*My Birthday with MCC*' ambassadors. A chart of student details prepared with dates of birthday. The willing students were asked to deposit the amount they intend to spend on their birthday celebration, in a collection box

On the birthday of a donating student, he/she donates the amount earmarked for birthday for the project. The class celebrate the birthday by honouring the student for his activity. This will motivate other students and others also join the donation campaign. Once the collection box is full or when a particular case appears before the organisers the collected funds will be handed over to the deserving students. The students also participate in the collection handover programme.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- The programme still suffers from some misconceptions in the minds of participants.
- There is an increasing demand for funds from the hospitals and patients. At times it becomes difficult to meet the demands
- The programme is running without any financial burden to the college. If the college can also contribute a share in donation it will be an added advantage

Evidence of Success

The patients of Thalassery MCC are underprivileged and financially backward. And the majority of them are women and children. The project was successful in extending their financial burden. Another success of the project was that the student community become more responding and active. They are now ready to associate with charity initiatives without much pressure.

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BEST PRACTICES -2

TITLE OF THE PRACTICE: - V4U

THE CONTEXT:

COVID-19, a pandemic disease caused by a novel strain of corona virus was first detected in the city of Wuhan in China in December 2019. In a few weeks time it has rapidly spread across the world putting humanity into an unprecedented crisis. One of the best approved method to prevent the pandemic is social distancing and washing hands.t Keeping hands clean is recommended as an important stepwe can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. With COVID-19 transmission mainly spreading between people through direct, indirect, or close contact with infected people via mouth and nose secretions, washing hands with soap and running water is of critical importance. To stop the spread of COVID-19, along with other COVID appropriate behaviours, the practice of handwashing at regular intervals is a must, after coughing or sneezing, when caring for the sick, after using the toilet, before eating, while preparing food and after handling animals or animal waste. Handwashing after touching common surfaces such as doorknobs or handles, or after one comes back home from visiting a public place will keep ourselves and others around us safe. The medical experts suggest the use of alcohol based sanitizer for handwash as the most effective method.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE:

Government Brennen College is one of the notable academic institution in Malabar area. It delivers quality education to the society and also works as an effective organization for formation of civic culture in the society. The institution has undertaken many socially useful assignments to make

ensure community involvement and social transformation. Institutions of higher learning are conceived as centres of social transformation. They have to build up good citizens who has to acquire intellectual and social learnings. They have to be trained in social commitment and responsible citizenship.

It is understood that the pandemic Covid-19 has brought a lot of challenges in our social life. One of the earliest concern here is to prevent the spread of the pandemic and the use of good quality sanitizer is a must for ensuring personal hygiene. In the initial days of the pandemic the stock of sanitizers was very low in the open market. It is in this context Government Brennen College implemented a project 'V4U'. It means that the college and its advantages stand for the community. The purpose of the institution is to serve the community.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- To support the efforts of the state to prevent the spread of Covid-19
- To extend necessary good quality sanitizer to nearby people and local community
- To make the students aware about the issues of the pandemic
- To build up a network of voluntary charity organisations outside the college.
- To transform the students into responsible citizens and active respondents.
- To train the students in social ethics and social values

THE PRACTICE:

During the outbreak of the dreaded pandemic of Covid-19, the Brennen fraternity has proved its social commitment. The Department of Chemistry has come up with an innovative as well as prompt project of preparing Hand Sanitizer, under the banner **V4U** as an effective measure to check the spread of the disease. More than 50 litres of hand sanitizer was prepared and distributed to various organisations and institutions like Dharmadam Panchayat, Dharmadam Police Station and the nearby public places like bus stops and markets. Shashtra Sahitya Parishat- a state wide NGO to promote scientific learning and practices also joined hands with the college in this venture. The college also provided sanitizer needed for the Examination hall and the office of Brennen College. The project was well appreciated by the authorities and society.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- The programme met with financial constraints as the funding was limited
- There is an increasing demand for sanitizers, but the production capacity was limited due to the limitations of infrastructure and materials.

- The spread of the pandemic restrained the movement of faculty and students and the project was to be run on minimum human resources.

Evidence of Success

The project was well appreciated from the community. Sanitizers were distributed to a number of entities and people.

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