

BPHE Society's

CSRD-Institute of Social Work and Research,

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IQAC

7.2.1. Two best practices (2019-20)

Best practice 1.

Title: Fulbright Specialist Programme

Objectives:

- Promote international faculty exchange
- Promote cultural sensitivity, respect for diversity, and international social work practice
- Faculty development of the host institution
- Promotion of the students of the host institutions

Context:

The Institute was approved Fullbright Specialist Programme for hosting Fullbright Prof. Pallassana Balgopal, Professor Emeritus, Illinois University, USA. Prof. Balgopal was at our Institute during 23rd November 2019 to 18th January 2020.

Practise:

During this period Prof. Balgopal interacted with students, field faculty and social work practitioners to learn the fundamentals of structural and process components of social group work and how they are specifically modified for the Indian context. He further oriented the faculty and trained them to consolidate and contextualize their experience for developing teaching resources. Series of workshops were held and the Specialist guided the faculty to document their experiences for teaching social group work. The social work faculty teaching this course and the practicing social workers were engaged in developing resources by consolidating their experiences. The specialist provided guidance for documenting and presenting the available resource in a structured manner to use as teaching resources. The specialist conducted a week long workshop for the one hundred and ten students who were studying MSW. The students were guided on the knowledge and skills of social group work practice.

Evidence of Success:

As a result of this faculty exchange programme, the teachers of the Institute improved their writing skills. They produced certain indigenous social work literature. The students got an international learning experience and they improved their reading habits.

Problems encountered and Resources required:

The students of the Institute had the challenge to follow the language of the international faculty member. Whenever, international faculty exchanges are undertaken the service of a translator would be ideal.

Best practice 2.

Title: Fieldwork in Flood Affected Villages of Kolhapur District

Objectives:

- To give opportunity for students to practice disaster management skills during flood
- To provide necessary relief and provisions to the flood hit villages
- To provide counselling and guidance services to the flood hit people, especially the children and the youth

Context:

In August 2019, several villages in Kolhapur were badly hit by unexpected flood. Several families were displaced. NSS units of several colleges under Savitribai Phule Pune University reached the flood hit villages in rotation to distribute relief provisions. The adverse impacts upon the education of the children and the livelihood of the farmers continued for several months after the flood. The rehabilitation works were carried out by several NGOs and Government agencies for about an year. The students and faculty members of the Institute took their turn to reach out to these flood hit villages in February 2020.

Practise:

In response to the natural disaster, CSRD has organized fieldwork in flood affected villages of the Shirol block of Kolhapur district. Students were engaged in assessing the flood situation, mapping the need of the families, documenting the narratives by the victims and also helping local government and non-government organizations for providing help to needy families. The Institute distributed educational material to children in affected schools. The material like notebooks, Pen, Colour Box, Geometry Box etc. was collected by students of CSRD and staff of Lokmat and Daily. Total 25 students were placed in four different villages with the support from Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Sheti Sanshodhan Sanstha. The villages where the students conducted flood relief operation were Bastwad, Herwad, Danwad and Khidrapur at Tal. Shirol, Dist. Kolhapur.

Evidence of Success:

The rehabilitation works of the students and the faculty members were much appreciated by the village communities and the civil authorities. The students learnt the skills of need based interventions during natural disasters. They also improved their counselling and guidance skills.

Problems encountered and Resources required:

The interventions were limited to one month and sustainability of the students' initiatives was short lived. It was found out that there is need for long term interventions such as continued guidance and counselling of the children and the youth which requires additional manpower and resources.