

SIES College of Commerce and Economics, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022.

Best Practices

1. Title of the Practice

Social Outreach Program - REACH

2. Objectives of the Practice

The college aims to reach out to diverse set of stakeholders and instill inclusive mindset and practices amongst its students and staff. It creates socially responsible students for today and tomorrow. This also gives an opportunity to make our learners socially capable individuals who can create a positive difference to the society. This also ensures holistic development and enrichment of the learners. It creates several pathways for the learners to pursue in their present and future to make our world a better place to live in where there will be equity, justice and equal opportunities to all.

3. Context

The college strives to sensitize learners and equip them with knowledge, resources, systems and practices for environment conservation, physical and mental health improvement, hygiene & sanitation, empowering women, children & underprivileged, community enrichment, and national integration. Each year the institute is creating new benchmarks in making meaningful contribution towards the society and also channelizing the energies of its learners. The above mentioned areas have been our focus by keeping in mind the physical and social infrastructure at the macro level.

4. Practice

Following are the various activities being led by NSS, WDC, DLLE, Rotract and by students across courses:

Environment

Tree Plantation Drive, Making and distribution of Eco- Friendly cloth bags, enacting Street plays to create environment awareness.

Health & Hygiene

Administration of Hepatitis & Polio Vaccination, Stem Cell Registration, Blood donation drive, Platelets donation drive, Awareness of Leprosy, rally on Diabetes awareness, Diabetes Checkup camp menstrual hygiene workshop, Beach Clean-up and Station clean up Drive

Women Empowerment

Talk on gender sensitization, lecture on PCOS, Cyber Ethics, Yuvak Yuvati Mela, self-defense training program, training on zumba, jewellery making and brownie baking.

National Integration

Celebration of Independence day and Republic day, tree plantation drive to promote green India, celebration of International Peace Day

Community & Infrastructure support

Acting as Friends of Police and handling traffic during Ganpati Visarjan, Painting at Sion station with Social messages thereby creating awareness on Rail Safety, Conducting Voter ID Awareness and Registration for students and people in the vicinity, Construction of small check dams for the villagers & Painting of the community hall of the village at Shivansai Ambe village, Panvel

Inclusive practices

Tie up with National association of Disabled enterprise (NADE) for distribution of food grains for Blind and disabled persons, Assisting in sale of Diyas made by Autistic Children, Teaching sessions at Karamvir Baburao Patil Vidyalaya.

5. Evidence of Success

The college has maintained regular and ongoing tie up with the following organisations for enabling the learners to achieve progress on social frontiers. Alert India, Sion Hospital and Blood Bank, Think Foundation, Marrow Registry of India, LTMG, Sion, Akshara foundation and Maharashtra State Women's Commission, Stree Mukti

Sangathana, Central Railways (Sion & Dadar), United Way Foundation, Majlis, MCGM, Bal Anand World Children Welfare Trust, National association of Disabled enterprise, WINGS NGO, Aashadaan, Akshara Foundation, GIFT NGO. The institute aims to build long term engagement with many such organisations and create strong and sustainable partnerships.

6. Problems Encountered

Learners find it difficult to balance the competing goals of academics, co-curricular, extra-curricular and social outreach programs. Also lack of incentives in the form of credits for their contribution also deters them for active involvement.