

## **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 the under privileged and in doing so, instill inclusive mindset and practices amongst its students and staff. It also aims to create socially responsible students for today and tomorrow. This also gives an opportunity to make our learners socially capable individuals who can make a positive difference to society. This also ensures enrichment for learners and society at large.

#### **3. Context**

As a step towards creating a just, equitable and safe society, the college strives to sensitize learners and equip them with knowledge, resources, systems and practices for environmental conservation, physical and mental health improvement, hygiene & sanitation, empowering women, children & underprivileged, community enrichment, and national integration. Each year the institute makes efforts to channelize the energies of its learners towards social betterment. The above mentioned areas have been our focus by keeping in mind the physical and social infrastructure around us.

Since SIES motto is: Rise with Education, the college's ISR activities are aimed at providing a healthy learning and enabling environment for underprivileged children in urban, rural and Adivasi areas.

#### **4. Practice**

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

## **Environment**

Nature trails, Anti- plastic campaign and distribution of Eco- Friendly newspaper bags, beach clean-up, Eco- friendly Ganpati Utsav, E- waste disposal and Green Campus Certification, organizing Sustainability Live Exhibition and e- projects by students, organized national seminar on Innovations in Sustainability and seminar on Waste Management, recycling of plastic bottles in “Bottles for change” project in collaboration with Bisleri, guest lectures were organized on environmental awareness, promotion of paperless events, tree plantation drive and distribution of saplings and Bio- composting. E- magazines were circulated instead of physical copies. Street plays on water conservation were performed.

## **Health & Hygiene**

Created awareness on Pandemics, Epidemics and Immunisation, created awareness on Yoga and Health, Polio Vaccination drive, Stem Cell Registration, Blood donation drive, Platelets donation drive, Awareness of Leprosy, rally on Diabetes awareness, Diabetes and Health Checkup camp, menstrual hygiene workshop, Beach Clean-up and Station clean up Drive.

## **Women Empowerment**

Session on POSH, self- defense training, creating awareness on women empowerment, talk on gender sensitization, training on zumba, calligraphic punch craft, next gender competition, street play on educating the girl child.

## **National Integration**

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

## **Community & Infrastructure support**

Acting as Friends of the Police and handling traffic during Ganpati Visarjan, Painting at Sion station with Social messages thereby creating awareness on Rail Safety, Community outreach at Shivansai Ambe village, Panvel and Ashramshala School, Gothegar, Construction of check-dams, Cleaning of village streets and school premises, Refurbishing of water tank walls, Working with senior citizens, participating in the Kotak Education Foundation project.

## **Inclusive practices**

Dharavi Education Project, tie up with Sevadaan special school, assisting in sale of diyas made by special children.

## **5. Evidence of Success**

- As part of SIES ISR, to develop and maintain Zilla Parishad and Adivasi ashramshala schools in and around Mumbai/ Thane, the college has contributed to the upkeep and maintenance of Adivasi Seva Mandal's Gothegar Ashramshala.

The college aims to continue its efforts to make the ashramshala a model school, with all necessary amenities

- The college has maintained regular and ongoing tie up with the following organizations for enabling the learners to achieve progress on social frontiers. The Bombay Young Men's Christian Association, Rajawadi Hospital, Child vision foundation, Khushiyaan Foundation, Indian cancer society, Aditya jyot hospital, Chembur children's home, Welfare of stray dogs, Don Bosco shelter, NGO Shuddhi, Kotak Education Foundation, NGO SHED, Access Life, Vatsalya trust, Jeevan Jyot Cancer Relief & Care Trust, Paraplegic Foundation (Sion Hospital), Magician Foundation India, Society for Human and Environmental Development, Karmayogi Charitable Trust, We Change, Nirmal Jyot, Pratham, Stree Mukti Sangathan, Shri Ramchandra Love and Care, Inner Wheel Club of Mumbai, We rise Foundation (Old Age home), RAWW Resqink Association for Wildlife Welfare, Sevadham special school, Earth Angels Welfare Foundation.

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. Distance and commuting difficulties also act as a deterrent. Lack of incentives in the form of credits for their contribution also deters them for active involvement.