Matushri Kanbai Lalbai & Motibai Lohana Kanyashala & Balikagruh's B.L. Amlani College of Commerce & Economics M.R. Nathwani College of Arts

INSTITUTIONAL BEST PRACTICES

Best Practice 1:- Empowering Girls From Under Privileged Class From Rural Areas Of Gujrat To Aspire For Higher Education.

Goal:- The college, with encouragement and support from dedicated and visionary management, empowers under privileged women of Kutchi, Halai and Ghoghari Lohana Caste or community from rural areas of Gujarat by providing them with higher education.

The Context: It was observed that there were very few colleges in rural Gujarat (Rajkot, Probandar, Verawal)imparting higher education tounder privileged women of Kutchi, Halai and Ghoghari Lohana Caste or community from rural areas of Gujarat. Due to financial and social constraints the women were deprived of higher education. Hence our college and management established this best practice to empower rural women.

The Practice:

- Applications are invited through advertisement in fifty community magazines
- Word of mouth publicity, personal contacts and references from the rural women aspiring for higher education.
- Panel interviews are conducted before the commencement of the academic year wherein the management and faculty members interact with parent-student.
- The aspiring students are counseled in the panel interview
- Depending on the financial and social condition of the student further hostel and college fee concession is given.
- The management provides subsidized hostel fees, subsidized or free education to needy girls from Gujarat and enrolls them in college for higher education.

Evidence of Success:-

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- In last five years more than 80% of girls got their graduation under this programme
- 60% of girls pursued post graduation/ professional programmes.

Problems Encountered and Resources required :- Coming from very conservative families it is a challenge to convince the parents and family member to educate and empower girl child. The management and faculty members counsel parents and provide the financial resources to enable them to educate the girl child.

Best Practice 2:- Knowing Yourself - reawakening the 'me' that is within. Goal:-

- To deepen and strengthen students' faith in themselves, their parents, their religion.
- To nudge students to discover themselves their uniqueness, their worth, their potential.
- To help students discover a meaning to their lives, to cope up ups and downs.
- To help students to be devoted, dedicated children and citizens.
- To help students to inculcate values, principles and morals.

The Context:-

- To find an appropriate resource person, who could keep the participant attentive and make the talks interesting.
- To encourage girls to participate in the programme. Sometimes it is difficult to convince every student to participate because they feel that is not for them or they do not want to spend time on anything other than the syllabus.
- To get students to realize the seriousness of the activity. Participants may tend to think that this would be an opportunity to have fun at campus.
- A fine balance has to be maintained between seriousness with a sense of camaraderie, kinship and fun.

The Practice:

- It is projected as one of the national priority in which it is stated that value education should be given importance and that every individual should contribute to make the society better place to live
- Resource persons are carefully selected so that the students internalize the idea that as young adults they must learn to do the right thing at the right time for the right person and for the right reason.

.Evidence of Success:-

- 70 to 74% students willingly and actively participate.
- Feedback from the students is very encouraging.
- Support and appreciation from the parents for the self-renewal programmes and retreats are overwhelming

Problems Encountered and Resources required:-

• Finance - students are charged a very nominal fee that is just sufficient to pay the resource person, accommodation, food and also to take care of their transportation to the retreat venue.

Problems- to find a suitable venue and resource person every year.

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