



REACH



ABOUT

Loyola College, a Catholic Minority Institution, was founded by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 1925, with the primary objective of providing University Education in a Christian atmosphere for deserving students irrespective of caste and creed. It started functioning on July 1925 with just 75 students on the rolls in three undergraduate courses of Mathematics, History and Economics.

Loyola College, though affiliated to University of Madras, became autonomous in July 1978. UGC conferred the status of 'College with potential for Excellence' on Loyola College in 2004 and confirmed the same in 2010. NAAC re-accreditation score in 2012 was 3.70 out of 4.00 CGPA.

The aim of the college is to educate young men and women to serve their fellow men and women in justice, truth and love. It fosters an atmosphere of intellectual vigor and moral rectitude in which the youth of our country may find their fulfilment and achieve greatness as eminent men and women of service.

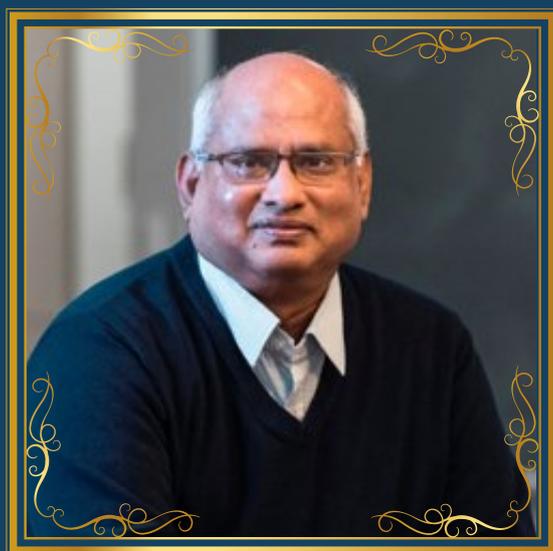
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We immensely thank the former Directors Rev. Dr. V. Joseph Xavier SJ., Rev. Dr. Xavier Vedam SJ., Rev. Dr. Joseph Antony Samy SJ., Dr. Bernard D Samy, Rev. Dr. Henry Jerome SJ., Rev. Dr. Louie Albert and the former Assistant Directors Dr. Gladston Xavier, Prof. John Jeyakumar, and

the former Head of the Department Prof. John Kaviarasu for efficiently taking up efforts in the past to build bridges between the poor and the campus through Loyola Outreach programs in the rural and in the urban slums. Their contributions to the growth of the department are praiseworthy.



Director's Message



Rev. Dr. A. Louis Arockiaraj S.J.,

Director,

Department of Service Learning (Outreach)

Department of Service Learning aims at the holistic formation of every student who walks through the portals of Loyola College. Integrated formation does not merely end with classroom teaching but also exposure to social realities of the rural and urban poor. This helps students to understand their social responsibility and respond of succour to the needy in despair.

The undergraduate students spend ninety hours cleaved into various programs with specific priorities of Child Protection and Development, Youth Development, Women Empowerment, Health & Hygiene, helping the Elders and Differently abled. They organize programs for the aforementioned and create awareness on the need of education, environmental protection, rights and duties of a citizen, life skills, schemes of the government and NGOs that would benefit their lives and livelihood.

The Post graduate students engage in Rural Camp and Urban Intervention and spend 45 hours each. They learn to understand the destitution of unorganized workers and the disadvantaged sections of the community and try to appreciate manual labour, whilst enhancing their self-esteem and develop the art of working in groups with compassion and commitment.

The activities of the department of service learning are of twofold: The first is to help the students to grow their personality by providing opportunities to acquire knowledge, skills, attitude and values. The other element is to train our students to be sensitive to the needs of the disadvantaged and vulnerable sections of the society through exposure gained of intervention program. I can assure that these twofold goals are achieved through the meticulous planning and execution by every staff in the department.

Feeling it a necessity to act in an apt manner of leading by action, the entire department took the responsibility on their shoulders to respond on economic consequences of the pandemic. The department had worked in 41 substandard settlements collecting the data of the most deserving. It is an arduous and humongous task to help everyone affected by the pandemic but the department decided that they would help the most penurious who were living in the intervention areas. We are grateful to Rev. Fr. Rector, Rev. Fr. Secretary and Rev. Fr. Principal for their encouragement and support towards this initiative.

I appreciate all the community leaders who did the tremendous job of reaching out to distribute relief materials to the impoverished. I extend my gratitude to the donors and funding organisations namely Give Life Café, World Vision, Action Aid, Alumni Association and benefactors for their overwhelming support and generosity. The most useful asset of a person is not a head full of knowledge but a heart full of love, with ears open to listen and hands willing to help. Let the desire to serve others ever grow in every one of us. Acclamation to all that has been accomplished, let us march ahead together with hope towards better future.

Best wishes!!

OVERVIEW

Department of Service Learning (Outreach) was established in the year 2001-2002 with the Ignatian pedagogy of neighbourhood development by Rev. Dr. V. Joseph Xavier S.J. This programme aims at forming men and women for others for a better society. Outreach is the third dimension of higher education in Loyola College and endeavours training the college students for their attitudinal change. It is a novel step in the Jesuit higher education for promoting a value-based, fraternity, equality, justice and a violence free society.

Every student is made to critically understand the society and develop critical consciousness which motivates them to serve mankind. Seasoning of the heart, spiritual blending of the mind, pro-poor are the key areas of invisible change to be created among the student community.



To facilitate the student community to become socially responsible citizens and to be sensitive to the needs of the disadvantaged sections.



To imbibe the love and concern for others, students should dedicate themselves to community service, thereby shaping themselves as men and women for others.



MISSION- To create a society with committed youth to promote equality, Justice, education, health and environment for the underprivileged.



AIM- To help the neighbouring communities to transform themselves through programmes on literacy, health promotion, women empowerment, youth clubs and reduction of dropouts in schools.

OBJECTIVES

To enable the students to learn social responsibility

To provide an exposure about slums and create an ambience to reflect on the possible ways of intervention in their development

To learn from the people's experience and try to create facilities that would empower them

To make our institution and individuals to realize our duty towards serving the neighborhood communities

INTERVENTION AREAS:

Right from the inception of Outreach, we have been working in slums in the city of Chennai in the zones of 5, 8, 9, 10 and 13. We have intervened 43 slums where the second year undergraduates and the first year post graduates do their interventions.

Distribution of Covid Home Care Medical Kit to Loyola Outreach Community Leaders

To prevent the rapid spreading of COVID-19 in the Intervention areas of the college Department of Service-Learning undertook an initiative.

The initiative was financially supported by Loyola Alumni Association.



More than 184 volunteers were trained on 16th May by three doctors via G-Meet.

They were trained for all the necessary and possible scenarios they might face while helping the community. Medical kits, including oximeter, were distributed to key community leaders on 18th May.

Volunteers played a vital role in spreading awareness about COVID-19, and the importance of vaccination. They also assisted self-isolating people and offered them accommodations at quarantine centres of Loyola College.



*“The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.”
— William Shakespeare*

Distribution of relief materials to the people in the neighbourhood community



After the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions were lifted, many families of the community found it very difficult to manage their daily life. The Department of Service-Learning learned about the situation and decided to assist.

At the faculty's request, Father Principal discussed this with Loyola Alumni. Ultimately, relief material worth Rs 10 lakh was decided to be distributed among 900 families.

Each kit included dry rations and other necessary provisions. The relief material was distributed to 50 community leaders of the intervention areas.

Leaders further distributed the provisions to the beneficiaries in their local community. Primary beneficiaries of these relief materials were families of widows (380 families in total), deserted women, destitute, differently-abled, and BPL families.



“The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves.”
— **Helen Keller**

Orientation to the Staff in charge from the departments



On 22nd Oct 2021, the faculty in-charge meeting was chaired by the Dept of Service Learning at Y.D. Hall. Dr. Baskar Jeyabalam delivered the welcome address. Faculty of Outreach Dept were appreciated for their efforts during the pandemic. The importance of professors from other departments in Outreach programs was also pointed out. Prof. Richard presented the annual report for 202-21. He also expressed his gratitude for student contributions to outreach programs during the pandemic. Prof. Antony Anbarasan presented the academic roadmap followed by a doubt clearing session. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Anand.

Board of Studies Meeting

Board of Studies meeting was conducted on 9th Nov 2021 to discuss various academic topics. The approved proposal for the UG & PG was taken up for discussion. The experts appreciated the proposal and suggested a few points of their own. Students were suggested to assist people in receiving their community/birth/income certificates for various govt schemes.

Various field trips to Adyar Cancer Institute and Adyar Eco-park were suggested for students to learn about the value of life. They should learn about waste management by visiting the dumping yard at Perungudi.



It was decided that awarding grades rather than marks for outreach activities was more appropriate. Students can also be awarded for acknowledging their rendered services in the intervention areas.

Meeting with the students admitted from Outreach intervention areas

Students from intervention areas admitted to Loyola College were called upon a meeting on 9th December 2021. Prof. Richard was the master of ceremony for the program. Students debrief on their academic progress and were also encouraged to take online course and develop skills. They also shared their views on Loyola College and its outreach services. Students also received career guidance from Prof. Antonysamy.



He also reminded them to always adhere to the college rules and should be self-disciplined all the time.

Dr A. Louis Arockiaraj pressed onto the importance of students conversating daily in English for improving their communication skills. Motivational and educational videos were shown to the students. The final vote of thanks was delivered by Prof. Priya.



Women Empowerment and Christmas Celebration



"The Women Entrepreneurs Meet" was organized for the Widowers from the Outreach Intervention Areas by the department of service-learning on 17th Dec 2021. Father Louis Arockiaraj, in his inaugural address, urged the women to think bigger, to be not just employees but owners. In the interactive session, Dr. Siluvairaja presented real-life examples and gave ideas as to how to raise the standard of living for women. Real-life examples from local intervention areas were presented. He encouraged the women to make use of the opportunities and explore them and use the positives in their life the right way. According to him, the main reason for success is when the people imbibe their success along with the community and grow together. In the second part of the program, a short Christmas celebration was organized.

Coastline cleaning

On 5th Dec 2021, the Environmentalist Foundation of India organized a coastline cleaning program. More than 60 students from Loyola College also participated in the program. Students worked tirelessly from 7:30 AM till 10:00. Loyolites cleaned trash of 23 bags. They cleaned the Adyar Beach along the stretches known as Olcott Stretch, Ashtalakshmi Temple Stretch, and Arupadai Murugan Temple Beach Stretch. Many morning runners also joined the program and helped clean the beach. In the end, the Coordinator of the Environmental Foundation of India thanked the students for their volunteering effort. He mentioned that the lives of fishes and birds are at stake and such indiscriminate disposal of waste can cause a lot of harm to the environment.

Program for women, Children and differently abled



The Department of Service Learning organized a program on 4th April 2022 titled "Enabling Children, Women and Differently-abled on Education, Employment and Assistive Devices." The invitees of the program were minister P K Sekar Babu - Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments and Dr. Ezhilan Naganathan, member of the Legislative Assembly and Dayanidhi Maran, Member of Parliament Lok Sabha. The three main objectives of the programs were: Awarding scholarships of ₹ 1000 to class X students, providing ₹ 5000 as revolving funds to small women entrepreneurs, to provide assistive devices to persons with disabilities. Sixty-three school students were awarded a scholarship, and a total of 37 women engaged in small businesses were identified for the revolving fund which they could repay in instalments free of interest. Assistive devices were provided to 20 candidates. The program was also interpreted with Sign Language. Dr. Baskar Jayabalan, coordinator, DSL thanked all by giving the vote of thanks.



Urban intervention for the Undergraduate students

Department of Service Learning had to accompany the 2nd and 3rd year UG students in the current academic year as the 3rd year students could not complete their outreach in the previous year. Each class had five teams, and every class was instructed to conduct 5 programs. All the students were given proper orientation through both online and offline classes along with input sessions on special topics like children, women, youth, and elders. Each team had to understand the prevailing issues in the slums.



Urban intervention for Post Graduate students



All the Second year PG students were taken to urban neighborhood communities in the current academic year. Each class visited the intervention areas for 5 days and performed different awareness programs on education and health. Students could enrich their subject knowledge through the interactions they had in the community. People could understand their usual life and promised that they would follow the strategies which were explained through cultural programs.

Rural Exposure for Post Graduate students

Rural Exposure for the first year post graduate students were organized on 4th and 6th of May 2022 with the theme: Youth participation towards development. It was organized to expose the students to the rural realities, helping them to understand through live experience and create an ambience to reflect upon. Village level orientation was given to the students. Socio- economical, health and cultural aspects were also explained to them. They were debriefed on local infrastructure. After the input session, all of them were divided into four team and they were accompanied by staff members. They went to different villages and spent time with rural people. After the visit all students reflected upon their visits and shared their views. They were able to critically analyze the political, social, economic and cultural aspects.

Students Testimonial



In outreach program we gain a know which were not available in the college classroom and it teaches our social responsible.

- Roshith . R
19-UBC-209

Outreach classes have given us a grasp on the situations that people face in their everyday lives. It has raised our awareness on the condition of people living below the poverty line and has also provided us with the opportunity to help them. Outreach has improved the communication skills and social skills of all the students who have participated in the events and classes. It has also tremendously improved our organising skills owing to the various camps each team has conducted



- S.P.Baarath
20-UBC-248



I learnt alot from the outreach. I generally believed that, The happiest people I know are those who lose themselves in the service of others. As we lose ourselves in the service of others, we discover our own lives and our own happiness. Outreach have given me a new instinct to come forward for the needy people. It's a small gesture to show love & humanitarianism among the people around you.

- Balasundharam
19-UEC-367

This was a wonderful experience for us to interact with these poor people . we were very happy to serve them . Whenever we went they were so happy. When we conducted the competitions they actively participated and won more prize . When we went to the for the 1st time it was normal like how the people live . After that when interacted with them and asked about their lifestyle it was so touching and came to know how they have so many problems in their life .

- PRAVIN.P
19-UCO-242



Students Testimonial



The outreach sessions we had were thought provoking. As we had half the sessions online, we did not get many sessions like others. Even then, all the sessions included one day rural visit, urban visits and one day program was so much fun and interesting. I heartily thank the department of social service for giving us a wonderful experience.

- Shifa Ussudoor S
20-PDS-021

Our outreach programmes were conducted in Giriappa Road, Teynampet, and they have been very memorable experiences. Our group and class took part in many social activities and we were able to learn about the livelihood of people across the area. The outreach programme cultivated a sense of service and a thought of helpfulness in each student. It feels happy to have helped so many people through this course.

- Wilson Philip.J
16-UPH-242



I was given exposure to the slums in order to grasp the harsh reality of living in the slums and to think on possible avenues for change. The program helped me to assist, elevate, and support people who are denied certain services and rights. This increased my self-esteem, self-confidence and overall life happiness. Helping the people and the community provided me with a natural sense of accomplishment.

- Tarakesh C
19-UCO-404

we visited a slum area at Park Town, Pallavan Salai, Vyagula Madha Church. There we saw many people suffering for their day to day life without proper food and clothes. So we decided to help them out by splitting into teams to cover the whole area and asked about their needs, so that each team can help them by conducting a program. We almost did our level best to serve and satisfied the people of the locality during our outreach class.

- Viswanath T.A
20-UBU-055



Students Testimonial



It's always been a great time spent with people. The Department of Service Learnings made it happen time and again. Outreach made me a good human being. It made me understand the life situation of the children. Through outreach, I was able to bring smiles to many children's faces. It aided me in reaching out to people, understanding their social backgrounds, and assisting them to the best of my ability.

- Rincis Melvin M
19-UPH-003

Good initiative from the management to focus on every age group in the society who want help. Interaction with the children make us to know their routine life, problems, wishes and lot more. This kind of interaction builds a good bond between the people and us. This initiative makes a base for big dreams in the minds of the children to achieve in life and not to quit studies or staying back. I am happy to be a part of it. I will continue giving my best to the society all time if situation favours me

- Jagadeesh R
19-UST-005



Outreach, an easiest way for beginners like me to know the troubles and welfares of our society. It led us all into streets which we would have never ever thought of visiting by ourselves and also made us work in those streets according to our will and motives for the people who need our help and support. True to its name, outreach made us reach people whom we do not know, and helped us to understand them.

- Glen Renju
20-UMT-341

The outreach program I was a part of, turned out to be one of the most enriching experiences I underwent at Loyola College. Being involved in a program with such clear objectives helped me classify my different skills and also put them to practical use, while still challenging me in various ways. Coming from a privileged background, the outreach program helped me acknowledge what I can do as a student, and as a person, for the betterment of my society.

- Athrey
19-UAN-003



*Service learning is a joy of learning
through service*

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LOYOLA SERVICE LEARNING IS ARMED WITH PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS.
ALONG WITH THE DIRECTOR,

THE DEPARTMENT IS STAFFED WITH

PROF MELSON, PROF ANTONY SAMY, PROF AMALA ANANDHI, PROF PRIYA, PROF RATHNA
PROF RICHARD, DR BASKAR JAYABALAN, REV DR LOUIS AROCKIARAJ, PROF ANTONY ANBARASAN, DR ANAND

