



The rural camp is the part of social work education which gives practical knowledge and it help us to work effectively with the people.

# Rural social work Perspective “PAALAM”

Department of Scoical work, Loyola College,  
Autonomous, Chennai- 34.

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# INTRODUCTION

The rural camp, which was organized by the Department of Social Work, Loyola College Chennai for the first year students, provided an opportunity to the students to gain practical skills and be exposed to the rural areas. The Social Work students of Loyola College (18 – PSW ) were required to go for a Cross Cultural Field Study in the villages in Tiruvannamalai district along with two staff coordinators.



The rural camp was held from 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018 to 07<sup>th</sup> December 2018. The students were divided into several committees. The class was divided into seven different committees to look after different aspects of the rural camp. At the camp site, the students were divided into different groups so as to visit the different villages in Tiruvannamalai district.

“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination,  
and instill a love of learning.”

The camp was made a great success because of the selfless efforts taken by the faculties Prof. Vallary Patric and Prof. Jeevanthi. They both together inspired the students in every way possible way. For the students this was a great opportunity to learn a lot from them.



The rural camp was an enriching experience as students live as one group for ten days, working together both in the living place and in the villages exploring the cultural, traditional, environmental, political and socio-economic structures through observation, informal discussions, through participatory rural appraisal and by undertaking surveys.



As a follow up of their findings the students organised a variety of programs to empower children, youth and the adults to help them identify their village problems and find solutions as one community. The students involvement in tasks such as cooking, cleaning, washing and manual work helped them accept and understand the dignity of labor. Thus the rural social work perspective is a comprehensive program to explore, learn and adapt to difficult situation living in a village with minimal or no adequate facilities. The exposure to village life would help to mould the personality of students to become ‘Others Centered’. As a facilitator accompanying the students was a pleasant experience especially trying to make them take responsibilities and decisions by accommodating differences among themselves was a challenge.

➤ **COMMITTEE LIST**

CONVENOR : A.D.AJAI THOMAS

CO.CONVENOR: SANDHYA.A

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

- JOEL
- EBIN
- JULIET
- SHERLEY
- NISHI
- APARNA
- JERIN
- VALENTINE

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- VIMAL
- ANTONETTE STEFFI

DOCUMENTATION:

- CHRISTABEL
- DINESH

FOOD COMMITTEE:

- AMALA
- AMARNATH
- RITCHARD
- NATASHA

TRAVEL COMMITTEE:

- LEO JOSEPH
- EDIN

HEALTH COMMITTEE:

- PRAVEEN
- JESSY

CULTURAL COMMITTEE:

- JULIUS
- ANGELIN STEFFY
- JANANI
- SWATHI
- AGIL
- REMI
- MARTIN
- CASTRO
- SHEHU
- RHEA JOSEPH

## MANUAL LABOUR:

- ANNIE
- ANDREA
- SURESH BUNGA
- NANCY
- BHANAVI

### ➤ Purpose for forming these committees:

The division of work is the course of tasks assigned to, and completed by, a group of workers in order to increase efficiency. Division of work, which is also known as division of labour, is the breaking down of a job so as to have a number of different tasks that make up the whole.





# NEED FOR RURAL EXPOSURE:

Contemporary social work practice is increasingly becoming complex and challenging. Social workers are engaged in working with society's most vulnerable, disadvantaged and deprived sections of the population who require help with multiple needs. The situations and needs requiring social work intervention could be intra-personal, inter-personal, inter-group or inter-organizational (Dr.I.S.Subhedar, 2011)



Rural Social work Perspective (Rural camp) is an approach to the analysis of local problems and the formulation of tentative solutions with local stakeholders. It makes use of a wide range of visualization methods for group-based analysis to deal with spatial and temporal aspects of social and environmental problems. Rural camp is an intensive systematic but semi structured learning experience carried out by multidisciplinary team in a community with community members.

It helps the students in understanding the core of rural society life, their problems and needs, and to help them in preparing a plan for social work practice and community development. The camps are unique in nature and scope and are organized by the students under the guidance of the faculty members.



The camps are unique in nature and scope and are organized by the students under the guidance of the faculty members. They visit the proposed places and identify the needs and interests of the people through professional interactions. The probable participation and cooperation of people is judged and preliminary information is collected to chalk out need based programs.

While preparing the camp programmes the faculty members keep in mind professional training and help to the community. Certain recreational programs are also incorporated to ease the stress and strain that would otherwise result from the continuous mental and physical work that students will have to put in. It also motivates people to work more. To serve the purpose of the camps in a professional sense and to prepare the programs well, the students should know the specific objectives of such camps.



# OBJECTIVES OF THE CAMP

- a. To explore the rural life.
- b. To experience group and community living.
- c. To understand and identify the difficulties faced by the rural community.
- d. To love the nature and eco system
- e. To create good bonding between the students and the villagers.
- f. To help the students to develop capacities and attitudes by involving in planning decision making organizing and evaluations.
- g. To explore our strengths and weakness.
- h. Delegation of work in the camp site in the form of task groups like cooking, cleaning utensils, manual work groups, etc.
- i. To strengthen interpersonal relationship among the students in the team.
- j. To make the students utilize the method-oriented practical training.
- k. Interaction and awareness program for the community.
- l. Conduct cultural programs for the community.
- m. Social Analysis.
- n. Interaction with the village communities.
- o. Complete the survey.



All the above mentioned objectives were achieved with the efficient guidance of the facilitators (faculties) and the most importantly with the cooperation of the students. The programs in the camp were planned as a platform for achieving these objectives .

# ABOUT THE CAMP

Rural camp is the most essential part of the social work education and training. Rural camps is seen as valid component of the student's field learning. Rural camp is being organised for the Social Work students to be super-specialized in understanding and for doing a social analysis in a rural area.

The camp took place from 28-11-2018 to 07-12-2018 in Pandiyankulam village. Pandiyankulam is a small Village/hamlet in Vallam Block in Villupuram District of Tamil Nadu State, India. It comes under Kammandhur Panchayath. It is located 33 KM towards North from District headquarters Viluppuram. 7 KM from Vallam. 145 KM from State capital Chennai.



Pandiyankulam Pin code is 604205 and postal head office is Minambur. Pandiyankulam is surrounded by Mailam Block towards East , Gingee Block towards west , Tindivanam Block towards East , Vikravandi Block towards South. Tindivanam , Viluppuram , Vandavasi , Tirukkoyilur are the nearby Cities to Pandiyankulam. This Place is in the border of the Villupuram District and Tiruvannamalai District.

Tiruvannamalai District Thellar is North towards this place.

- Tamil is the Local Language here.
- DMK , AIADMK , PMK are the major political parties in this area.
- Four Government Higher Secondary schools around Pandiyankulam.
- One college - P.R. Engineering College around Pandiyankulam



This camp was made possible because of the help of AHAL FOUNDATION an NGO which works for the upliftment of the nearby villages. Fr. Royappan the director of AHAL FOUNDSTION was acted as a constant support throughout the camp.

The students of the Department of Social work along with two faculty members



( Prof. Vallary Patric and Prof. Jeevanthi ) which made up for a strength of 40 people were accommodated in the Care Council school, Pandiyankulam. With the guidance of faculties, students gathered many time to fix the place for rural camp, to plan for the camp. Visiting the

nearby villages namely kammanthur, seiyyur, Thaiyyur, Pandiyankulam Forest, kallakuppam was part of the rural camp plan.

# PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

## Day 1 (28.11.2018, Wed)

<b>7.30am</b>	-Gathering in <b>Egmore</b> railway station
<b>8.15 am</b>	-Beginning of the journey (by train)
<b>10.00 pm</b>	-Arrival at <b>Thindivanam</b>
<b>10.00am to 11.00pm</b>	-Travelling to <b>Pandiyankulam village</b>
<b>11.00am to 1.00pm</b>	- Preparations works for camp
<b>1.00 pm to 2.00pm</b>	- Lunch
<b>2.00 pm to 3.00 pm</b>	-Cultural practice
<b>3.00 pm to 4.00pm</b>	- Transit Walk (Pandiyankulam)
<b>5.30 pm to 6.00pm</b>	-Refreshments
<b>6.00 pm to 8.00pm</b>	- Inauguration of Rural camp Exposure <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcoming the Guest with Cultural Dance</li><li>• Village exposure Theme Song</li><li>• Guest Message/ Sharing</li><li>• Camp Leaders Message/ Sharing</li><li>• Concluding - Parai Attam</li></ul>
<b>8.00 pm to 9.00pm</b>	-Dinner
<b>9.00 pm to 10.00pm</b>	- Evaluation

## Day 2 (29.11.2018, Thu)

<b>5.00am</b>	-Wake up
<b>6.00am to 6.15am</b>	- Prayer
<b>6.15am to 7.30pm</b>	-Manual work &Tea
<b>7.30am to 8.45pm</b>	- Wash
<b>8.45am to 9.30am</b>	-Breakfast
<b>9.30am to 12.00am</b>	- ( <b>Session I</b> )Survey in the village using Questionnaire
<b>12.00pm to 1.00pm</b>	- <b>Session by Sis.Vasanthi</b>
<b>Headmaster, Care council school</b>	
<b>1.00pm to 2.00pm</b>	-Lunch
<b>2.00 pm to 3.00pm</b>	- ( <b>Session II</b> )Survey into the village
<b>3.00pm to 4.00pm</b>	- Discussion about the survey
<b>4.00pm to 4.30pm</b>	- Refreshment
<b>4.30pm to 5.30pm</b>	- cultural practice
<b>5.30pm to 6.00pm</b>	- Preparation for cultural
<b>6.00 pm to 8.00pm</b>	- <b>EDUCATION AND CAREER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cultural events</li><li>• TEDX talk on Education and Career</li></ul>
<b>8.00 pm to 9.00pm</b>	-Dinner
<b>9.00pm to 10.00pm</b>	-Evaluation

**Day 3 – (30.11.2018, Fri)**

- 5.00am** -Wake up  
**6.00am to 6.15am** - Prayer  
**6.15am to 7.30pm** -Manual work  
**7.30am to 8.45pm** - Wash  
**8.45am to 9.30am** -Breakfast  
**10.00am to 12.00pm** - **Input session By BDO officer**
- 12.00pm to 1.00pm**- Refresh and helping cooking team  
**1:00pm to 2.00pm**- Lunch  
**2:00pm to 2.30pm** - Cultural programme practice  
**2.30pm to 6.00pm** - **Travel to Papambadi village**
- PRA Techniques
  - Resource mapping
- 6:00 to 8.00pm** - **FARMER’S ISSUE**
- Paraiattam/ karagatam
  - Puppet Show
  - Street play (Farmer’s market)
  - TED Talks in Farming
- 8:00pm to 9.00pm** - Dinner  
**9:00pm to 10.00pm** – Evaluation

**Day – 4 (1.12.2018, Sat)**

- 5.00am** -Wake up  
**6.00am to 6.15am** - Prayer  
**6.15am to 7.30pm** -Manual work  
**7.30am to 8.45pm** - Wash  
**8.45am to 9.30am** -Breakfast  
**9:30am to 12.00pm** – **Session by Mr.Baskar**  
**Topic – Education and self-sufficient living**
- 1:00 to 2.00pm** - lunch  
**2:00 to 3.00pm** -Cultural practice  
**3.00 to 6.00pm** - **Travelling to Irrular community village**
- 6.00pm to 8.00pm** - **Cultural Program**
- ParaiAttam
  - Puppet show (AIDS awareness/ women’s rights)
  - TED talks
- 8:00pm to 9.00pm** - Dinner  
**9:00pm to 10.00pm** -Evaluation



### DAY 5 (2.12.2018, Sun)

**5.00am** -Wake up  
**6.00am to 6.15am** - Prayer  
**6.15am to 7.30pm** -Manual work  
**7.30am to 8.45pm** - Wash  
**8.45am to 9.30am** -Breakfast  
**9.30am to 2.00pm** – Village Gala programs begins for (**Community People, Youth, Women, Children**)

- **KolamPotti**(Women)
- **Pattimandram** (Men)
- **Uri Adithal**(Youth boys)
- **Kabaddi** (Youth boys)
- **Kho Kho**((Youth girls )
- **Slow Bike Race** (Youth boys)
- **Kola KolayaMundhirikai**
- **Chess** (Open COM)
- **Carrom** (Open COM)

**2.00pm to 3.00pm** - Lunch  
**4.00pm to 5.00pm** -Cooking Competition & Food Exhibition  
**6.00pm to 8.00pm** -Cultural Program  
**8.00pm to 9.00pm** - Dinner  
**9.00pm to 10.00** -Evaluation

### DAY 6 (3.12.2018, Mon)

**5.00am** -Wake up  
**6.00am to 6.15am** - Prayer  
**6.15am to 7.30pm** -Manual work  
**7.30am to 8.45pm** - Wash  
**8.45am to 9.30am** -Breakfast  
**9:30am to 11.00am** – **A DAY WITH FARMERS**  
**11.00am 12.00pm** - **back to school**  
**12.00am to 1.00pm** - Rest  
**1:00pm to 2.00pm** - lunch  
**2:00 to 3.00pm** - Cultural practice  
**3:00pm to 6.00pm** – **Travel to Thaiyur village**

- To Identifying the problems of village
- Resource mapping

  
**6:00pm to 8.00pm** –**WORLDDISABLE DAY**

- Cultural evetns (World Disabled day)

  
**8:00pm to 9.00pm** – Dinner  
**9:00pm to 10.00pm** – Evaluation

### DAY 7 (4.12.2018, Mon)

5.00am	-Wake up
6.00am to 6.15am	- Prayer
6.15am to 7.30pm	-Manual work
7.30am to 8.45pm	- Wash
8.45am to 9.30am	-Breakfast
9:30am to 11.00am	- Session by Tahsildar
11.00am 12.00pm	- Session by village people on village medicines
12.00am to 1.00pm	- life skill training for care council school children
1:00pm to 2.00pm	- lunch
2:00 to 3.00pm	- Visit to primary health care centre kizhmampattu
3:30pm to 5.00pm	- Sports activity for our students
5..00pm to 5.30pm	- Refreshment
6:00pm to 8.00pm	-Cultural programme( safe school and child labour)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Street Play</li><li>• oyillattam</li><li>• puppetry</li></ul>
8:00pm to 9.00pm	- Dinner
9:00pm to 10.00pm	- Evaluation

### DAY 8 (5.12.2018, Wed)

5.00am	-Wake up
6.00am to 6.15am	- Prayer
6.15am to 7.30pm	-Manual work
7.30am to 8.45pm	- Wash
8.45am to 9.30am	-Breakfast
9.30am to 12.30pm	- Outing to Gingee fort
12.30 pm to 1.30pm	- lunch in Agalmandram
1:30pmt to 6.30pm	- Visit to Marutham farm school
6:30pm to 7.00pm	- back to school
8:00pm to 9.00pm	- Dinner
9:00pm to 10.00pm	- Evaluation

### **DAY 9 (6.12.2018, Thu)**

**5.00am** -Wake up  
**6.00am to 6.15am** - Prayer  
**6.15am to 7.30pm** -Manual work  
**7.30am to 8.45pm** - Wash  
**8.45am to 9.30am** -Breakfast  
**9.30am to 10.30pm** – Review about the camp  
**10.30pm to 1.00pm** - life skill training to school children

**1:00pm to 2.00pm** - Lunch  
**2:00pm to 3.00pm** - preparation for valedictory  
**05:30** – Tea Break – (Boiled Peanuts, Black Coffee)  
**06:00** - Valedictory program of Village exposure camp.  
- **Prayer Song**  
- **Welcome Address**  
- **Felicitating the Guest (Fathers from the Agal foundation and Sister from the school)**  
- **Report on the camp**  
- **Cultural programs**  
**Paraiattam**  
**Dance by all the members in the class**  
- **Vote of Thanks**  
  
**08:00** – Dinner  
**09:00** – Evaluation  
**10:00** - Camp Fire

### **DAY 10 (7.12.2018, Thu)**

**5.00am** -Wake up  
**6.00am to 6.15am** - Prayer  
**6.15am to 7.30pm** -Manual work  
**7.30am to 8.45pm** - Wash  
**8.45am to 9.30am** -Breakfast  
**9.30am to 12.00pm** - Packing the luggage

**12.00am to 1.00pm** - lunch  
**1.30pm** – Starting to Thindivanam station  
**3.15pm** – Train departure from Thindivanam station  
**5.30 pm** – Arrival at Chennai Egmore

# ACTIVITIES

There were few activities that were performed in prior to the camp, they are as follows ;

## 1. Pre camp

- **1<sup>st</sup> September 2018**

- ◆ Elected leaders for rural camp in the presence of the faculties – Prof.Vallary Patric and Prof. Jeevanthi.
- ◆ Leaders- Ajai Thomas and Sandhya
- ◆ Members present-38.
- ◆ Objectives of rural camp discussion
- ◆ Committees formation( 8 committees)
- ◆ Program committee, Documentation committee, Food committee, Manual Labour, cultural committee , Health committee, Travel committee and Finance committee.
- ◆ Members for each committee were also allotted

- **15<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

Total members present-19

Time of commencement- 9.30am

Objective- Discussion and suggestions regarding place of rural camp

Regarding pilot visit

Functions of each committee explained by leaders.

Discussion regarding routine.

Food committee- suggestions regarding grocery.

Program committee - should prepare schedule for each day and co-ordinate with cultural committee.

- **08<sup>th</sup> October 2018**



Roles and responsibilities of each committee was defined. Travel committee- To get list if all types of accommodations available and transport system. cultural committee- Issue based

Performance through Folk arts. Documentation- Banners & size, Letters to principal, Dept, consent letters for parents and claiming of OD for students.

## **2. First Pilot visit**



- Camp leader with two other students went to Tiruvannamalai.
- Found the existence of AHAL foundation which has been working in that place.
- Pandiyankulam village was decided as the place for the camp.
- Located suitable place of stay for the camp.

## **3. Second Pilot Visit**

- The second visit was done to finalise things for the camp. Prof. Vallary Patric, along with both the camp leaders and 3 more volunteers set off for the second visit.



- Met and discussed with Fr. Rayappan, director of AHAL foundation for insights about the village its dynamics.

- Met Sr. Baby Theresa and seek permission for accommodation in Care council school. They provided us with 4 rooms, one for boys, one for girls and one for storing ration materials. And a room for cooking food.



- Letters to BDO and Tahsildar.

The following are activities that were carried out during the 10 day camp were the works executed by the different committees which ensured the participation of call the students in each and every activity. And every activity cultivated some kind of learning within every student.

### **Programs organized**

#### **1. Inauguration :**

Inauguration here means a ceremony to mark the introduction of our camp.



Inauguration was the first event conducted in the late evening of day one ( 28.11.2018 ) as it was organised to spread a word about the arrival of the students of social work from Loyola college and also to thank the director of AHAL FOUNDATION for their support and the sisters

of st. Aloysius for accommodating us in their school.



This program helped to create a good rapport between the community and the students, many cultural programs were conducted. The main objective of this event was to create a bond with the community.

## 2. Input sessions :



During these 10 days there were different informative sessions by the govt officials. We had the Block Development officer who provided us with the information about the local administration, the panchayat raj system and the power structure of the village administration. One the same day we had St. vasanthi explaining us about the history of their school and brief information about the village for us to have a better understanding.

Next day we had Mr. Baskar who enriched us with education and self-sufficient living was one of the best sessions that I came across. It was personally very helpful in reflecting upon the school educational pattern that I have crossed. And also was helpful in understanding the importance of social pressure on school children.





Next session was handled by the Director of Ahal foundation Fr. Rayappan. The topic was social analysis. It was very useful as social analysis is a tool to identify the issues in the community. The session was an interactive and interesting session.

Another important session was handled by the Deputy Tahsildar who was accompanied by the Village Administrative Officer. This session was very informative as the deputy tahsildar was explaining about the different schemes available for the villages in the state level as well as national level. One of which is the Farmers Security Scheme. Compensation for loss of lands, cattle during natural disasters.





### 3. Village Gala :

**லயோலா கல்லூரி (தன்னாட்சி)**  
சென்னை - 600034  
சமூகப்பணித்துறை - மாற்று 2

**கிராமத் திருவிழா  
2018  
பாலம்**

தேதி: 28.11.18 முதல் 07.12.18 வரை  
இடம்: பாண்டியன் குளம்

It's the village festival organised by the students for the people of the village. It was organised as two parts the first part was about conducting sports, signing, cooking events for the people of the village and the second session included the prize distribution for the winners cultural performance by the students of social work department and a wonderful performance by the students of AHAL FOUNDATION which made the day an amazing success. The students of AHAL FOUNDATION performed various styles of Folk Arts which in itself was a learning experience for the students of Social work . we were overwhelmed on seeing the number of participants. The people of the village were very enthusiastic which in turn boosted the energy of the students.

#### 4. Cultural performance, survey and crowd mobilization :

To survey the nearby villages was an important task assigned which the students used as an opportunity to mobilize crowd and performed, BHARATHANATIYAM, PARAI ATTAM, OYIL ATTAM, PUPPTETRY AND STREET PLAY which was not only for entraining the crowd but to create an awareness on addiction, domestic violence , open defecation, women education, health and hygiene. These folk arts were very useful in connecting with the people living in the rural areas.



#### 5. Prayer, Manual labour, cooking and cleaning :



Prayer, cooking and cleaning were part of everyday activities. For these two activities each day different team of 5 members were allotted to carry out the work.

And for manual labour every student except those students helping in cooking are allotted work such as cleaning the school campus, creating a kitchen garden, clean of the paalvaadi in the village. Manual labour outside the school campus was also a form of creating awareness to the village people about cleanliness.





## 6. Farming and farm school :

The students got an hands on experience in farming by working in the field and also were taken to a farm school ( Marudham farm school ) were more of theory based knowledge about how education must be taken forward in relation with nature and its elements. This experience showed us how disconnected from the environment.



## 7. Christmas Celebration in care council school :



The students of care council school surprised us with their talents on 9<sup>th</sup> day of the camp as we organised a celebration for Christmas. The event went was an expression of the love the children had on us. The students realised that children are the most valuable resources.



## 8. Rally :

A public meeting of a large group of people especially School children was organised and a rally happened for supporting few opinions such as “importance of girl child education, women empowerment, clean and hygienic environment and also against domestic violence and alcoholism.”



## 9. Resource mapping

Resource mapping identifies the resources that can realistically be



mobilized for campaigning. Relevant resources include human resources (committed activists, skills, experience, and time available), financial resources, facilities and amenities available to rural communities and networks.

## 10. Valediction :



The last program organised as part of the camp was the valediction. This was to thank each and every person who extended unending support to make this rural camp a successful one. Similar to inauguration the valediction also had community people. The Director and the co-ordinators of Ahal foundation, the sisters who acted as vital support throughout the camp.

## 11. Evaluation

Evaluation was an everyday mandatory action performed to analyse and interpret each day's activities and to perform better for the upcoming days.



And on the final day there was three hour evaluation, in which all ten days was summed up. This final evaluation was filled with appreciations for the deserving and also as an motivation for those students who needed a little spark to work more effectively.

# Day – 1



◆ Reached Pandiyankulam at 11.45am

◆ Social work trainees volunteered in cooking and cleaning work

◆ Division of teams were done to mobilize locals for the inaugural ceremony

1. Village team covered the Pandiyakulam and Pandiyankulam forest.
2. Second team interacted and engaged with the students of the school.

◆ Inaugural ceremony commenced in the presence of the guests.

◆ Fr. Rayappan, Fr. Mariyanadhan, Sr. Vasantha, Sr. Baby.

◆ Points quoted from their speech

1. Explained importance of Grama Mugam.
2. To make difference in others' lives and get a good exposure.
3. To think from the other persons perspective.
4. Experience the reality /dwell in the present.
5. Culture shock.
6. Depends on each one's sustainability.



# Day – 2

- ◆ Exercise was introduced after prayer session followed by manual labor.
- ◆ Two teams were set to take up survey from the locals( Health, Mental health, Environment, Politics) in the morning.
  1. Pandiyankulam
  2. Kamandhur
- ◆ Two more teams were set to take up survey from the locals( health, mental health, environment, politics) in the morning.
  1. Pandiyakulam Forest.
  2. Kamandhur



- ◆ Session by Sister Vasantha  
( Principal of Care Council School)
  1. History of the school.
  2. About the village.
  3. Spoke about the problems faced by the locals of the area.
  4. Asked us to educate the children about the friendship they form.
  5. Answered our queries.
- ◆ Practice for cultural event.

## Day – 3



◆ Warm up & games organized to develop group dynamics within the social work trainees.

◆ Manual Labor was completed in the morning soon after the game session.

- ◆ Session by BDO.- Mr. Purushothaman ( Vallam Block)
- ◆ Practice for cultural events such as (Street play, Parayattam, Puppetry, karagattam)
- ◆ Cultural events were organized in a nearby village named Kamandhur.

- 1.To enlighten them about cleanliness, education.
2. To take this opportunity to entertain and engage with them in order to establish good rapport.
3. To show our support and to put up a street play on importance of girls education.
4. To inculcate good habits by the informative puppetry.
5. To mobilize crowd for village gala even



# Day – 4

- ◆ First sapling for the Kitchen garden was Sowed as a part of manual labor.
- ◆ Session on self-sustainable living by Mr. Baskar.



1. Govt school ratio higher than private school ratio.
2. No freedom given to think and raise questions.
3. Rules set in a conditioned atmosphere are inducing stress among children.
4. Democracy should be implemented in classrooms as well (both teacher and students have voice and listening skills)
5. child centric classrooms.
6. Known to unknown concept is broken.

- ◆ Discussion regarding village gala events and the in charge for each event has been fixed.

# Day – 5



- ◆ Interested social work trainees attended mass lead by Fr.Rayyapan and Fr. Suresh.
- ◆ Events conducted for women, men and children till 2pm and they were served refreshments.

## ◆ OBSERVATIONS-

1. It was a high spirited and healthy competition.
2. Very responsive gathering.
3. Never giving up sportsmanship was noticed.

- ◆ The cultural event started after 6pm.
- ◆ Chief guests – Fr.Rayapan, Fr.Mariyanadhan, Sr. Vasantha, Sr.Baby. Mr. Nelson.



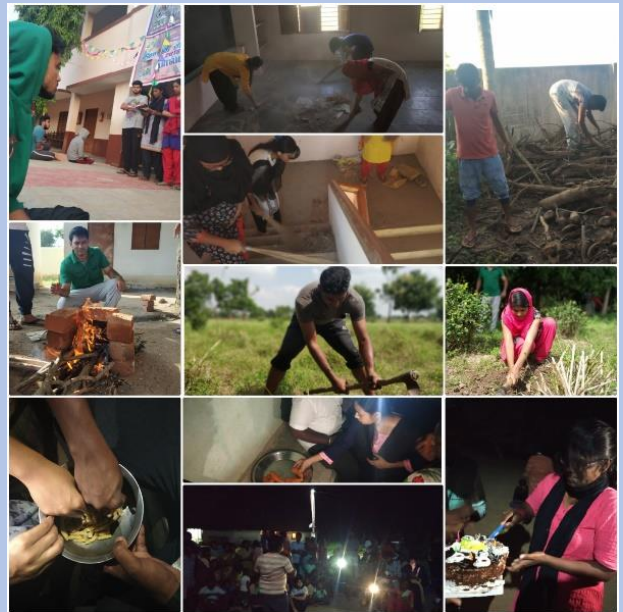
1. Ahal foundation children had also been an integral part of this event.
2. The crowd was on cloud nine and were cheering for all of them.
3. Later followed by the prize distribution

Mr. Nelson engaged with the trainees.

1. Every activity has an hidden political agenda.
2. staying in village is facing the reality
3. Perspective of a village person is different.
4. To reach to them in their level/language.

# Day – 6

- ◆ The students had been exposed to the opportunity of working in a field which was very helpful in understanding the working pattern of agricultural farmers.



- ◆ 14 trainees visited kallakuppam village

1. To interact with them and identify their needs(survey 27 forms).
2. To mobilize the locals for the cultural performance(Paraiattam) in the village.
3. Talk on the stigma prevailing around disability.
4. Puppetry on good food habits & street play on alcoholism and its ill effects.

- ◆ The rest of the trainees were engages in creating awareness within the school (care council)

1. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> std girls students were addressed on menstrual hygiene and human rights.
2. 7<sup>th</sup> std students were enlightened on cleanliness, hygiene, good touch and bad touch.



# Day – 7

## ◆ Session by Deputy Tahsildar Mr. Radhakrishnan.

1. Information about the Revenue Department.
2. Role of tahsildar and deputy tahsildar.
3. Provisions for ration card holders.
4. Scholarship for students.
5. Local Election process.



## ◆ Session by fr.Rayappan from Ahal Foundation on Social Analysis

1. To understand different perspective of the society(structural and historical)
2. Caste hierarchy
3. Steps in social analysis
4. Activities based on the interpretation of the students with regard to the perspective.
5. Reservation- group discussion.



# Day – 8

- ◆ Visit to Gingee fort
- ◆ Invited by Fr.rayapan to Ahal foundation and lunch sponsored by Malika's(trainees) uncle Mr. Leo.



- ◆ Visit to Marudham farm

1. Mr.kamala Kannan gave an introduction about the alternative school.
2. History of the school, founder- Mr.Arun
3. To apply knowledge to reality.
4. To connect with the nature and have classes conducted in the field.
5. All children were actively involved in the making of handmade crafts
6. About bio diversity.
7. There is also a stigma attached that people who can't afford regular education opt for this.
8. He teaches about how food comes and goes to garbage.

# Day – 9

- ◆ Allotment of teams for survey, resource mapping, chart making for rally on human rights as decided before had been followed.



- ◆ Survey- Thaiyur

1. To Identify the population, needs and issues.
2. To guide them with practical solutions.
3. To explain about open defecation and night soil.

- ◆ Chart preparation for rally on human rights, girl child education, women empowerment and to fight against alcoholism.

Care council school students and management had organized a Christmas program for the trainees. it was a very heartwarming moment to see them give variety of performances like dance, standup comedy and songs for us as it was unprecedented and the children's face was blooming with happiness and we could also witness the low spirited nature when they heard the news of our departure was nearing. The trainee Aparna spoke about human rights followed by which the rally commenced. The students were very sportive and kept chanting the slogans and the locals became curious about the happenings.

# SURVEY :



A Survey is defined as a research method used for collecting data from a pre-defined group of respondents to gain information and insights on various topics of interest.

A survey was conducted by the students in the village Pandiyankulam and four other near by villages. As a follow up of the findings the students organized a variety of curricula to empower children, youth and the adults to help them identify their village problems and find solutions as one community.

The major findings are as follows ;

- **Gender Ratio**

In anthropology and demography, the human sex ratio is the ratio of males to females in a population.

Gender	Pandiyankulam	Pandiyankulam Forest	Kallakuppam	Thaiyur	kammandhur
Male	56.25%	77.5%	38.46%	78.57%	27.27%
Female	43.75%	32.5	61.54%	21.43%	72.73%

- **Literacy Ratio**

Literacy rate of population is defined as the percentage of literates to the total population.

Literate - able to read and write.

Literacy	Pandiyankulam	Pandiyankulam Forest	Kallakuppam	Thaiyur	kammandhur
Primary	6.25%	-	-	-	-
Middle	12.5%	-	19.23%	17.85%	4.54%
H.S	31.25%	25%	3.84%	14.28%	18.18%
H.S.S	-	12.5%	19.23%	17.85%	40.90%
UG	25%	25%	26.92%	32.14%	13.63%
PG	6.25%	25%	3.84%	14.28%	-
Diploma	-	12.5%	15.38%	-	4.54%
No Education	18.75%	-	11.53%	3.37%	18.18%

- **Major issues**

A subject or problem that people think or talk about, or need to deal with.

Villages	Major Issues
Pandiyankulam	Health, unemployment, environmental hygiene, water supply & street lights, Open defecation.
Pandiyankulam Forest	Early marriage, income, open defecation.
Kallakuppam	Health, unemployment, electricity, water supply
Thaiyur	Health, Unemployment, transport, Sanitation
Kammandhur	Health, unemployment, street lights, contraception, family issues.

# Day – 10

- ◆ The final evaluation of the camp which happened for 3 hours.
- ◆ The trainees were asked to share their learning and experiences.
- ◆ Appreciations were given to the students for their performance in the camp.
- ◆ The staffs in charge also expressed their views on the 10 days camp.
- ◆ We all started back around 1. 30pm from Pandiyankulam and boarded the train to Chennai from Dhindivanam at 3.35pm  
Reached Chennai by 6 45pm.

## CONCLUSION :

As a whole these ten days was a very new experience with so much so learnings. Every student was made to learn the art of coordination, delegation of work, organising, conflict resolving, time management, rapport building, adjusting to the environment, understanding the community, problem solving, creating awareness and much more techniques. Staying together as one class and performing every activity enriched the relationship between the students and was a platform to achieve oneness among the students.

Documented by  
Dinesh A (18-psw-060)  
Christabel Sanjana (18-psw-065)



# CAMP SONG

Thaanae thanae thanananae thanananae-2  
Onna vandhomae grama vandhomae  
Pudhu vazkai vazla vandhome,makkaloda vazha vandhome  
Thanae thananae thanannanae thananae-2

Ooru peru aruma theriya  
Anaivarum vandhomae,anba vandhomae  
Nalanai ariya narpani puriya  
Nanga vandhomae pani seiya vandhomae  
Onna vandhomae grama vandhomae  
Pudhu vazkai vazla vandhome,makkaloda vazha vandhome  
Onna vandhomae grama vandhomae  
Pudhu vazkai vazla vandhome,makkaloda vazha vandhome

Kuraigalai ariya,neraivenai kuduka  
Paalamai vandhome,payan thara vandhome  
Jathi samaiya,vaetrumai ozhiya  
Vazhuva sezhika gramam Vankmae  
Onna vandhomae grama vandhomae  
Pudhu vazkai vazla vandhome,makkaloda vazha vandhome  
Onna vandhomae grama vandhomae  
Pudhu vazkai vazla vandhome,makkaloda vazha vandhome

Vivasayam ariya,vedhaigala vedhaika  
Eyarkaiya rasika,inimaya vandhome  
Agalin oliyai,yendrum sudarai  
Manavar vandhome,matra vandhome

Thaanae thanae thanananae thanananae-2  
Onna vandhomae grama vandhomae  
Pudhu vazkai vazla vandhome,makkaloda vazha vandhome  
Thanae thananae thanannanae thananae-2