

### **7.2.1 Best practices:**

#### **1.Title: Breaking the vicious circle ignorance-poverty-illiteracy-unemployment-poor health**

##### **Objectives of the Practice**

1. To orient and motivate the rural and BPL girls to enhance their educational status.
2. To make them self-employable through skills-oriented courses.
3. To boost their self-confidence and courage to undertake income generating activities.

The seeds of best practices were laid right in the beginning by the then president, Late Smt. Geetai Wasnik, of Umang Kala Niketan Education Society. An enthusiastic lady, and a keen observer had noticed that the rural community, was apathetic towards the education of their wards, especially girls. With the principles of unity of humanity, equality between genders, respect for all, pursuit of knowledge, efforts were made to bring these girls into main stream.

##### **The context**

The context to undertake this practice is the poor condition of the rural community girls especially in the field of education. They are in the clutches of the vicious circle of ignorance-poverty-illiteracy-unemployment-poor health. It is only through education that they can be freed from the clutches of the vicious circle.

Identifying such candidates, convincing them to enroll in the courses is gigantic task. They, first of all do not realize the benefits of higher education. They go up to + 2 stage only because there is free education for girls till twelfth (scheme of Government of India), beyond that they are not aware of such skill and job-oriented courses. Even if they get convinced it is a Herculine task to get them through. That is because they come from schools or junior colleges where the medium of instruction is regional language. Cycles of Diagnostic and Remedial teaching are to be repeated.

##### **The Practice:**

An experience of one decade into the field has led to certain steps in the practice, which are moderated as per the needs and situation year after year. Higher Secondary Schools and Junior Colleges, in the vicinity near and far, not having Senior colleges attached are targeted. Visits are planned to these schools and colleges in the months of October/November itself. The faculty members in teams of two or three make the trips. The principals or the managements, as the case may be, are requested for the permission. When granted, the teams go with a LCD projector make presentations orienting the students and the teachers about the courses and how these courses can help those strangled in the vicious circle, and how those who aspire to become self-employed, self-dependent and create opportunities for others to earn are encouraged. The presentations have the

details of the courses, job opportunities, some success stories, the strategies for overcoming the hurdles in progressing in the field of choice. The queries of the students and teachers are dealt with up to their satisfaction. Suggestions are given. We are open for discussions and further deliberations.

Record of visits and other details during the visit are maintained. These schools and colleges are revisited in the month of May /June when their results of + 2 are out. The memories of the visit are refreshed and then they are invited to visit the college, to see the facilities and then the fee structure, scholarships, and other details if required are given to them. The parents with their wards come, visit the college, the hostel and then take decision. They are not forced to take admission but they are well explained the effects of the vicious circle they are in.

**Evidence of Success:** The students from various streams- Nutrition and Dietetics, Fashion and Apparel Design, and Bachelor of Management Studies, after passing out from the college are in job at different places in Nagpur. They are earning in between the range of Rs 4000/- to 23,150/- per month.

Since 2017 till 2022, 14 students of Fashion and Apparel Design, run their own boutiques. Their income is between Rs 5000/- to Rs. 15,000/-. 3 of our Nutrition and Dietetics pass outs are employed in prestigious hospitals in Nagpur and 1 is serving in a private clinic and earning about 10, 000 rupees. 8 students of Bachelor of Management Studies are working in different firms in Nagpur, earning about 10, 000 rupees.

The course, Fashion and Apparel Design not only imparts knowledge but the skills required to make garments. The interactions between the teachers and the taught inculcates ideas and the students are motivated and become creative. The boutiques being run by the students is the evidence of the same. The same happens with the Nutrition and Dietetics course. The internships and visits are very helpful to give them hands on experience. The experiments performed by the students for example, checking the hemoglobin that requires courage to prick the finger and take the sample of blood makes them stronger emotionally.

**Problems Encountered and Resource Required:** The problems are none the less than our other counterparts. The basics are very poor. The family background, illiteracy, the poverty does not give an appropriate atmosphere for learning. Whatever they study in college is totally new for them. Secondly the distance from home to college make them tired and they lose their enthusiasm to study. The hesitation to ask questions, the feeling of inferiority complex is another factor that creates problem. Loosing interest if their score is less in tests further deteriorates their performance. The man power is the best resource any institution can have. The books, the equipment, the consumable and non-consumable articles are made available. Regular remedial classes are conducted and more time is devoted to the weaker students for practice. The in the form of time requires efficient management.

## **2. Title: Waste Management and its approaches**

### **Objectives of the Practices:**

1. To create awareness among students regarding leanliness, sustainable development and practice for developing ecofriendly environment.
2. To promote awareness about management of daily domestic waste products garbage.
3. Driving awareness among students for 3 'R' principles (Reduce, Reuse Recycle) of waste management

**The Context:** The primary goal of waste management planning is to prepare the students and community through them, to effectively manage kitchen waste, and materials generated at home, in college and neighboring areas. Management of the wastes has become a gigantic task for not India alone but for the world. The changing life styles, the use and throw philosophy, and selfishness has created this problem. The degradable and bio-degradable wastes at least in our respective homes can be well managed. We demonstrate this much needed value to inculcate in the students.

Providing practical knowledge to students on waste management is considered as most relevant and timely initiatives of our college.

**The Practice:** Number of plastic dust bins are placed at different corners of the college and at hostel campus. Two types of dust bins are placed in hostel campus for collecting dry and wet waste. The college follows 3 'R' (Reduce, Reuse Recycle) principles in waste management. Only in rare condition plastics are used inside the College and hostel campus. Otherwise, the use of plastics is avoided greatest possible extent. The garbage or solid waste scattered around the college and hostel campus are collected and put in the garbage bins on daily basis.

The garbage is collected daily and categorized into degradable and non-degradable types of waste. The bio degradable waste like leaves, vegetables, fruit-peels from our hostel are disposed at vermicompost pit at regular interval which is constructed in the hostel area as there is the mess as well as canteen for the girls. The non degradable solid waste like plastic bottles, e-waste etc. are separated and supplied to the Ghanta Gadi for proper disposal. Relating to the Waste Management and its approaches the NSS unit of Umang Geetai Women's College of Education has organized a week long special camp on the theme 'Waste management and its recycle' so that it can create awareness among the community through students.

**Evidence of Success:** The evidence of success of the practices can be observed from the transformation in the behavior of the students. In beginning, the students were very careless and threw the waste anywhere in the college compound. But after creating awareness, the students threw the waste properly in respective dust bins. The product from vermicompost is collected every

one month and mixed with the soil in the garden to improve the quality of soil. The farmers from neighboring also demand for our vermicompost. The college provides that vermicompost to them free of cost.

### **Problems Encountered and Resource Required**

There are no any major problems as such associated to this practice. The main resources required for this practice for construction of Vermi composing shed, vermin bed, raw materials like cow dung, bio degradable waste and good quality of earthworms, dustbins and a trolley. The LCM is very supportive for all the requirements.