

## Report on the community living camp, located in Srinivasapura Taluk of Kolar district, Karnataka

March 9-10, 2018

The community living camp was organized by the School of Education, Christ (Deemed to be University), on 9th and 10th of March 2018 for first year B.Ed and MA (Ed) students in collaboration with the Centre for Social Action (CSA), wing of Christ (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru. The main objectives of the camp was to promote awareness towards Women empowerment and Rights of Children, to emphasize on various schemes rolled out by the government for their upliftment in the society, to develop social, moral and personal values, to be disciplined in routine habits of life and to plan and execute service for marginalized communities.

The students of the School of Education, Christ (Deemed to be University), had an orientation program from the members of the Pragathi Child Focus Community Development (CFCD) project. On reaching the camp, the program coordinator Mr. Anjaneyappa briefed the students with the functions and the responsibilities of the CSA's Pragathi (CFCD) project in Kolar. He took his time to throw light



on the other projects of CSA in different regions of India. Mr Somesh Hiremath, who is the field coordinator, introduced the students to the core members of the project. The project director, Mrs. Nagarathna, Secretary, Mrs. Arundhati, the President Mrs. Aruna, shared the vision and growth of the project CFCD in Kolar.

The project was started in 22 villages way back in the year 2012, since then, the project CFCD team, in collaboration with CSA and students of Christ (Deemed to be University), has worked tirelessly to start minor projects such as Children Activity Centre and Self Help Groups (SHG) for child and women development. The project was carried out at three cluster level association which has benefitted a total of 83 families by providing financial support towards micro-enterprises. Pragathi CFCD project is supported by 'Kindernothilfe', Germany.

After the complete orientation, the students had a better idea to gauge the existing problems or issues in the villages. There were 82 students in total and four groups formed to visit the nearby villages. The field coordinators identified 4 villages which are Muthakapalli, Karangi, Chintamakahalli and Nachahalli. Group 1 and Group 2 decided to talk about women empowerment and the important schemes or yojanas available to them provided by the government. Group 3 and Group 4 talked about the child care and the government schemes such as SishuGriha scheme, mid day meal, scholarship provided to the students etc. The group members decided to use charts and perform Street play to deliver their message.



The families and the students showed great interest in the programs and were very eager to know more details about the services are the yojanas which are offered by the government.





On the 2nd day of the camp, a joint discussion regarding the previous day's interaction of the students of Christ (Deemed to be University), with the students and the families of the villages was held with the coordinator of the project CFCD), Mr. Anjaneyappa. We discussed the issues and problems faced by the school students and families in all the 4 villages. From each group, the identified group leaders came forward to reflect on the village visit and their experiences. A large portion of the communities were not aware of the different schemes and yojanas provided by the government for the upliftment of child and women.

Interestingly, due to the conscious effort of CSA and villager's cooperation and effort, all the four villages has moderate improvements in sanitation as compared to the previous records. The necessary feedback provided by the group members was received by Mr. Anjaneyappa, and he assured the students to work towards it in near future. The visit to the camp at Yeldur village, Kolar, was an enriching experience for the Students of School of Education, Christ (Deemed to be University). It provided valuable insights about the life of people, interest of the students and the challenges faced by the womens.



It also gave us a hands-on experience on the skills required to interact and engage with school students and parents. We are finally grateful to the School of Education, Christ (Deemed to be University), under the leadership of Dr. Sumita Rao and Dr. Pramod Kumar for this wonderful experience.

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