

## **BEST PRACTICE -1.**

### **1. Title - “UNARVU” EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**



### **2. Objective:**

‘Service Learning’ idea is put in to practice by conducting meaningful extension programmes. Mar Elias College has a well-coordinated extension initiative titled “Unarvu”. The college has organised a good number of programmes with the purpose of educating and helping the society through continuous community engagement and extending support.

The following are the objectives:

- To sensitise the people about cleanliness, hygiene and environment protection.
- To give awareness to villagers on socio-economic developments.
- To support them to get the benefits of government policies.
- To empower the women socially and economically by giving them skill development sessions.
- To conduct a socio-economic survey and to initiate necessary actions.

### **3. Context:**

Through implementing various extension activities, the college attempts to achieve the vision and mission of the college. The activities of *Unarvu* envision to familiarize the latest technologies and developments to the tribal and rural population in the neighbourhood. The spirit of working together and teamwork is manifested in all the activities of *Unarvu*.

### **4. Practice**

The college has adopted two wards - Vadassery, Ward No. 6 and Munthoor Ward No.7 of Kottappady Grama Panchayat- for extending services for the development of the wards and its communities.

The NSS unit of the college is instrumental in organizing extension activities in the adopted wards. Besides, various departments, clubs and cells of our college have a key role in organising extension activities. To create awareness on social issues, the institution has made it mandatory for all students to enrol in any one of the clubs. The extension activities organized by NSS unit like, Blood Donation, Cleanliness Programmes, Tree Plantation, Socio-economic survey, Flood Relief Activities-*Kuttanidu oru Kaithangu* are important programmes rendered to the society. KANIVU is another unit under *Unarvu* in which free medical aid was given to dialysis patients and conducted a *Palliative Rogi-Bandhu Sangamam* programme in and outside the college. Another initiative from the college was the *mid-day meal* programme to the economically backward community. During the COVID 19 pandemic period, the college functioned as a Domiciliary Care Centre.

### **5. Evidence of Success**

- The college, through extension activities, transforms the students as leaders of social change to provide lasting solutions to social problems.
- Engaging the students in extension activities has created a sense of selfless service-mindedness among the student community.
- It helps to instil the spirit of social responsibility, groom overall personality and create awareness on social issues.
- The interventions through extension activities have resulted in improved literacy, reduced drug abuse, Hygienic surrounding, improved health, and cleanliness.

### **6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

- Natural calamities like flood in the year 2018 affected the people in a bad way. It affected the smooth functioning of the extension activities as well.
- Due to Covid pandemic and the strict enforcement of covid protocols it was difficult to ensure maximum participation of students in various programmes conducted on physical space.
- As an unaided institution there is a lack of government funds other than nominal fund to NSS activities.

