

Social Outreach Programme 2023-24

"Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world." - Howard Zinn

The Social Outreach Programme is marking its 17th year of operation. Founded in 2006, this noble initiative was conceptualized and launched by our esteemed Principal, Dr. Marie Fernandes, in collaboration with Fr. Allwyn D'Silva. The fundamental aim of this programme is deeply rooted in the teachings of Christ, emphasizing the importance of compassion and understanding towards the challenges and hardships faced by the economically disadvantaged and marginalized sectors of our society.

The programme holds a mandatory status for all second-year students enrolled in the degree courses at St. Andrew's College, including those pursuing Self-Financed courses. Participants are tasked with dedicating a minimum of 20 hours towards meaningful social service. Upon the completion of their service hours, students are required to compile and submit a detailed report, accompanied by a signed work record from the head of the respective NGO where they served.

For the academic year 2023-24, the Social Outreach Programme for students in Self-Financed courses, such as BSc I.T, BMM, BBI, BAF & BMS, is being orchestrated in partnership with our distinguished NGO collaborator, the Centre for Social Action (CSA).

Under the guidance of Fr. Joseph Gonsalves, the Director of CSA, the Centre has played a pivotal role in meticulously designing and structuring the SOP for this academic cycle. To ensure effective implementation and understanding of the programme's objectives, an online orientation session has been arranged for the students. This session will be conducted jointly by the faculty members from St. Andrew's College and the dedicated team from the Centre for Social Action.

The outreach initiatives this year encompass a variety of intervention groups, each targeting specific areas of social need. These groups include:

- Ashakiran Community Centre (ACC)
- FMM S

- Mahila Balvikas Kendra(MBK)
- Dev Kripa Mandal(DKM)
- Canossa Jeevan Vikas Kendra(CJVK)
- Prerna Seva Kendra(PSK)
- Sahajeevan Samaj Kendra(SSK)
- Savdhan Samaj Kendra(SaSK)

Out of the 290 students enrolled in the programme, an impressive 233 have successfully completed their SOP commitments within the stipulated timeframe. Recognizing the academic commitments and priorities of the students, the remaining participants have been granted permission to conclude their social service activities post their semester-end examinations.

In conclusion, the Social Outreach Programme continues to make strides in fostering a spirit of empathy, responsibility, and social consciousness among the students of St. Andrew's College. We remain committed to nurturing a generation of compassionate leaders who are equipped to make a positive and lasting impact on society.

Warm regards,

Prof. Rachel Shinde

Professor-In-Charge of SOP Self-Financed Course