



# **PATNA WOMEN'S COLLEGE**

**Autonomous**

**PATNA UNIVERSITY**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle NAAC Accredited at 'A' Grade with CGPA 3.58/4**

*'College with Potential for Excellence' (CPE) status accorded by UGC*

## **Best Practice 1**

### **PWC – PRAYAS (Promotion of Responsible Action for Youth and Society)**





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## BEST PRACTICE NO. 1

1. **Title of the Best Practice:** PWC-PRAYAS (Promotion of Responsible Action for Youth and Society)

2. **Objectives of the Practice:** Patna Women's College has undertaken **PWC-PRAYAS (Promotion of Responsible Action for Youth and Society)** under **Institutional Social Responsibility (ISR)** through different social outreach programmes and support services especially meant for the marginalized sections of the society. The basic objective of the practice is to provide assistance, remedial classes, financial aid and psychological support to the different categories of marginalized and underprivileged sections of the society and also to the needy students of our college. All the students of Patna Women's College involved in various ISR initiatives have the opportunity to earn a maximum of **4 Non-Academic Credits**.

The chief objectives of PWC-PRAYAS are:

- To inculcate the values of compassion, moral responsibility and social service among the students of the institution
- To identify the underprivileged groups of the society for reaching out to them
- To provide financial, moral, educational and psychological support the target groups at regular basis
- To empower the target groups with skill development and employment opportunities

3. **The Context:** PWC-PRAYAS has taken shape adhering to the objectives of the college that reads 'to be committed to selfless service to the economically, socially, psychologically and spiritually deprived'. The mission statement of the college emphasizes on to train the students in social service and to create women leaders for social change. The practice of social outreach follows the institutional core value of 'Social Responsibility and Empowerment of the Marginalized'.

4. **The Practice:** Patna Women's College has undertaken its community outreach by the following **ISR** initiatives under the banner of **PWC – PRAYAS (Promotion of Responsible Action for Youth and Society)**:



**Inter College Women Association (ICWA):** ICWA is an Inter-college initiative for the upliftment of children and women belonging to marginalized sections of our society. ICWA volunteers of the college under the guidance of teachers undertake literacy campaigns and social upliftment programmes in the neighbourhood areas for the slum children and women. At the same time ICWA provides services related to health, sanitation and rehabilitation to the inmates of Women's Remand Home.

**Manthan Project:** Under this outreach programme, the student volunteers provide remedial teaching to the underprivileged school children at NGO Manthan, Khagaul. The students visit the centre on Saturdays to train the children in their school subjects.

**Mother Veronica Development Foundation (MVDF):** This scheme supports the economically backward meritorious students of the college through remedial teaching, library facilities, English communication, personality development sessions and skill development training.

**Joy of Giving:** Every year as a philanthropic effort the **Joy of Giving Week** is observed in the college. The students and staff collect cash and needful items during the week that is distributed among the poor, disaster victims, orphans, destitute women and leprosy patients.

**School Mentorship Programme:** PWC runs a mentorship programme in the 20 government secondary schools of Patna. Under this programme different departments have been assigned with mentee schools. The students under the guidance of ISR Coordinators provide classroom teaching and support in other co-curricular/ extra-curricular activities.

**Scholarships:** PWC has instituted following scholarship for continuing the studies of the students. Platinum Jubilee Scholarship, Mother Veronica Development Foundation (MVDF), Freeship, Helping Hand Scholarship, PWC Research Scholarship, PWC Examination Scholarship.

**REDS Project (Ragpickers Education & Development Scheme):** Under this outreach programme, the student volunteers provide remedial teaching to the children of the ragpickers at Charminade Institution, Digha. The volunteers visit the institution to train the children in their school subjects, conduct sport activities and orient them on sanitation issues.

**IT Cell at Garima Grih, Khagaul:** An IT Cell has been furnished by the college with computers and other necessities at Garima Grih, a hostel for the transgender community members. The student volunteers visit the aforesaid hostel on Saturdays to conduct IT classes for the transgender friends providing them with the basic IT knowledge.

**Outreach Programmes for marginalized groups:** For underprivileged people like rickshaw pullers, house maids, rag pickers and Transgender friends, every year special **Christmas Milan programmes** are organized. Many other welfare measures are undertaken for them from time to time.





**Special COVID initiatives:** As a special COVID initiative, masks, hygiene items and provisions were distributed to slum dwellers, transgender groups, poor widows and other needy people of the society. During the COVID lockdowns bicycles and sewing machines were donated to selected support staff members of the college. Full fees waive off was done for 11 students who lost their earning members in the family due to pandemic. The members of the Student Council started a special COVID Helpline through social media to disseminate information regarding availability of hospital beds, oxygen cylinders, etc.

**5. Evidence of Success:** The outreach efforts of the institution have brought noticeable transformation in the overall performance of the beneficiaries.

- There is a marked progress in the performance of the learners associated with ICWA and Manthan Project. They are motivated to perform better in their studies. They have gained confidence and learned interpersonal skills. There is considerable reduction in dropout and failure rates.
- The college students enrolled in the MVDF are doing better in their studies. They have become more confident with computer training and English proficiency.
- The Platinum Jubilee Scholarship eased the load of tuition fees to a considerable extent for the recipients and their parents.
- The transgender members have gained much from the ISR initiatives of the institution. They have got an identity in the society with boost in their self-esteem.
- Our COVID initiatives have reached to many needy and deprived people and have helped them in the time of grave crisis.

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

- Teachers and students at times find it difficult to manage time for outreach activities in their busy schedule.
- Resources are required for financial support given to the beneficiaries, scholarship fund, payments and remunerations for trainers and facilitators, conveyance and transport for reaching to concerned centres, and organizing different programmes, etc.
- There is problem in financial resource mobilization. College is bearing the total financial load for the outreach activities under PWC-PRAYAS at present.
- During the recent COVID crisis and lockdowns, the overall functioning of various outreach activities were seriously disrupted.

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