



Building Inclusive Communities; Integration and Empowerment of Migrants and Refugees



Anna Sebastian

Creating inclusive communities involves seamlessly integrating and empowering diverse groups. This process encourages collaboration, celebrates differences, and ensures that each community member has the resources and support necessary to thrive. Building upon the strengths of individuals, this approach creates a dynamic and interconnected environment that promotes overall community well-being. The Department of Social Work hosted an intriguing seminar centered around the imperative theme of

"Building Inclusive Communities: Integration and Empowerment of Communities." On 23rd February. The event served as a platform for engaging discussions, encouraging awareness, and promoting collaborative efforts towards creating more inclusive and empowered societies.

The keynote speakers of the sessions included Mr. Harish, Project coordinator of Sampark, who gave an overview on intervention strategies that enhance the wellbeing of migrants followed by Dr. TLS Bhaskar, Assistant professor at school of

Social sciences Ramaiah University, Bangalore. He shared his personal experiences in the field. The 3rd session was on Health and Wellbeing of migrants workers by Dr. Caroline Elizabeth George, Consultant and Head of the department of Community Medicine at Bangalore Baptist Hospital, Bangalore.

The next session was taken up by Ms. Sinimol P J, Advocate and Legal Consultant at SRT Law Associates, Bangalore. She provided the participants with insights on Legal and Policy Intervention Strategies for migrant population. The Final session on Youth

migration in India was engaged by Dr. Marchang Reimeingam, Assistant Professor at Centre for Study of Social Change and Development (CSSCD) Institute, Bangalore.

Overall, the seminar highlighted tangible examples of communities that have embraced inclusivity and empowerment to create positive societal transformations.

Attendees gained valuable insights into the role of grassroots initiatives, policy interventions, Strategies, and collaborative partnerships in driving sustainable change.

Reconnecting with Alumni: Professional Development Skills

Anusha V

As part of Alumni Interaction Series, Mr. Gunashekar MSK (2003 – 2005 Batch), Senior Program Manager, Mentor Together was invited to address 2nd MSW students on the topic Professional Development Skills. Being the first MSW batch, he talked about his college days in KJC and then his career growth from working in Rehabilitation Centre to becoming a Programme Manager. Later, when addressing the students about the topic, he highlighted the evolution of various trends and growing opportunities in social sector. Further, he discussed about the professional development skills such as Communication, Self-Management, Self-Control, Problem Solving, Working with People, etc by sharing his experience about the same. He concluded by motivating students to have a passion towards social work and to have a purpose in life which will help them to lead a meaningful and happy life.



Unlocking Success -The Power Of Positive Attitude

Kanchan Kumari

The importance of attitude is something that is frequently overlooked in the chase of career success. But the talk about the Power of Positive Attitude for Professional Success, highlighted how crucial it is. Experienced training consultant Ms. Tanya Vats stressed that having a positive outlook is not only a quality but also a tool for resilience, drive, and successful leadership. Ms. Vats discussed how attitude and behavior differ and how important they are to organizational dynamics by using

examples from her experiences. She emphasized that professionalism, purposefulness, and empathy are the cornerstones of work ethics and they are crucial for success. The students found the workshop to be quite insightful and useful in developing a positive mentality for both personal and professional growth. The occasion, which was led by committed faculty members, promoted learning and introspection in attendees, changing their perspectives on their careers and beyond.

Voices of Experience Alumni Share Their Journeys in Medical Social Work

S Vaishali

The Department of Social Work at Kristu Jayanti College, Bangalore, conducted a pivotal session of the Alumni Interaction Series on February 2, 2024, focusing on the Role of Medical Social Workers. This insightful event welcomed Sr. Jilu Maria, a Senior Medical Social Worker and esteemed alumna from the batch of 2012-2014, to share her professional journey and insights with 37 eager second-year MSW students. The session began with a silent prayer, followed by an introduction from Dr.

Jonas Richard A, Head Department of Social Work who commended Sr. Jilu's humility and dedication. Throughout the session, Sr. Jilu vividly detailed the multifaceted roles of medical social workers, skillfully intertwining her extensive practical experiences in counseling, patient advocacy, and program coordination with the foundational theoretical knowledge she acquired during her studies. Moreover, she candidly shared the challenges she encountered throughout her career, along with effective strategies she

employed to overcome them. Her stories were not just narratives of personal growth but served as a beacon of motivation for the students present. The session aimed to offer practical career advice and networking opportunities supporting job placement. Concluding with thanks from student coordinator

Ms. Aditi Parsai, the event underscored the faculty's collaborative spirit, led by Dr. Jonas Richard A. It provided students with a comprehensive understanding of medical social work, encouraging them to delve into the field's trends and opportunities.





Empowering voices: Amplifying equality

S Vaishali

The Department of Social Work at Kristu Jayanti College Autonomous, Bengaluru, in collaboration with VISTHAR, Bengaluru, hosted a transformative two-day Gender Sensitization Workshop on February 26th and 27th, 2024 at VISTHAR, Bengaluru.

Themed "Mainstreaming Gender in Social Work: Challenges and Opportunities," the event was graced by 54 enthusiastic first-year MSW students from Kristu Jayanti College Autonomous, Bengaluru. Guided by esteemed resource persons Prof. Mercy Kappen, Executive Director of VISTHAR, and Ms. Rajkumari

Nimbale, Training Coordinator at VISTHAR, the workshop aimed to delve deep into gender issues, evaluate women empowerment programs, and explore the social worker's role concerning gender, the workshop embarked on an enlightening journey. Interactive sessions, role-plays, and thought-provoking activities facilitated a comprehensive understanding of sex and gender differences, societal stereotypes, power dynamics, and the intricate web of intersectionality. Profound discussions on gender-based violence and various approaches to women's development further enriched the

Scope of Social Work Practice in UK

Larisha Wahlang

Social work in the UK offers a wide scope of practice across diverse sectors including child protection, adult services, mental health, substance abuse, and community development. With professional standards and legislations ensuring the well-being of individuals across age groups, social workers play crucial roles in advocating for and supporting vulnerable populations. Mr. Tomy Sebastian, Managing Director of T&T Global Recruitment Ltd, in his session, highlighted key practice areas such as children, adult social care, mental health, and promoting, emphasizing requisite knowledge and skills. The session also addressed the registration process for social workers in the UK and abroad, offering students a pathway to pursue careers internationally. By equipping students with insights into various practice areas and legal frameworks, the session enabled them to understand the breadth of opportunities available and how to navigate their professional journey effectively. Overall, social work in the UK serves as an important platform for addressing social inequalities, promoting social justice, and enhancing the overall well-being of communities.



discourse. The workshop achieved its objectives splendidly, empowering students with insights on addressing gender stereotypes and intersectionality in social work. The participatory and activity-based approach ensured a high engagement level, making the learning experience both impactful and memorable.

As the workshop concluded, the participants left with a renewed perspective on gender issues, ready to advocate for equality and empowerment in their future social work endeavors. In a world where gender stereotypes persist, let's rewrite the narrative with equality, respect and inclusivity.

Alumni Interaction Series: Virtual Internships

Anna Sebastian

In a commendable initiative designed to empower students with valuable career knowledge, the Department of Social Work organized Alumni Interaction Series.

One of the sessions among them was on "Virtual Internship". The session, held on February 5th, 2024, aimed to provide students with insightful guidance and practical knowledge on virtual internships. Recognizing the immense potential of virtual internships in today's dynamic professional landscape, the department invited a distinguished alumna, Ms. Wilma A. Mathews, to share her expertise with the students.

Ms. Wilma, a manager – Donor Relationship and

Development at Nirmaan Society, is a graduate from the department's batch of 2016-2018. Her experience in the field, coupled with her academic background in social work, makes her a valuable asset to the students seeking to begin a journey on virtual internships.

The department's decision to invite Ms. Wilma Mathews underscores its commitment to providing students with access to accomplished professionals who can offer practical advice and real-world experiences.

The session aimed to provide internship opportunities to the students at Nirmaan Society while also raising awareness about child labour and the efforts of the organization in addressing it. Additionally, the session focused on the importance

of managing NGOs by sharing alumni experiences.

Dr. Jonas Richard A., Head of the Department of Social Work, introduced Ms. Wilma, highlighting her dedication, time management skills, and ability to face challenges.

The session concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Ms. Kanchan Kumari, the student coordinator. The successful event was

coordinated by the department faculty, Dr. Winnie Joyce A., Dr. Sathish Kumar R., and Dr. Bijaya Laxmi Sahoo, under the guidance of Dr. Jonas Richard A.

The outcomes of the session provided students with valuable internship opportunities. The students expressed their gratitude for the internship opportunities, and the Alumna appreciated their active participation and support

Empowering Advocacy: The Role of Social Workers in Blood Donation

Kanchan Kumari

Mr. Philip George, a medical social worker from St. John's Medical College Hospital in Bengaluru, addressed students during the expert lecture which focused on the significance of voluntary blood donation and social workers' vital role in blood banks. Students learned about the various recipients of blood transfusions, from cancer patients to accident victims, and received insightful knowledge of blood banking operations, including the procedures for collection, testing, and distribution.

With his experience, Mr. George clarified the critical role social workers play in setting up donation camps, breaking taboos, and offering caretakers and receivers counseling. Social workers also help donors and recipients emotionally and organize education and awareness programs to ensure community comprehension and participation. This creates a caring and knowledgeable atmosphere that encourages voluntary blood donation. Participants get a deeper understanding of healthcare advocacy and community welfare through the session. This event advocates for life-saving programs like voluntary blood donation and acts as a spark for students to think about a future in social work.



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