



ANDHRA LOYOLA COLLEGE

AUTONOMOUS :: VIJAYAWADA - 520 008

Established : 1954

A CHRISTIAN MINORITY COLLEGE WITH CONSTITUTIONALLY PROVIDED RIGHT OF ADMISSION
(AN ISO 14001 : 2015 INSTITUTION)

THE ONLY COLLEGE IN BOTH THE TELUGU STATES TO HAVE BEEN RANKED AMONG
THE TOP 150 COLLEGES BY NIRF SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE RANKING IN 2017

SELECTED UNDER THE STAR COLLEGE SCHEME OF DBT AND FIST PROGRAMME OF DST, GOVT.OF INDIA
SELECTED FOR ENHANCEMENT OF QUALITY AND EXCELLENCE UNDER RUSA BY MHRD, GOVT.OF INDIA

**POLICIES OF EXTENSION PROGRAMS
ALERT & ALANA**

A College Dedicated to All-Round Development of its Students





Andhra Loyola College (Autonomous)

VIJAYAWADA-520 008.

Accredited in III Cycle at A* Grade with a CGPA of 3.66 / 4.00

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POLICIES OF EXTENSION PROGRAMS:

ALERT AND ALANA

In alignment with its goals and objectives, Andhra Loyola College (ALC) has identified its Extension Program as a core area of operation. Embracing its Institutional Social Responsibility, ALC recognizes that its role extends beyond merely generating and transferring knowledge. It also aims to provide extension services that transfer the benefits of the knowledge it generates and preserves. Consequently, ALC organizes two distinct extension programs: ALERT (Andhra Loyola Extension Service for Rural Transformation) and ALANA (Andhra Loyola Assistance for Neighborhood Advancement). ALERT (Andhra Loyola Extension Service for Rural Transformation) was introduced in the academic year 2003-2004 as 2012-2013 as part of the College's Golden Jubilee initiative. And as part of the College's Diamond Jubilee initiative ALANA (Andhra Loyola Assistance for Neighborhood Advancement) was introduced. Both the programs are integral components of the curriculum for first-year degree students, mandatory for the award of degree and credits are assigned in the Choice Based Credit System of the College.

Objectives and Significance

The extension programs at ALC are the most influential conceptualizations of macro-social work practice. They aim to develop a comprehensive plan of action for community development and rural education. These programs are designed to be 'mixed and phased,' ensuring a holistic approach to empowering communities and fostering sustainable development.

ANDHRA LOYOLA EXTENSION SERVICE FOR RURAL TRANSFORMATION (ALERT)

ALERT operates with three distinct strategies, each contributing uniquely to the overarching goal of rural transformation:

1. Locality Development (Bottom-Up)

The locality development strategy is a bottom-up, self-help, participatory model of change. Through ALERT, students engage directly with local residents, providing encouragement, support, and expert knowledge. This strategy involves students working side-by-side with the community to create conditions conducive to change and empowerment. The goal is to foster a sense of ownership and active participation among community members in their development process.

2. Social Planning (Top-Down)

The social planning strategy adopts a top-down approach to community development, emphasizing the technical aspects of problem-solving. In this model, ALERT students guide and control the development process using their technical skills. This includes sophisticated

data collection, analysis, and the presentation of systematic reports to the relevant authorities. By doing so, students help in crafting informed and effective development plans that address the specific needs and challenges of the community.

3. Social Action (Inside-Out)

The social action strategy is an inside-out approach that focuses on organizing overlooked segments of the community to stand up for their rights and demands. Through ALERT, students work with these community segments to ensure that their needs and concerns are addressed. This strategy empowers marginalized groups, giving them the tools and support needed to advocate for themselves and initiate meaningful change.

ALERT – SHGs (Self-Help Groups)

Following the devastating 2004 Tsunami, under the extension program of Andhra Loyola College, Andhra Loyola Extension for Rural Transformation (ALERT), embarked on a mission to support and uplift the women in the villages along the Manginapudi sea coast of Krishna District. This initiative aimed at self-economic empowerment and upliftment of women, primarily from dalit habitats, through the establishment of Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

Objectives:

1. Economic Empowerment: Enable women to earn their own income and become self-reliant.
2. Skill Development: Provide training in various vocations to enhance the skills of the members.
3. Community Building: Foster a sense of community and mutual support among the women.
4. Financial Inclusion: Encourage saving habits and facilitate access to credit through a revolving fund.

Key Activities and Outcomes Year-Wise:

2004-2018: Formation and Consolidation of SHGs

- Initial Steps: Women in Manginapudi, Usalavaripalem, Raipalli, Atchavaripalem, Jinjeru, and Gudlavaluru were motivated to form SHGs.
- Financial Support: Loans with 50% subsidy were provided initially. Over time, the SHGs established a revolving fund through regular savings deposited in a bank account.
- Empowerment through Vocations: Members engaged in small vocations such as animal husbandry, tailoring, gold covering work, and petty businesses. By 2018, there were 17 SHGs with 378 members who had become self-reliant.

2018-19: Introduction of Mushroom Cultivation

- Mushroom Cultivation Farm: Established at Gudlavaluru Village on November 24, 2018.
- Training Program: Conducted by Mr. Jaya Chandra from Tanushri Mushrooms, Vijayawada, covering the preparation of mushroom beds and installation.

2019-20: Focus on Imitation Jewelry

- Imitation Jewelry Workshop: A two-day training session from November 24-25, 2019, at Atchavaripalem, led by Syamala Gold Covering Works, Machilipatnam.
- Establishment of Jewelry Unit: A small unit was set up in a rented house, initially with 10 members. This unit grew to employ 30 members, each earning Rs. 5,000 per week.
- Assessment Visit: Rev. Fr. Victor Emmanuel S.J and other officials visited the SHGs to assess the progress of income generation programs.
- Annual Meeting & Semi-Christmas Programme: Held on December 21, 2019, at Manginapudi, featuring various community activities and distribution of sarees to widows and elderly women.

2020-21 and 2021-22: Exhibitions and Outreach

- Exhibitions of Handicrafts and Decorative Items:
 - First exhibition on November 17, 2021.
 - Second exhibition on March 10, 2022.
- Outreach and Sales: SHG members organized stalls in schools, colleges, and public places, showcasing items like jute bags, paper flowers, and candles.
- Skills Development: These activities helped members enhance their communication and marketing skills, contributing to their financial independence and empowerment.

The Self-Help Groups initiative by Andhra Loyola College has successfully empowered women in rural areas by providing them with economic opportunities, skills training, and a platform for community support. The activities over the years have led to significant improvements in the livelihoods and self-reliance of the SHG members, showcasing a sustainable model for rural development and women empowerment.

ANDHRA LOYOLA ASSISTANCE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ADVANCEMENT (ALANA)

Andhra Loyola College (ALC) believes that its existence extends beyond providing extension services for rural transformation. It is also dedicated to transferring the benefits of the knowledge it generates to the urban neighborhood community, particularly to school-going children. In line with this vision, ALC has initiated a distinct extension program named ALANA (Andhra Loyola Assistance for Neighborhood Advancement) from the academic year 2012-2013.

Overview of ALANA

ALANA is an intervention and educational process designed to induce voluntary behavioral change. The program focuses on various target processes and outcomes, integrating technological, research, and professional dimensions. The primary goal of ALANA is to engage ALC students and their classroom learning in a meaningful way to benefit schools operated by the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation and other governmental institutions.

Vision

To provide value-based, supportive, and supplementary education to the underprivileged children attending Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Schools.

Mission

To offer evening supplementary coaching sessions as a Recipe of Joyful Learning. These sessions aim to enlighten children on the importance of education while imparting three essential aspects: character building, nation building, and economic advantage.

Program Structure

The ALANA program operates at three levels:

1. Student-----Student
2. Faculty-----Faculty
3. Institution-----Institution

Student-----Student

At this level, ALC students tutor and mentor children from classes VI to VIII. They assist them with their daily homework and prepare them for the next day's lessons. These one-hour guided tutorials take place after school hours within the school premises. The aim is to cultivate a habit of daily learning and regular study habits among the school children. Efforts are made to ensure these sessions are engaging and enjoyable, rather than burdensome and boring.

Faculty-----Faculty

This level focuses on the professional development of school teachers. ALC faculty conduct periodical need-based refresher courses on the second Saturday of every month to keep school teachers updated on the latest developments in their respective fields. This interaction aims to enhance the professionalism and teaching quality of the school staff.

Institution-----Institution

At the institutional level, ALC extends its science laboratories and other infrastructural facilities to benefit the government schools. This collaboration provides students with hands-on experience and exposure to advanced educational resources.

Memorandum of Understanding

ALC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation to implement the ALANA program. Under this agreement, ALC has adopted 23 Upper Primary and High Schools in the city, covering more than 4500 pupils. First-year degree students, numbering over 900, are divided into two batches to visit these schools. They assist pupils with their homework and prepare them for the next day's studies. Occasionally, ALC students also conduct extracurricular activities and bring the pupils to the college for various events.

Supervision and Implementation

Designated lecturers supervise all activities to ensure regularity and proper conduct of ALC students. These lecturers guide the students and interact with school staff as necessary to facilitate smooth execution of the program.

The ALANA program embodies ALC's commitment to social responsibility and community engagement. By involving students in meaningful educational interventions, ALC not only enhances the learning experience for school children but also fosters a spirit of service and responsibility among its own students. Through ALANA, ALC contributes significantly to the educational and social upliftment of the urban neighborhood community.

ALANA – MANNA: A Beacon of Compassion and Hope

The ALANA – MANNA program, spearheaded by the College Extension wing of Andhra Loyola College (Autonomous) Vijayawada, under ALANA (Andhra Loyola Assistance for Neighborhood Advancement) embodies a profound commitment to addressing the plight of destitute individuals enduring harsh conditions on footpaths and bus shelters. This compassionate initiative seeks to provide essential support to some of the most vulnerable members of society. Student volunteers play a pivotal role in this endeavor, actively engaging in outreach efforts that extend beyond mere provision of necessities to fostering a sense of empathy and community support.

Compassion in Action:

At the heart of ALANA – MANNA is the dedication to alleviating the immediate needs of the destitute. Student volunteers distribute essential provisions such as food and clothing, ensuring that those living on the fringes of society receive the support they desperately need. This hands-on involvement allows volunteers to connect with marginalized individuals on a personal level, offering not just material aid but also emotional support. By engaging directly with those in need, students develop a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by the destitute and cultivate a sense of empathy and responsibility towards their community.

Holistic Support for the Homeless:

The program's outreach efforts are multifaceted, addressing various aspects of homelessness and destitution. By providing regular nutritional support and clothing, ALANA – MANNA aims to improve the living conditions of individuals who have been marginalized by society. The initiative goes beyond temporary relief, focusing on building a connection with the homeless population, which is crucial for fostering trust and ensuring the continuity of support.

Collaborative Efforts for HIV/AIDS Support:

In addition to aiding those facing homelessness, ALANA – MANNA extends its compassionate reach to individuals affected by HIV/AIDS. This aspect of the program is conducted in collaboration with local NGOs and the District Aids Control Prevention Unit (DAPCU). Recognizing the unique challenges faced by People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA), the program provides nutritional supplementary provisions every two months. This

strategic intervention is aimed at enhancing the immunity of PLHA through regular dietary support, acknowledging the critical role nutrition plays in their overall well-being.

Strategic Nutritional Interventions:

The focus on nutrition within the ALANA – MANNA program is particularly significant for individuals grappling with health challenges such as HIV/AIDS. Proper nutrition is essential for maintaining a strong immune system, which is crucial for PLHA. By ensuring that these individuals receive regular, nutritious food, the program not only helps in managing their health conditions but also improves their quality of life. This nutritional support is a lifeline for many, helping them to better cope with the complex challenges associated with their condition.

Fostering Empathy and Community Support:

ALANA – MANNA's impact extends beyond the immediate benefits of food and clothing distribution. By involving student volunteers in direct outreach efforts, the program fosters a culture of empathy and social responsibility within the college community. These students gain valuable insights into the realities of destitution and HIV/AIDS, which can shape their perspectives and inspire them to continue advocating for social justice throughout their lives.

A Beacon of Hope....

The ALANA – MANNA program stands as a beacon of hope, illuminating the lives of both destitute populations and individuals living with HIV/AIDS. Its comprehensive approach to support, encompassing essential provisions and nutritional interventions, addresses both immediate and long-term needs. Through this initiative, Andhra Loyola College (Autonomous) Vijayawada demonstrates its unwavering commitment to compassion, community service, and the betterment of society.

The ALANA – MANNA program exemplifies the profound impact of coordinated community efforts and the power of empathy. By reaching out to those in dire need and providing sustained support, this initiative not only alleviates suffering but also builds bridges of understanding and compassion. It serves as a powerful reminder of the positive change that can be achieved when individuals come together with a shared commitment to helping others.

IN CONCLUSION....

Andhra Loyola College's extension programs, ALERT and ALANA, exemplify the institution's commitment to social responsibility and community empowerment. By integrating these programs into the curriculum, ALC not only enhances the educational experience of its students but also contributes significantly to the development and well-being of the communities it serves. Through a combination of bottom-up, top-down, and inside-out strategies, these programs foster sustainable development, social justice, and active citizenship among students and community members alike.