

STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM

- KAYANTAR FOUNDATION

Kayantar Foundation works to support marginalized communities to acquire conducive living conditions through an integrated development approach by focusing on Sustainable Development Goals, working in the realms of education, health, and employment.

About the Student Leadership And Volunteering Program

The Student Leadership and Volunteering Program (SLVP) was a month-long internship program designed to creatively engage with social leadership projects in order to help the disadvantaged community. Selected students from class 8-12 participated in the program. SLVP aimed at developing leadership potential making each child socially aware by inculcating key skills like communication, leadership, critical thinking, creative thinking, emotional intelligence, empathy, proactiveness, and also helping them learn how to take challenges, overcome obstacles, teamwork and more. They participated in an interactive workshop on crucial life skills and crowdfunding skills, followed by an online campaign. Further the students undertook content creation for learning, creating a youth centric space and raised resources to support the marginalized community.



Making learning modules for the children in the marginalized community



Interactive online session with the facilitator

Experiences of Interns

Anwasha Sharma (10 A)

St. Mary's school has always brought forward new opportunities for its students in all fields, from social work to inter school competitions and exchange programs. However, with the onset of the pandemic last year, everything came to a standstill. Social and work life screeched to a halt, and I had a sinking feeling that I wouldn't be able to even go to school, let alone take up any kind of projects like my seniors. But surprisingly, the internet came to our rescue once again, literally embodying the phrase, 'where there is a will, there is a way.'

That is why I was extremely thrilled to find out about the internship offered by the Kayantar Foundation. Kayantar Foundation is an organization that works to support marginalized communities. Their primary focus is on sustainable development, education and healthcare. By giving their all to these issues, they have been able to help multiple people and have been able to include many students from all over India to participate in the cause.

To add, this was my first ever internship. Mr. Alokesh Sharma conducted these sessions for us every Friday. Over the next four weeks, we were given different tasks to accomplish. His friendly nature made him an easy person to connect with instantly. The sessions were full of new concepts and ideas. In the first session, on the 23rd of July, we were briefed about the program and how the internship had multiple benefits for us in the future. The first task was pretty challenging, in my opinion. We had to pick up a few learning objectives issued by NCERT in 2017. As students, we were given the chance to take the process of teaching in our own hands, which we often complain about being monotonous. We needed to make videos on any chapter of Science, Math and English. I felt that the whole point was to make the videos interesting, short and interactive. Because as a student that is the way I expect to be taught as

well. I wanted to share knowledge in a simple but fun way. I made a video for class sixth, in which I explained the scientific concepts and definitions through experiments. The idea was that rather than just telling, the topics would be grasped better by the children if they saw how exactly the process happens.

The second task was the one I enjoyed the most. It was about expressing anything about the problems teenagers go through today. I focused on the importance of sex education in India, and how adults often tend to treat their kids as vessels or vehicles for a future that they couldn't grasp in their or how they prioritized being seen as honorable and upstanding by their extended family over the safety and physical and mental well-being of their own children, which can lead to strained relationships and budding resentment towards authority figures in the future. I am really hoping that what I wrote will connect with teenagers since this is an unspoken problem in modern society that needs to be addressed.

I thoroughly enjoyed my internship. This internship taught me to be a thinker. It helped me hone my communication skills. It was short and sweet but it taught me a lot. Old skills have been enhanced and the new ones that I learnt will definitely help me in the future.

Avni Budhiraja (9 A)

“All in all, this past one month of me working for this internship was a wonderful experience as it was mainly for helping out people and working in a group, itself is a big learning. I would really like to acknowledge my teachers who gave me this opportunity which I will cherish for a lifetime.”

Pranavi Vaishnava (12 A)

This internship was a month-long program in which we were given certain tasks every week and we had to accomplish them in the given period of time. We used to meet once in a week where we were informed about the tasks and were given instructions regarding the same.

The program started from 23rd July, on which our first meeting was held. In the meeting we were introduced to the first task, that was to create video lessons for children living in marginalized communities, who don't have any access to education due to this pandemic. We were divided in three groups according to the subjects which were Science, Mathematics and English. Basically, we had to teach children any topic from class 1-8, under these three subjects.

In the second meeting which was held on 30th July, we were informed about the second task which was to raise funds. Team Kayantar foundation had taken the initiative of supporting 6500 villagers from Bainsi village of Nuh district, Haryana with education, health, and employment. For this they needed funds to go ahead with their initiative. So, in our 2nd task, each one of us was supposed to raise at least INR 35,000, in order to support 48 villagers of that village. On doing so, we would get several rewards depending on how much funds we have raised. This fundraising campaign was a 14-day project which ended on 13th August.

In our next meeting which was held on 6th August, we are told about our third task that was article writing. So, basically we had to write an article on any pressing topic which we feel is very important, in order to spread awareness among the Youth regarding this issue, and creating Youth centric spaces. Our last meeting was held on 20th August. It was just a closing session and if anyone had any doubts, they could clear them there itself.

Overall, it was a great experience for me where I learnt leadership and coordination skills. Also, I felt empathetic towards the people who are not as privileged as me. I am looking forward to more such programs, in which we could help people in whatever way we can.



**ARTICLE BY OUR INTERN-
ALI HUSSAIN**



Feminism Unraveled

Article by our intern,
Pranavi Vaishnava





kayantarfoundation



Youth and Mental Health

An article by our intern
Angelina Samuel from St Mary's
school, New Delhi

