
iEARN Professional Development Program

Youth Volunteering and Community Service Workshop

Time: 10:00am-4:00pm

Target Professionals: Subject teachers, Computer Teachers, Principals/Head teachers, Curriculum Directors/Coordinators, Head of the Departments and Trainee/Pre-Service teachers

Abstract: How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. (Anne Frank)

Community service is a voluntary activity that in some way benefits members of the community. The promotion of volunteerism, i.e. a favorable attitude toward volunteer work in the minds of individuals, is seen as the primary purpose of community service activities. It directly benefits to the community through the work performed. Youth are able to play many more social roles than we usually give them credit for. Leaders from schools and community groups can use service-learning as a powerful vehicle to improve students' achievement, build character, and build leadership skills.

Through this workshop we aim at enabling teachers to implement one of the most rewarding and high impact efforts for their communities by involving young people in service and service-learning. The first part of the workshop session will present the basic concept, strategic planning and curriculum integration of a school wise service learning program. Participants will be introduced to a structured framework to support the design and preparation of service projects lead by groups of young people. Presenter will illustrate using several examples of service learning projects taken up by students group in and around Pakistan.

The second part of the workshop would undertake the introduction of and planning for the GYSD (Global Youth Service Day). GYSD, the largest service event in the world, mobilizes youth to identify and address the needs of their communities through service, recruits the next generation of volunteers, and educates the public about the year-round contributions of young people as community leaders. A range of possible service learning projects will be presented for teachers to adapt or choose from for implementing with their students. The workshop activities will utilize well designed tools to help teachers engage youth leaders, and young people plan quality service projects, recruit volunteers, identify costs, raise funds, generate media attention, and incorporate service-learning practices as a part of the school curriculum. A teacher's guide would be given to each of the participants containing valuable resources on community service and service learning projects.

Topics Focused:

- Volunteering and Community Service (Why? What? Where and How?)
- Creating a school wide service learning program

- Designing a service learning project
 - Designing a process flow chart for the project completion
 - Types of projects and ideas by academic subject areas
 - Celebrating and reflecting service learning the GYSD (Global Youth Service Day).
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