

VAPP Report 2019-20

The Voluntary Agency Placement Programme (VAPP) at LSR provides a space for students to engage with environmental and socio-economic issues, to volunteer with NGOs working at the grassroots level and to actively participate in community development projects. Keeping these objectives in mind VAPP organized a series of events throughout the academic year.

VAPP began its activities in 2019-20 with an event called 'The Art of Clowning' in collaboration with Youth Alliance on 8th August, 2019. It attracted enthusiastic participation from the 48 students who attended it. On the occasion of World Suicide Prevention Day 11th September, 2019, VAPP screened a short film, *I'm Here Too*, which focused on the important issue of suicide. The screening was followed by an animated discussion among the 42 student participants.

In collaboration with Uday Foundation, VAPP launched a Collection Drive for the poor and underprivileged patients at AIIMS, Delhi from 3rd September to 7th September, 2019. On 13th September, Organ India was invited to hold a session on Organ Donation. This informative session dispelled many of the myths associated with the subject. This was preceded on 12th September by an interactive session in collaboration with the NGO Pravah on the theme "Understanding Perspectives on Youth Development- Ocean in a drop". More than 50 students were present for the interaction.

On 17th October 2019, VAPP organized an eco-friendly Diwali workshop in collaboration with the NGO, Teach for Green. The students made newspaper bags and seed balls in a fun filled manner.

VAPP collaborated with WUS to organize a breast cancer awareness session on 23rd October, 2019 in collaboration with Pinkishe Organisation. The session was conducted by Dr. Rashi Aggarwal, consultant, Oncology Department in Max Super Speciality Hospital and Mrs. Pallavi Srivastava from Pinkishe NGO. The 35 students who attended were informed about the importance of timely detection of breast Cancer.

Another interesting event organized by VAPP was a Sound Healing Therapy Session. This was held on 31st October, 2019 in collaboration with the Off Beat Foundation and had 45 participants.

An interactive session called 'Up, Close and Real- Climate Change', was organized on 8th November 2019, to discuss the various ways through which the effects of climate change can be mitigated.

Along with conducting formal sessions, VAPP also organized several informal team-building sessions which helped members work more effectively together. As in earlier years, VAPP brought out its magazine PULSE and newsletter INSIGHT. Furthermore, through VAPP, students were provided opportunities for about 150 internships in the voluntary sector.

Online Activities- VAPP remained active during the lockdown period as well and conducted sessions on important student related issues. These included a Meditation session by Navyam on 10th April, 2020, which was attended by 40 students and a talk by Psychologist Pragya Lodha on 12th April on "How to maintain your Mental Health".

Two other sessions focused on “Empowering Youth in Covid-19” and Child Sexual Abuse. These were conducted in collaboration with partner NGOs Pravah and Arpan respectively and were held on 7th April and 16th April 2020. An average of 50 students joined each of these online sessions.

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