



Ph : 080 – 26933221

BHS HIGHER EDUCATION SOCIETY

VIJAYA COLLEGE

R V ROAD, BASAVANAGUDI, BANGALORE – 560 004

(ACCREDITED BY NAAC WITH 'B' GRADE &
RECOGNIZED BY UGC AS CPE)

EMAIL ID :

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Best Practice – I

1. Title of the Practice:

Financial Aid to the deserving students through Scholarships

- a. BHS Higher Education Society (BHSHEs) Student Scholarship,
- b. Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni (VVA) Scholarships and
- c. Jeeva Vijaya Alumni Scholarship

1. Objectives of the Practice:

- To extend financial aid to the deserving students to discourage them from discontinuation of their studies owing to poverty.
- To support financially all the deserving economically weaker students without any discrimination of caste, creed, or gender.

The expected outcome is that the students should be able to complete their degrees with good marks. They will at least be transformed as first level graduates in their families. It is desired that these student beneficiaries, in future, would treat the needy with the principle of '*lend help without discrimination*'.

2. The Context

“Education is the most powerful weapon which one can use to change the world” –

Nelson Mandela.

Education is the single powerful tool for empowerment, to generate critical and analytical thinking, and to develop skills needed to make this world a better place to live.

The following is the context under which the financial aid was introduced in the institution.

- It has been envisaged by the BHSHEs management time and again that it needs to cater education to economically and socially backward classes. The profile of students enrolled to various courses in the college has demonstrated that the students hail from low economic background with children belonging to first



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generation learners being the wards of drivers, maid servants, masons, vegetable vendors, carpenters, etc.

- The social and economic profile of the parents show that most of them are unable to provide their children the required fees to pursue education and due to financial instability make their wards support the families by forcing them to take part – time job or discontinue studies.
- Many of the girl students are made to discontinue their studies due to financial constraints. Considering this issue, it is envisaged that promoting gender equity requires girl students also get the scholarships which would prevent them from discontinuing the studies.

Citing these hardships, the BHS Higher Education Society, Vijaya Vannijya Alumni and Jeeva Vijaya Alumni have come forward to support the cause of higher education to these children.

After comprehensive deliberations with students and teachers, it was decided to extend the benefit to all the poor but meritorious students without any discrimination of caste, creed, or gender.

3. The Practice

A. BHS Higher Education Society Student Scholarship :

The eligibility criterion for availing the BHS HES Student Scholarship is the following.

- i. Student should not have applied for any other scholarship.
- ii. Student should not have availed the fee concession provided by the management.
- iii. Annual income should be less than Rs.2=00 Lakhs. Parental income certificate should be attached.
- iv. Student should have secured at least 60% and should not have any backlogs.
- v. Attendance norms should have been fulfilled.

At the college level, for awarding BHS HES Student Scholarship, a Scholarship Committee is constituted comprising senior teachers of the college. Applications on plain paper with



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supporting documents attached are invited from all students satisfying the eligibility criterion. The students are interviewed to ascertain the facts mentioned in the applications. Later, the applications and the observations made in the interviews are reviewed in the committee. The committee finalizes the list of eligible students for the BHS HES Scholarship after due verification of the documentary evidence enclosed and strictly following the guidelines framed for the purpose and submits the same to the Management for approval. The management communicates to the college the actual number of scholarships provided for the academic year and provides the requisite number of printed application forms to be filled – in by the students and submitted along with the documents. In each application, the recommendations of the committee members and the Principal is to be recorded and sent to the management office.

The BHS HES Scholarship committee at the management level reviews the applications and the documents and a formal sanction is notified. A formal function would be conducted at the management level in 4th Block Jayanagar Campus and the cheques are distributed institution – wise in the programme.

During the present academic year 2020 – 21, the number of student beneficiaries have been increased and the quantum of financial support is also increased to offshoot the Covid pandemic induced economic constraints.

Endowment Prizes and the individual teachers' help are also provided as financial assistance to meritorious and poor students, Sports students, toppers in academics. Prof. D P Ravindra, a senior faculty member of Commerce Department, has been providing cash prizes to students who have secured centums in any subject. Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry has instituted cash prizes to all those students who secure centums in Chemistry & Biochemistry in any of the semester. Department of Physics has instituted the cash prize to the top scorer in Physics in each semester.

B. VVA (Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni) Scholarships :

At the time of admissions, whoever is deserving are suggested to apply in the application forms generated by Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni(VVA) maintained with the HOD of Commerce.



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All the applications along with the documents are sent to the VVA office for processing. VVA office bearers conduct interviews with the student and the parent. They also visit the residences of the students to ascertain whether they really deserve the scholarship, make an assessment on their visit and the quantum of scholarship is decided. The list of selected students along with the scholarship cheque payable towards the fees are sent to The Principal, Vijaya College. The scholarship is adjusted towards the college fees and the remaining amount will be distributed to the respective students. All those students who receive the scholarships in the first year will automatically get the scholarships in subsequent years with the same quantum of support. Usually, merit is also insisted on continuation of scholarship for the subsequent year.

C. Jeeva Vijaya Alumni Scholarships

Jeeva Vijaya Alumni Trust - Life science student's Alumni of Vijaya College, R V Road, incorporated **Dr. MJS – Dr.TSV Scholarship** in the year 2017 – 18 for the students of life sciences in Vijaya College.

The scholarship is instituted in the names of two eminent teachers; Dr. M J Sundar Ram and Dr. T S Vaidyeshwara who first established the departments of Zoology and Botany respectively in the college. Scholarship amount distributed is Rs. 10,000/- per student. The scholarship is given to encourage the students to complete graduation and pursue higher studies in life sciences.

The process of selecting the students for the scholarship includes following well thought of steps:

1. Eligible students are given Scholarship Application Forms by teachers of Life science departments.
2. Applications are broadly shortlisted by teachers of Life science departments based on the merit and financial background of the applicants.
3. Shortlisted students with their parents are interviewed by a team of Jeeva Vijaya Trust members to ascertain the financial background, merit, and future educational plans of the applicants and based on that the applicants are selected for scholarship.



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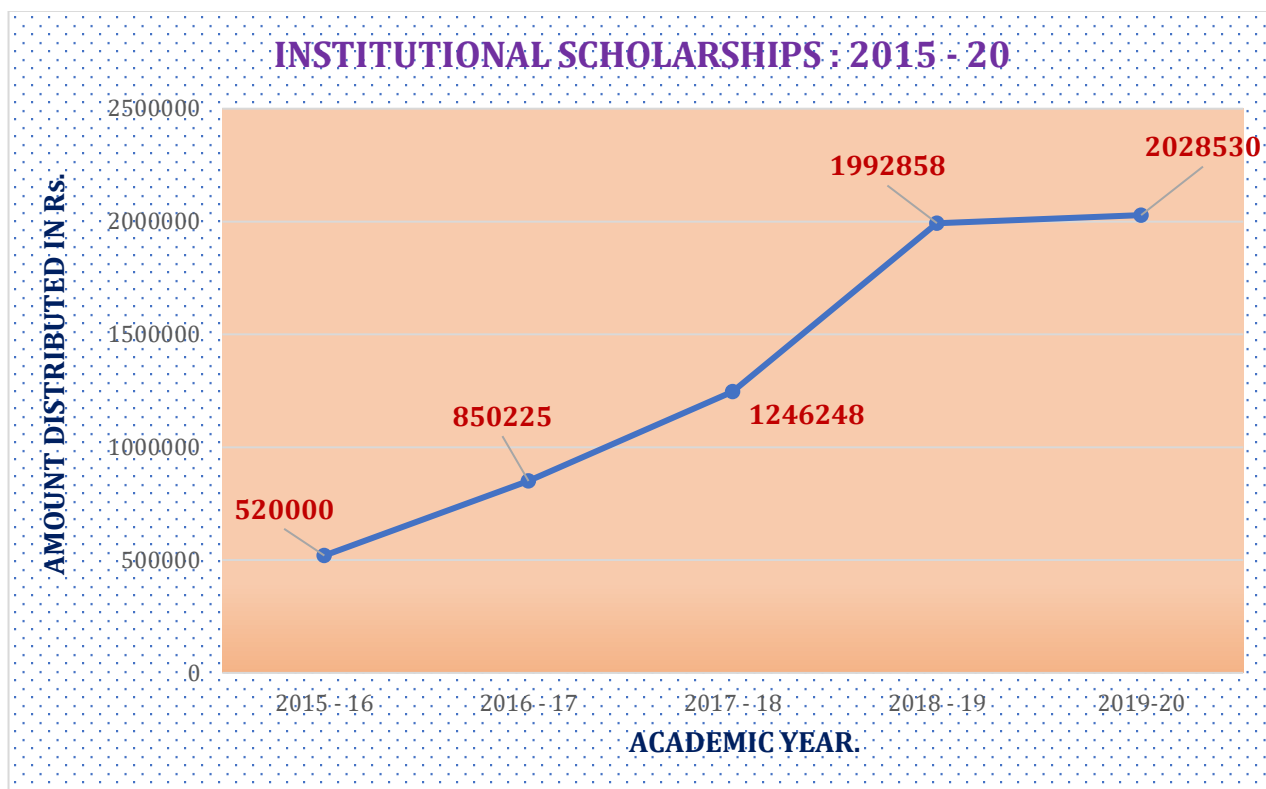
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- The selected students are given the Dr. MJS – Dr.TSV Scholarship in a formal function in the month of October-November.



4. Evidence of Success

To cite one of the many success stories of this noble practice, Miss. B S Niveditha, student of BcGmb during 2016-19 Batch, was paid scholarship of Rs. 20,000/- for two consecutive years by BHS HES and one year by Jeeva Vijaya of Rs.10,000/-. She completed B.Sc. degree successfully securing 4th rank in the Bangalore University with more than 94% of marks. Presently, she is pursuing M.Sc. Biochemistry at Central College, Bengaluru City University.

This way the practice has a positive impact on the academic abilities and attitudinal changes among the beneficiaries. The review results of the aid indicate that the humble assistance not only enables the poor students to acquire higher education but also moulds them to be responsible citizens to continue the legacy of helping the students of successive batches.



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The following is the list of such few students, who emerged as beneficiaries of the scheme. Description of success stories of all the beneficiaries is very difficult to be completed in this brief overview.



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Sl. No	Name	Reg. No.	Course Studied	Batch	Aggregate CGPA/ Percentage marks	Present location
1	Akash Prakash Purushan	16BVS85001	BSc PCM	2016-2019	8.89	Pursuing MSc in Organic chemistry at Bengaluru Central University Central college campus Bangalore
2	Nagendra S	16BVS85026	BSc PCM	2016-2019	9.16	Pursuing MSc Mathematics at the Department of Studies in Mathematics, Manasagangotri, University of Mysore
3	B.S.Niveditha	16BVS85208	BSc BcGMb	2016-19	93.48% University Rank 4th	Pursuing MSc Biochemistry at Bengaluru University Central college campus Bangalore Qualified in KSET
4	Brunda	15BVS85010	BSc PCM	2015-2018	90.02%	PG: M.Sc in Mathematics College: Jnana Bharati campus, Bangalore University. Period: 2018-2020. About to join B.Ed course.
5	Surabhi N	15BVS85048	BSc PCM	2015-2018	91.96% University Rank 6th	PG:- M.Sc in Mathematics College:- Jnanabharathi Campus, Bangalore University Period:- 2018-2020 % secured:- 91.38% University Rank:- 1st Present:- About to join B.Ed course



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6	Girish Sharma	14BVS85016	BSc PCM	2014- 2017	94% Universi ty Rank 4th	Pursuing Ph.D. in Christ College
7	SUPRAJA S	C1827168	B.Com.	2018 - 21	78% Average	Pursuing 6 th Sem B. Com.
8	CHAITRA M BHAT	16BVC41262	B.Com.	2016- 19	DISTINC TION	PURSUING LLB
9	POOJA L PISSAY	16BVC41348	B.Com.	2016- 19	DISTINC TION	PURSUING CMA
10	SWATHI P SHETTY	16BVC41212	B.Com.	2016- 19	DISTINC TION	PURSUING CA
11	GANAPATHI SHIVARAM BHAT	16BVC41040	B.Com.	2016- 19	DISTINC TION	PURSUING CA
12	NETHRAVATHI	16BVC41117	B.Com.	2016- 19	FIRST CLASS	PURSUING CA
13	CHANDANA D B	16BVC41264	B.Com.	2016- 19	FIRST CLASS	PURSUING ACS
14	SHAKTIVEL	17BVC41418	B.Com.	2017- 20	DISTINC TION	PURSUING CA (LONDON)
15	ADITHYA N	17BVC41005	B.Com.	2017- 20	FIRST CLASS	PURSUING CMA
16	BHAVANA. R	17BVC41318	B.Com.	2017- 20	DISTINC TION	PURSUING CA
17	KAVYASHREE R	17BVC41365	B.Com.	2017- 20	FIRST CLASS	PURSUING CA
18	HARSHITHA	17BVC41353	B.Com.	2017- 20	FIRST CLASS	PURSUING M.Com.
19	BHUVANASHREE	17BVC41321	B.Com.	2017- 20	FIRST CLASS	PURSUING ACS



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5. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Large number of students apply for the scholarship and the funds available are limited.
- Fund resource mobilization has been one of the key challenges before the three organizations viz. BHS Higher Education Society, Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni and Jeeva Vijaya Alumni Trust – to provide the requisite scholarships.
- Approaching philanthropists and different alumni for generous contributions year after year to educate the children is another key challenge.



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BEST PRACTICE – 2

1. Title of the Practice

Mid – Day Meal Scheme

2. Objectives

- Encourage the students from underprivileged and economically backward classes students to pursue higher education.
- Ensure that the students are provided nutritional support while enhancing retention and fostering first generation learners to acquire atleast a first degree.
- Improve students' attendance and enhance academic performance.

Being guided by the following quote

" If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one"

– Mother Teresa

the college initiated this Mid – Day meal scheme.

3. The Context

- Almost a decade ago, attendance in the life science section was poor in case of certain students. During student counselling, it came to light that the cause was the economic constraints of the family. These students could not afford to bring lunch boxes. Further, some of them travelling from long distances not only were not possessing the lunch box, but they also used to skip breakfast as both parents used to work and had to leave early morning. These students used to take up jobs in supermarkets and such other retail shops to earn livelihood and get distracted from studies. Many of these Students were first generation learners with a fire in their belly and a zeal to pursue studies. Also, certain students, particularly girls, used to faint in the classes due to insufficient nutrition. To plug this problem, the teachers of the college initiated the mid – day meal scheme for the benefit of such students. **Dr. G M Nijaguna**, the then Vice – Principal, launched the Mid-day meals



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scheme in the college bearing the expenditure on his own for a few students. This practice of hosting mid-day meals continued later to encourage these set of students to continue their studies. The practice is prevalent in the system for more than a decade by now. Thus, Dr. G M Nijaguna became a champion of mid-day meals in the college.

- Later, in September – 2010, **Dr. M R Ramesh**, HOD of Statistics, initiated the concept of Mid – Day meals scheme on a standard footing by requesting teachers to contribute voluntarily for the benefit of a few needy students so that the dropout rate of students for want of lunch in the afternoon times could be plugged. A Mid – Day Meals Scheme committee was formed under the Chairmanship of **Dr. N Sathyananda**, the then Principal. Also, a bank account was opened in Syndicate Bank on 8th October 2010 for this purpose. Many teachers volunteered and contributed for the well-being of students and encouraged them to pursue their studies. In the earlier years, teachers used contribute Rs.1000 per annum per head voluntarily.
- In the following years, a few of the science students were identified and offered mid-day meal scheme at the Sanman Hotel (in the initial days) where the expenditure was met by a few teaching staff. Later, **Mr. Sridhar**, the Proprietor of **Sanman Hotel** started offering free meals to about 20 needy students referred by the college. As a result, a greater number of students were reached out. This programme went on for some years with the support of only few teaching staff. The programme continued till 2018-19 along with the support of Mr. Sridhar, Proprietor, Sanman Hotel .
- Several deliberations were held during the academic year 2018 – 19 regarding the Mid – Day meals to be extended to atleast about 60 students. Finances did not permit for reaching out to a strength of 60 students during 2018 – 19 academic year. Later, deliberations were held with Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni regarding the mid – day meals to reach out to atleast 60 students and whether any support could be sought from them. Mr. Rajashekhar, President of Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni,



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contacted the ISKCON Akshaya Patra Foundation personnel and suggested that the Mid – Day meals through Akshaya Patra of ISKCON could be started in Vijaya College. Consultations with the ISKCON Akshaya Patra foundation enabled the initiation of the scheme for a student strength of 100. The BHS HES Management was also informed of the scheme. BHS HES extended all its support and has also enabled a storage space and wash area with several tap outlets which were constructed at its cost. The Honourable President Sri. G V Viswanath took personal interest, monitored the civil works for Mid – Day meals and ensured that it was completed in time. Further, President of BHS HES has been suggesting to ensure that the students are made more comfortable while having their lunch by providing them a seating space in the rear end. Efforts are constantly underway to realize his suggestion to provide seats to all the students during their lunch time.

- **Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni(VVA) contributed Rs.3.50 Lakhs** being the fund to be paid to ISKCON for the mid – day meals in the college. Without the philanthropic contribution of the VVA, this project of Mid – Day meals would have been far from reality. The college and the students are highly indebted to the VVA in this regard. **Efforts and contributions of Mr. Rajashekhar to launch this mid – day meals scheme deserves a special mention here and is highly appreciated.**
- Chandanmall, an alumna has sponsored about 140 steel plates to serve the food to students. Parameshwar, an alumni and General Secretary of Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni has been a constant source of inspiration in furthering the mid – day meals scheme in the college. Mr. Narendra, an alumna of Physical Science, has contributed Rs.25,000=00 towards the Mid – Day meals and sponsored Student ID cards for the mid – day meals student beneficiaries.
- Storage containers were donated by Sri. Raghavendra, Zoology Laboratory and Sri. Muddukrishna, Computer Science Laboratory of the college.



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- Special mention is due to **Prof. Shantha Raj, Vice – Principal of Vijaya Evening College** who was instrumental in getting steel storage containers for the mid – day meal scheme.

4. The practice

- A general announcement about the requirements for mid – day meals amongst deserving students is made at the start of the academic year by class teachers, mentors and HODs in different classes.
- Students from families belonging to below poverty lines are identified either by the class teachers or heads of the departments. Some of them are identified by the attendant staff of the college. Such of those students identified as having economic problems to pursue higher education are counseled by the Mid – Day meals Committee comprising senior teachers. The student beneficiaries are shortlisted after interviews. ID cards are issued to the students.
- A briefing session is held with the students where the do's and don'ts are described. Importance is provided in educating the students not to waste the food. Timings of distribution of food is announced and that the students are responsible for disposing the leftovers in trash bins and then wash the plates and preserve them in the containers.
- Teachers from different departments and attenders are posted to serve the food and monitor the distribution of food and maintaining hygieneity of the food serving area.
- Food is delivered by the ISKCON Akshaya Patra every working day at about 10 am. Those who are posted on that day will collect the food and store it in the mid – day meals storage area.
- Food is usually distributed on weekdays between 12 noon and 2:30 pm. On Saturdays, food is served between 10 am and 12 noon.



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- The surplus food is distributed amongst the NCC cadets, house-keeping servants who help in washing the utensils after the use and attenders who serve the food.
- An average of about 20 students were benefitted by the scheme from 2010 till about 2013 and later, the average number of beneficiaries increased to about 40 with the help of Sanman Hotel from the years 2013 to 2019. During 2019 – 20, after the collaboration with ISKCON Akshaya Patra, nearly 105 students were the beneficiaries. During 2019 – 20, the scheme was abruptly stopped due to the Covid – 19 Pandemic and the consequent lock down of the college for a long period starting from March 23, 2020. Uncertainty in starting the offline classes persisted till November 15, 2020. Only offline classes were announced to be started on an optional basis from Nov 17, 2020 for final year students. Attendance to classes were thin due to the blended mode of teaching (Online as well as Offline) being allowed. Till date the Mid – Day meals has not been resumed due to the complete set back and uncertainties in the normalcy being restored.

5. Evidence of success

- Attendance in the classes of these set of students have improved.
- Dropout rate of such students has become minimal.
- Students have received the program well. Parents have also appreciated this arrangement.
- Students felt truly belonging to the college and is nurturing them to develop as responsible citizens.
- It has developed community feeling among the students as they share the food together during the midday meals.
- Many of them have completed their degree.

6. Problems encountered and Resources required

- The biggest challenge of the scheme is the identification of the truly deserving candidates. Many students request for the facility, but the



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resources are limited. We have also identified that a small cross section of students had misused the scheme.

- Financial resources for successfully running the scheme have been a challenge. We are sure that donations from philanthropists, alumni association and the staff of the college as well as by the management would propel the scheme for decades to come by. Reaching out to larger number of beneficiaries remains a big challenge.





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Prof. L Jayakumar, HOD of Chemistry is the Coordinator for the Mid – day meal scheme at present. He is ably supported by many teachers. Efforts of Prof. K S Shailaja, Dr. V Anuradha, Prof. D P Ravindra, Dr. Gopalakrishna, Sri. Raghavendra and Sri. Muddukrishna needs special mention and appreciation.