

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS MATTER

by:

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Community Outreach Programs give people the opportunity to get involved in community service in a regular basis with projects which usually are non-profitable and aims to provide help and assistance to the needy. It is important to engage the faculty and students in meaningful service activities that enrich lives and learning by understanding the quality of life of others.

For teachers in public schools, it serves as a way of committing themselves to make a difference in the lives of others through community-based outreach programs. The goal is to help the community and the hardworking students to continue and strengthen their love for education. Many are struggling to get by day by day.

Teaching in a public school opens your eyes to how socioeconomic status affect the education of each child. Even though the Philippine government is already providing free and accessible education for all Filipinos, it seems that that there are still some who are unable to sustain their child's education needs. There are also many vulnerable children who are on the street and are trying to survive, and many of them does not have a chance to attend formal schooling. There are children who are hungry, malnourished, sick, and ill.

This is where volunteers come in. Through different types of outreach programs- education, psychosocial interventions, health and medical service and skills development- the Bayanihan spirit is built to help others thrive in this trying times. Volunteers selflessly reach out to the poor and out-of-school individuals through the conduct of Outreach Programs sponsoring and providing school supplies like school

uniforms, bags and notebooks, free reading tutorials, feeding programs and more. They get a sense of fulfilment knowing that they have done their part. Moreover, the recipients also feel that they are not alone in their learning journey.

Outreach programs inculcate inspiration and encouragement for people-young and old- to achieve their dreams and fulfill their ambitions of a better life. Always be reminded by the famous quote from H. Jackson Brown, Jr. that says, “The happiest people are not those that get more, but those that give more.”

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