

## Best Practices

### **SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY**

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Provide inclusive education
- Transform the outlook of the community
- Help in the Transitional phase of life
- Provide counselling and mentoring
- Promote Independent Living

#### **THE CONTEXT:**

Disability in any form influences the daily life thereby affecting the emotional, mental and physical health not only of the person concerned, but the family as a whole. When disability is concerned with women, the scenario is more pathetic. Women with disabilities require specific forms of support for daily activities and social participation. These range from activities like bathing, dressing and eating, safety to living independently. Currently, most of the women rely on informal means of support, from families and personal networks, which are insufficient to meet their needs.

Students with disabilities require support in areas such as movement from place to place, assistance in listening, speaking, visual and understanding. Mere support does not help in upgrading the life of the person with disability. Even after earning a degree the person's life has no transformation.

#### **ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN THE PRACTICE:**

- Creating an inclusive environment
- Free boarding and lodging facilities for disabled students in the campus
- Mentoring to overcome or manage the social, physical, sensory and emotional challenges
- Encouraging skill development and creating awareness about the NGO and Governmental Organizations aiding and guiding pwd's
- Conducted a UGC Sponsored two days National Conference on "Access to livelihood for persons with Disabilities" on 29<sup>th</sup>& 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018
- Issued kits and sponsored vehicles for mobility
- Providing facilities such as ramp, scribes, smart walking sticks

#### **EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS:**

- Supported a PWD M.Rajalakshmi emotionally, physically and financially and aided her to continue M.Phil in the institution
- The vehicles and kits issued for mobility has granted independence and created confidence among the local community
- Created a Support network of pwd's through the Sponsored two days National Conference on "Access to livelihood for persons with Disabilities" and helped in sharing the success stories of various pwd's in various walks of life

#### **PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED:**

- Fear of safety and lack of awareness
- Exclusion or segregation from mainstream school settings