



St. Vincent College
(Affiliated to Savtribai Phule Pune University)
Pune -411037

Title of the Event	Social Outreach program on empowering women: “Empathy in Action: Women’s Day Initiative for Dignity and Care”		
Date of the Event	8th March 2025	Place of the event	Lohiyanagar, Pune
Objectives of the Event	The Women’s Day social outreach programme on 8th March 2025, conducted in collaboration with Jeevdan Care Centre, aimed to extend compassionate support to underprivileged women through the distribution of food and essential medicines, while fostering values of empathy, gender justice, and community responsibility among students and staff.		
Name/s of the Resource Persons	Representative of Jeevdan Care Centre		

A short narration of the program

Social Outreach program on empowering women: “Empathy in Action: Women’s Day Initiative for Dignity and Care”

On the occasion of International Women’s Day, 8th March 2025, St. Vincent College, Pune, in meaningful collaboration with Jeevdan Care Centre—a registered non-governmental organization based in Lohiyanagar, Pune—organized a compassionate social outreach programme aimed at supporting socially and economically underprivileged women in the local community. The initiative, titled “Empathy in Action: Women’s Day Initiative for Dignity and Care,” embodied the college’s enduring commitment to social justice, community engagement, and value-based education, aligning closely with the core principles of national quality assurance frameworks.

The programme was conceptualized and coordinated by Sr. Dr. Madhuri Brahmane, Faculty Member and Social Outreach Coordinator at St. Vincent College, who has long championed service-oriented learning as an integral dimension of holistic education. Under her guidance, a team of faculty members, NSS (National Service Scheme) volunteers, and student representatives worked in close coordination with Jeevdan Care Centre to identify beneficiaries, prepare essential supplies, and ensure dignified, respectful distribution.

The outreach focused on women from marginalized backgrounds, including daily wage earners, elderly widows, single mothers, and those living in informal settlements around Lohiyanagar. Recognizing that poverty and gender inequality often intersect to limit access to basic health and nutrition, the college



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prepared and distributed nutritious food kits comprising staples such as rice, pulses, cooking oil, and fortified biscuits, along with essential non-prescription medicines—including multivitamins, analgesics, antiseptics, and hygiene products such as sanitary pads and soaps. Each kit was assembled with care by student volunteers and labeled with messages of solidarity and encouragement.

The distribution was conducted at a community gathering space facilitated by Jeevdan Care Centre, where beneficiaries were welcomed with warmth and dignity. Rather than a transactional handout, the event was structured as a dialogue-based engagement, allowing college representatives to listen to the lived experiences of the women, understand their challenges, and reaffirm their inherent worth. Sr. Dr. Madhuri Brahmane addressed the gathering, emphasizing that honoring women is not limited to celebration but must include concrete acts of justice, care, and inclusion—a message deeply rooted in the Vincentian and Ignatian values that guide the institution.

The involvement of students was central to the programme's pedagogical intent. Through direct participation, they moved beyond theoretical understanding of social issues to experiential learning in empathy, civic responsibility, and ethical action. Many students later reflected on how the experience deepened their awareness of structural inequalities and inspired a commitment to sustained community service.

This initiative exemplifies St. Vincent College's institutional philosophy that education must serve society, particularly its most vulnerable members. By partnering with a grassroots NGO like Jeevdan Care Centre, the college demonstrated its capacity for effective, localized, and values-driven community extension—a key indicator of institutional excellence under national accreditation standards. The programme also reinforced the college's alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), integrating global commitments into local action.

The Women's Day outreach was not merely an event but a statement of institutional ethos: that true empowerment begins with compassion, and that the role of higher education extends beyond the classroom into the heart of the community. Through this initiative, St. Vincent College reaffirmed its identity as a



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socially conscious, ethically grounded, and action-oriented institution dedicated to building a more just and humane world—one act of care at a time.

Name of the Collaborating Agency	Jeevdan Care Centre Pune
Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants	Students and faculty gained firsthand insight into the socio-economic challenges faced by marginalized women, deepening their understanding of gender-based vulnerability and the role of collective action in promoting dignity and care. The experience reinforced their commitment to ethical citizenship and service-oriented learning.
Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team	The organizing team strengthened its capacity to design and implement value-driven, partnership-based outreach initiatives. They also enhanced their ability to integrate social awareness with institutional values, creating meaningful experiential learning opportunities aligned with broader educational and humanitarian goals.
No. of Participants	10+ students and faculty members of St. Vincent College
Faculty in Charge	Sr. Dr. Mahuri Brahmane
Documents Attached	1. Attendance Sheet 2. Geotag photographs 3. Resume of resource persons if any 4. Copy of remuneration paid if any 5. Notice of the event 6. Thank you letter to the resource persons