

**MODULE 7****Creating Connected Communities by Service Learning****TRAINER:** Rajesh Majumdar**DESCRIPTION**

Service learning is a teaching pedagogy whereby participants learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in and meets the needs of a community. It is integrated into and enhances the academic curriculum of the students or the educational components of the community service program in which the participants are enrolled providing structured time to reflect on the service experience.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** Throughout the workshop participants will:

- learn how to make the students understand the relevance of what they are learning in school and how they can apply the knowledge and skills to the world outside the school;
- understand how students should use the content information and skills that they learned in class through service-learning;
- gain knowledge on how to make students have an improved understanding of their role as citizens in a democratic society;
- develop an understanding of making students learn ethic of providing service to others and to their community;
- understand that working with other people as a team is often an effective way of addressing issues and solving community problems;

**THEORY:** Participants will achieve the above learning objectives by:

- Mapping classroom curriculum transaction through service learning projects;
- Recognizing a quality service which meets an important, unmet need as defined by the community and relating it to the curriculum;
- Reflecting on the needs to give students an opportunity to think about the significance of their service experience. Through discussions, art projects, journals, skits and other creative strategies students learn more about their curriculum, societal issues and the value of service.
- Initiating strong collaboration and partnership opportunities with well defined roles and established communication procedures between school and community;
- Giving importance to youth voice which plays significant roles in the decision making, planning and implementation of a service learning project.
- Understanding civic responsibility and empowerment to contribute to their community and solve its problems.

**PRACTICAL/HANDS-ON**

- 'Seven Elements and 'Quadrants' with multiple case studies to evaluate service learning projects and develop clarity;
- Assessment Tools to be employed on service learning projects for greater efficiency;
- Designing an intra- or inter-disciplinary service learning project keeping in mind of the above tools of evaluation

**USEFUL RESOURCE**

<http://www.servicelearning.org/what-is-service-learning>