

The Role of Educational Institutions in Community Empowerment to Improve Community Welfare

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Abstract

Social action internship for advanced university students is a community service activity in certain areas or educational institutions, carried out in groups, preferably non-physical activities in the field of education. Social action internship for advanced university students aims to provide real work experience in the field in the field of forming an independent attitude and responsibility in carrying out work in the field. In addition, social action internship for advanced university students also aims to help the community increase the level of knowledge and skills so that it is expected to improve their welfare. The social action internship for advanced university students is divided into four stages of activity, namely debriefing, implementing activities on site, compiling reports, and assessing. The implementation of the social action internship for advanced university students in Jatirejo Village, Gunungpati District, Semarang City. The work program in Jatirejo Village is a program that emphasizes the theme of the Role of Students in Community Empowerment to Improve Welfare. The physical program of the social action internship group for advanced university students in Jatirejo Village, among others: planting toga plant seeds, making banana satay and marketing, distributing masks, making processed fruit and fro, helping the community in preparing rice every Friday.

Keywords: Community Empowerment, Welfare, toga plant

Abstrak

Program kuliah kerja nyata mahasiswa merupakan kegiatan pengabdian kepada masyarakat di daerah tertentu atau lembaga pendidikan, dilaksanakan secara kelompok, diutamakan kegiatan non fisik di bidang pendidikan. Kegiatan program kuliah kerja nyata mahasiswa bertujuan untuk memberikan pengalaman kerja nyata lapangan dalam bidang membentuk sikap mandiri dan tanggung jawab dalam pelaksanaan pekerjaan di lapangan. Selain itu, program kuliah kerja nyata mahasiswa juga bertujuan untuk membantu masyarakat dalam meningkatkan taraf pengetahuan dan keterampilan sehingga diharapkan dapat meningkatkan kesejahteraannya. Kegiatan program kuliah kerja nyata mahasiswa dibagi menjadi empat tahap kegiatan, yaitu pembekalan, pelaksanaan kegiatan di lokasi, penyusunan laporan, dan penilaian. Pelaksanaan program kuliah kerja nyata mahasiswa ini di Desa Jatirejo Kecamatan Gunungpati Kota Semarang. Program kerja di Desa Jatirejo merupakan program yang lebih menekankan kepada tema Peran Mahasiswa dalam Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Untuk Meningkatkan Kesejahteraan. Program fisik kelompok program kuliah kerja nyata mahasiswa Desa Jatirejo, antara lain: Penanaman bibit tanaman toga, Membuat sate pisang serta pemasarannya, pembagian

masker, Membuat olahan kolang-kaling, Membantu masyarakat dalam mempersiapkan nasi setiap hari jumat.

Kata Kunci : Pemberdayaan Masyarakat, Kesejahteraan, tanaman toga

Introduction

Jatirejo is a village in Gunungpati District, Semarang City, Central Java. Even though it is located in the center of government of Central Java, Gunungpati still has a fairly beautiful area. The topography of the hilly area in this area is still filled with trees and natural forests. It is said that the planting of Gunungpati was taken by Kiai Pati, a soldier from Pati who opened this area. Gunung refers to the topography of the area, while Pati is taken from its own name. Gunungpati was once a district. This can be proven from the existence of two tamarind trees in the middle of the square, about 50 years ago. During the revolution, Gunungpati was the setenan area of the assistant wedana of the Kawedanan Ungaran area.

Table 1. Surface area of Jatirejo Village

Surface area			
Years	Rice Field	Dry Field	Amount
2014-2018	1,525.97	2,247.38	4,073.35

Geographically, Jatirejo Village has an area of approximately 238,130 Ha. Jatirejo is bordered by Mijen District in the west. While in the north it is bordered by Kandri Village. The cepoko village is the boundary to the east as well as to the south. The number is divided into 728 families. The population in Jatirejo Village according to 2018 data is 116,928 people

Table 2. Population of Jatirejo Village

No.	Gender	Amount
1.	Male	58,058 people
2.	Female	58,070 people
	Amount	116,928 people
	Number of Family	728 family

Methodology

1. Preparation

Participants of the compulsory course for social action internship for advanced university students are undergraduate students, who have taken a minimum of 110 credits of courses. The first step that students take after re-registering their credits is to register with the administration section of each faculty. Registration requirements are to bring an academic Study Plan Card (KRS) which shows that students who will register have input the social action internship for advanced university students course and cash in the amount of Rp. 150.000,-. In this debriefing, students are given information about the

method of implementing social action internship for advanced university students which will take place. This briefing aims to prepare students participating in social action internship for advanced university students in dealing with everything that will be encountered in the field.

The debriefing of students is given general theoretical material. These theories contain what things will and must be done in carrying out activities. This is expected to be a provision in carrying out tasks in the field. This group meeting is guided by each Field Supervisor who is responsible for providing direction that will be carried out later in the field. At the end of the briefing, students are divided into each study program to be given the task of making examples of activities that will be carried out in the field.

2. Implementation Stage

In the first week, he went directly to the community to plant the seeds of the toga and provided information about the importance of the health of the residents by consuming processed herbs made from the toga plant. In the second week of helping the community's business, namely banana processing as well as the marketing process. In the third week, he made an innovation of processed kolang kaling variant as well as introduced the preparation to the public. In the fourth week the distribution of masks to the local community. And every Friday we help residents prepare Friday rice at the mosque.

Table 3. Agenda for Increase the Economy

No.	Agenda	Freq	Benefit
1.	Making processed <i>Kolang Kaling</i> as an increase the economy	1	To add insight and knowledge about making good kolangkaling sweets, our social action internship for advanced university students team held this training. With this training, an independent economy can be realized through: management and empowerment of kolang-kaling in Jatirejo Village.
2.	Making banana satay and how to market it	1	Developing people's creativity in making processed bananas and marketing them
3.	Planting toga plant seeds	1	Preserving the toga plant as a basic ingredient of traditional medicine
4.	Mask distribution	1	Prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus so that people can work and be productive again by preventing the use of masks
5.	Helping residents prepare rice every Friday	1	Speeding up the process of serving food, this activity is commonly known as " <i>Jum'at Berkah</i> " which is providing food on Fridays in order to share or <i>sedekah</i> .

Results and Discussion

The following is a description of the results of activities after one month of implementing Social action internship for advanced university students located in Jatirejo Village, Gunungpati District, Semarang City, that is:

1. Planting the Toga plant

Family medicinal plants (TOGA) are cultivated plants at home that have medicinal properties. There are still many people who use traditional medicine to cure some diseases by growing this family of medicinal plants. However, more people are also using chemical drugs for a quick effect, even though, there are many chemical ingredients that we don't know about. If it is a family medicinal plant, it is clear that everything is natural and can be consumed safely.

In accordance with the work program that we made at the beginning, one of the main goals of our group's arrival is community service. The toga plants that we plant are Ginger, Lemongrass, Turmeric, Kencur, Temulawak, with soil media placed in polybags. For the fertilizer, we use natural goat manure. With this program, it aims as a means to bring medicinal plants closer to public health efforts, which include; Preventive Efforts (prevention), Promotive Efforts (Improve health status) and Curative Efforts (Healing Diseases). Means to improve people's nutrition, because many medicinal plants are known as plants that produce fruits or vegetables. Means for nature conservation and means for spreading reforestation movement.

2. Making Kolang-kaling

Kolang-kaling is the endosperm of palm fruit seeds which are half ripe after going through a processing process. After being processed into kolang kaling, then this object will become soft, rubbery, and slightly clear in color. Kolang kaling is a commodity for the manufacture of foods and beverages that we are familiar with, for example: round drinks, compote, or cooked with sugar seasoning and aromatic substances and given coloring to be eaten directly or assembled with a stick like satay. Kolang kaling has economic value because today it is still very popular with people. The manufacture of candied fruit mainly involves slow immersion with syrup until the sugar content in the tissue is high enough to prevent the growth of spoilage microbes. The manufacturing process is carried out in such a way that the fruit is not soft and resembles a clock or becomes tough. Treatment of fruits with syrup with an increasing sugar content will get the desired results. Fruits preserved in sulfuric acid should be re-freshed or washed in hot water. This activity is expected to improve the economy of the Jatirejo village community, Gunungpati District, Semarang City.

3. Helping SMEs "Honey Bananas"

The food business will never end, just one raw material can be processed into various types of food, beverages and pastries. Like this banana, it can be processed into various types of food such as banana juice, fried bananas and various other types of snacks. Bananas are also commonly used as a mixture of dough for making various types of traditional cakes, many new entrepreneurs have created interesting and unique food menus, one of which is banana satay. Many entrepreneurs in Indonesia have tried to run this banana-based culinary business.

This banana satay can be served when you are relaxed and it is best when it is still warm. So this banana satay is usually made after the customer orders it. The marketing model for this business is online such as Instagram and WhatsApps. The price for this banana satay is quite varied, it all depends on the type of topping used. Usually the price of banana satay is priced at Rp. 13,000 for one serving containing 2. This small food business can be successful depending on your ability to create banana satay that chooses a delicious and distinctive taste.

4. Distribution of Masks

One of the efforts to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, our group made an activity to distribute masks to residents of Jatirejo Village, Gunungpati District, Semarang City. The local residents were very enthusiastic about the event.

5. Helping residents prepare rice every Friday

In accordance with the theme of social action internship for advanced university students, namely "The Role of Students in Community Empowerment to Improve Welfare" every Friday we always help the residents of Jatirejo village in preparing rice to be distributed to residents who attend prayers Friday.

Conclusion

Overall results of our activities during social action internship for advanced university students in Jatirejo village, Kec. Gunungpati for 1 month, apart from us serving various sciences, especially in the field of art that we got while at the lecture table. We also learned about community life and the potentials that exist, especially in Jatirejo Village, it can be concluded that the social action internship for advanced university students activities can run smoothly. Efforts to serve the community in art science that involve the role of all elements of society in it, which are obtained during the lecture process are applied directly to the community by looking at the artistic needs needed. The activities carried out are a means to share knowledge with the community with the aim of community welfare. When you are directly in the field, it is very different from when you are in lectures, the learning you get is living in a social community when you go directly to the community, especially in Jatirejo Village. Ethical, aesthetic, and cultural values are the most important things that we get during social action internship for advanced university students that deserve to be applied

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