



# SANDRA SHROFF COLLEGE OF NURSING

Recognized by INC, GNC & affiliated to Veer Narmad South Gujarat University-Surat  
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## 7.3 – Institutional Distinctiveness

### **Institutional Distinctiveness: Community Health Awareness and NSS activities**

The institution has established a distinctive identity through its sustained focus on **community health awareness programmes and National Service Scheme (NSS) activities**, which reflect its core priority of social responsibility and community-oriented healthcare education.

As a health sciences institution, the thrust area is the promotion of preventive health, healthy lifestyles, and social well-being among underserved populations. Regular community health awareness programmes are organized in rural and urban communities, schools, anganwadis, old age homes, and slum areas. These programmes address priority health issues such as personal hygiene, nutrition, maternal and child health, adolescent health, mental health, communicable and non-communicable diseases, and environmental sanitation. Health education sessions, demonstrations, screening camps, and distribution of educational materials are integral components of these initiatives.

The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit plays a pivotal role in extending institutional outreach beyond the classroom. NSS volunteers actively participate in health rallies, street plays, poster exhibitions, cleanliness drives, and tree plantation programmes. The institution regularly observes important national and international days including World Health Day, World AIDS Day, International Women's Day, National Nutrition Week, and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to promote awareness and civic responsibility. Special NSS camps are organized to address local community needs related to sanitation, hygiene, environmental protection, and health education.

These activities are closely integrated with academic objectives, providing students with experiential learning opportunities in community diagnosis, health education, communication, leadership, and teamwork. Participation in community outreach and NSS programmes fosters empathy, discipline, social commitment, and ethical responsibility among students. The institution ensures active student involvement under faculty guidance, thereby strengthening student-centric and value-based education.

The impact of these initiatives is evident through improved community awareness regarding health and hygiene practices, increased utilization of preventive health services, and positive feedback from community members and local authorities. Students exhibit enhanced confidence, professional competence, and sensitivity towards social determinants of health. Continuous community engagement has helped the institution build trust and long-term relationships with the surrounding population.

Thus, the institution's consistent commitment to community health awareness and NSS activities distinctly reflects its vision of nurturing socially responsible healthcare professionals and contributing meaningfully to societal development, making these initiatives a significant marker of its institutional distinctiveness.



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