WHAT MAKES A GOOD ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM FACILITATOR?

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Being an Alternative Learning System Facilitator provides challenges, excitement, personal reward and a chance to encourage and support others to achieve their goals, whether to finish their elementary or secondary level under A & E Program, learn Basic Literacy Skills under Basic Literacy Program and even different technical skills in the INFED Program. ALS also offers different programs such as ALS SPED for the differently abled children that do not have access to formal school system. IPED program that provides basic education to IP communities.

Teaching in an informal system of education is very integral and well regarded profession within our community and people from all walks of life. It is a rewarding career that can touch lives of the learners. Teaching in this kind of system demands broad knowledge of the curriculum, a caring attitude, knowledge of discipline and a desire to make a difference in the lives every learners regardless of age. Serving the unloved and the unserved is the advocacy of every facilitators in the Alternative Learning System. Even though it is hard to find all the qualities, attitudes and skills of a perfect facilitator, but having these points can help us become well and a good ALS Facilitator.

A Good ALS facilitator must be good at explaining things to others,

Being in the non-formal system who have many different programs and projects which are not familiar to others. The success of the program depends on how a facilitator explain things to different stakeholders in the community to earn the trust on the programs they implementing. A facilitator must explain things clearly and effectively. They should focus on the benefits of our target clientele.
A Good ALS Facilitator must have a strong knowledge in different core curriculum

Alternative Learning System have different curriculum compared to Formal System of education. A good ALS Facilitator must have a strong knowledge on core competencies like, communication skills, problem solving and critical thinking, Sustainable use of Resources and Productivity, Development of Self and A sense of Community and Expanding One’s World Vision and Digital Literacy. They must follow the methods and strategies on how a learners can easily understand the lesson. Having a strong knowledge in the subject matter can provide better understanding, maintain pupil’s interest and addresses misunderstanding.

A Good ALS Facilitator must have an ability to work in a team as well as using your own initiative

The importance of working in a team is to ensure that people with common taste, preference, liking, and attitude work together to accomplish a common goal. Team work is essential in Alternative Learning System for better output and a better bonding among stakeholders. With different programs offered, it is very important for a facilitator to share the workload to co-facilitator rather than monopolizing or not letting anyone to take part of the program. Working as a team can complete a task or goal in the most efficient and effective way.

A Good ALS Facilitator must enjoy a challenge

There is a lot of challenges in our system. Starting from survey mapping and encouraging prospective learners, advocating the program, involvement of the community, engaging with the stakeholders for their support and funding, finding location for the sessions in the far-flung and remote places and motivating the learners to finish their schooling is the most difficult challenge ALS Facilitator faced. Those are the real challenges a facilitator must face every day, but instead of looking those challenges in negative views a good facilitator must enjoy it and be motivated in finding a long term solution to the challenges.
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