

Economic Empowerment Through Verticulture Method Cultivation in 'Aisyiyah Girls Orphanage Pekanbaru

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ABSTRACT

This community service activity is parts of economic empowerment and improves entrepreneurial spirit efforts to elementary up to high school students in 'Aisyiyah organization in Pekanbaru. The objective of this activity is all students who lives in 'Aisyiyah Girls Orphanage in Riau during spare time to vegetable farming by using verticulture method to fulfill their needs and economic empowerment.

This activity was held on Sunday, September 19th 2021 at 'Aisyiyah Girls Orphanage's function hall for socializing cultivation by using verticulture method and improving entrepreneurial spirit. Furthermore, practicing the cultivation skill was held in the orphanage yard. The students were enthusiastic by the activity which shows by their enthusiasm during the activity. The community service is hopefully could improve students' motivation to improve economy despite of the lack of yard and grow the entrepreneurial spirit.

Keyword: Empowerment, Economi, Cultivatin, Platns, Verticultural.

INTRODUCTION

Orphanage is a social welfare enterprise for abandoned child which provides sponsorship and alleviation of abandoned child's problems. Orphanage provides replacement service as children's parents or guardian in terms of fulfilling children's physical, mental, and social needs. This is a place which foster and nurture orphans. Moreover, orphanage is not only for orphan since it is accessible for abandoned children due to being left or victim of divorce. Vegetables are the best source of fiber for human's body. Fiber is an important component to maintain digestive tract health and prevent digestion. Vegetables has been an important commodity in supporting national food security. Optimization of narrow yard by verticulture method is one of the recent breakthroughs which can be implemented in fulfillment of healthy lifestyle in fulfilling the needs of healthy food.

Verticulture is vertical cultivation method through an open space. Verticulture should be strong and easy to move. The plants should be adjusted to the needs and have high economic value, short-lived, and short-rooted. The advantages of vegetables cultivation by using verticulture are efficient use of land, easy maintenance, retrenchment in use of fertilizer and biopesticide, practical and easy in control of grass and weed growth, easy to move, cleaner and healthier harvested vegetables. Yard will have good potential if it can be maintain optimal and well-planned. Yard will support family's nutritional needs as well as beauty (aesthetic) (Rauf, Rahmawaty, & Budiati, 2013). Furthermore, Suryani (207) says that vegetables cultivation in city gives significant contribution for those in the city in ensuring a sustainable food supply.

The previous community service was done by Rani Andriani et.al in 2020 entitled "Vegetables Cultivation by Using Verticulture Technique to Improve Urban Household Food Security. The findings of the activity shows a quite significant change in cognitive side which is the increasing of participants' knowledge in vegetables cultivatin techniques by using verticulture system. In psychomotor side, the participants' skill in cultivating various vegetables by using verticulture technique is improving.

Based on the result of observation of implementing team, the problems faced by partner were insufficiency of vegetables needs in orphanage and orphans' low entrepreneurial motivation in vegetables cultivation in narrow yard. Based on the result of interviews with the orphanage manager, they wanted to give high fiber foods to the orphans as well as utilized

their yard but they have insufficient knowledge and skill in vegetables cultivation by using verticulture method which has not been done. Thus, this community service program is needed and useful for community, in particular for 'Aisyiyah Riau Girls Orphanage in increasing their source of income.

Formulation of the Problems

The basic problems in this activity are:

1. How to increase the knowledge and the skill of orphanage manager and orphans in vegetables cultivation by using verticulture method.
2. How to grow entrepreneurial motivation to 'Aisyiyah Riau's orphans.
3. How are the steps in increasing the needs of vegetables in 'Aisyiyah Riau orphanage.
4. How to increase the source of income of 'Aisyiyah Riau orphanage.

Purpose of the Research

This activity aims to solve the problems above, thus the purpose of this service activity are:

1. To increase the knowledge and skill of orphanage manager and orphans in vegetables cultivation effectively and efficiently.
2. To increase the orphans' motivation in entrepreneurship as well as creation of new vegetable cultivation entrepreneur.
3. To know the steps in increasing the needs of vegetables in 'Aisyiyah Riau orphanage.
4. To increase the source of income of 'Aisyiyah Riau orphanage.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD

The methods used in this training activity are as follows:

1) Preparation Stage

Preparation begins by observation which has been explained in the proposal. The partner's problems become the main priority of the community service team. The community service team discussed to buy some tools needed in training activity. Furthermore, this team also prepared presentation material which were given to training participant. There were 25 participants from junior high school and Islamic junior high school. They were divided into 5 group which were responsible in training activity from preparation to plant maintenance.

2) Implementation Stage

The community service team coordinate with the orphanage manager in implementation stage to adjust the children's schedule to training activity. In the first stage, implementation began by introduction of purpose and objectives of the activity which continued by material presentation about introduction of vegetable cultivation by using verticulture method and build entrepreneurial spirit as early as possible. Furthermore, the community service team divided the groups and explained the duties and responsibilities. In the second stage, the activity began by providing guidance and preparing tools and materials needed for practice activity. Hereafter, practice of planting plants was done after preparation. After planting, the participant was responsible to watering, fertilizing, and caring until the plants grow.

3) Evaluation stage/ monitoring of community service activity

Evaluating and monitoring was done in this stage. The purpose is to see the success of community service activity. The evaluation process was done from the early stage to the end of the program.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This community service was held at 'Aisyiyah Girls Orphanage by giving theory which divided into 3 sessions as follows:

The first session theme was vegetable cultivation technique by using verticulture method given by Suparmi, M.Pd.E. This theory gave knowledge and skill to students on how to increase the positive value of narrow yard and also useful in fulfilling vegetables needs.

The second session theme was growing entrepreneur spirit to increase economic skill given by Asri Neli Putri, M.Pd.E. The presenter explained that attitude and spirit of entrepreneur should start as early as possible with all of available and limited resources, however it should be able to increase financial income in household. Furthermore, discussion was held between presenter and participant by question and answer session. Entrepreneurship in ability to be creative, innovative, keen to see opportunity and open to any advice and positive changes which will grow business and its value (Rintan Saragih, 2017 page 1). Moreover, Buchari Alma in Umami Mardiyah (2017, page 4) states that there are some advantages of being entrepreneur as follows:

- 1) Openness of opportunity to chase their own goals.
- 2) Openness in demonstrating their ability and potential fully.
- 3) Openness of opportunity in helping community by concrete business.
- 4) Openness of opportunity to get maximum benefits and profits.
- 5) Openness of change to lead a business.

The last theory was vegetable cultivation practice which held in the yard of 'Aisyiyah Riau Girls Orphanage. All of participant prepared the tools and sowed the seedling in their own group. Each group set up the planting container based on the designated place vertically according to kinds of vegetables such as chili, mustard, eggplant, spinach, lettuce, and so on. This activity gives a new experience to participant which used to cultivate in broad land. This activity could improve economic empowerment which can be used in their representative region when they move back from 'Aisyiyah Riau Girls Orphanage. In other hand, some of economic empowerment are financial aid, facility development aid, assistance aid, institutional strengthening, and business partnership strengthening (Guntur, 2009).

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This series of community service activity, entitled utilization of narrow yard in economic empowerment through cultivation by using verticulture method in 'Aisyiyah Riau Girls Orphanage, was expeditious and well which can be seen from the participants' enthusiast and motivation and the orphanage manager as well to give contribution to each other to make this activity positive and useful.

The following up plan from this community service activity are as follows:

- 1) Holding workshop or socialization on utilizing narrow land by cultivating vegetables through verticulture method.
- 2) Giving entrepreneur training to children in 'Aisyiyah Riau Girls Orphanage.
- 3) Being able to give example of plants or garden in Muhammadiyah business charity.
- 4) Improving food security and creating healthy environment.

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