

**Loyola College (Autonomous),
Chennai – 600 034.**

AURA - Center for Counselling

In Commemoration of World Mental Health Day – 16th October 2015

AURA - Center for Counselling, Loyola College was started in 2014. The main objective of AURA is to facilitate a healthy, positive and wholesome development of the students by enhancing their psychological well-being.

In commemoration of the World Mental Health Day, AURA organized an awareness program on this year's WHO theme: **Dignity in Mental Health** on 16th October 2015 at Lawrence Sundaram Hall, Loyola College. The program was organized by the AURA team comprising of Ms. D. Yazhini, Ms. D. Christina and Mr. J. Prince. The program was held in two phases:



Inaugural function



Gathering the address by Rev. Fr. Secretary

Phase 1:

The officials and dignitaries of the Loyola College, Rev. Dr. S. Lazar S.J., the Secretary, Rev. Dr. M. S. Jacob SJ, Vice Principal - Academics and Student Services, Rev. Dr. S. Jeyaseelan SJ, - Controller of Exams, and the Guest of Honor, Mrs. Parimal Pandit, Program Director, V-Excel Education Trust, felicitated the gathering and released the balloons to signify the start of the Human Chain by the students.



Signing of pencil by our guest of honour Rev. Dr. Samuel Jeyaselan SJ

Subsequently the students formed a human chain outside the college campus mainly to bring about sensitivity and awareness among the students and public highlighting this year's theme on how we should show acceptance, respect and dignity to people with mental illness.

Phase 2:



Honouring recovering clients from SCARF organization

In this phase of the meeting, the people recovering from mental illness from NGOs namely SCARF and BANYAN were honoured by Rev. Fr. Henry Jerome, SJ Dean of School of Human Excellence and Dr. Sowmya Bhaskaran, Child Psychiatrist, Guest speaker of the day. This was done to express our acceptance, respect and solidarity with the people suffering from mental illness.



Flag off balloon by chief guest



Human chain formation by Aura members



Students rally



Group photo with recovering clients of BANYAN