The Partnership of Students and the Manager of Rumah Pintar (Community Learning Center) in Building the Community Empowerment

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Abstract: The purpose of this study is to describe the partnership students and manager Rumah Pintar in building community empowerment. The method used in this research is descriptive research method with qualitative approach. The techniques used in this research are interview, observation and documentation study. Subjects in this study amounted to five people, namely managers, students and learners. The results of this study indicate that the partnership between students with Rumah Pintar includes: 1. Collaborative activities in facilitating the community to learn at Rumah Pintar Al Barokah, they are social animation activities, mediation and negotiation, support, consensus building, group facilitation, utilization of various skills and resources, and organizing 2. Collaborative activities in educating the community for awareness raising, providing information, confrontation and training 3. Collaborative activities in the function of representation to build networks with resources outside Rumah Pintar Al Barokah 4. Collaborative technical activities undertaken i.e. management, using computers, as well as verbal and written presentations, while technical activities that have not been done are financial arrangements. The conclusion of the research result is student partnership through PLS UPI laboratory and managers produce multi effect positive effect for students to increase their competence and society around Rumah Pintar. The implication is that this partnership needs to be continued and optimized for its benefits.

1 INTRODUCTION

Student partnership through Out-of-School Education Laboratory of Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, with Rumah Pintar Al Barokah has been conducted since the establishment of Rumah Pintar in 2013, especially with Education figure, the qolbu teacher, Een Sukaesih (alm). Partnership between the two sides to date continues to be built and developed. Based on her message, UPI must continue to assist and build Rumah Pintar Al Barokah Ua Een Sukaesih in order to be well-managed.

Partnership is derived from the roots of the partner. Partner can be translated as "spouse, soul mate, alliance, or campaign". The meaning of the partnership is translated into fellowship or alliance. Starting from here, the partnership can be interpreted as a form of alliance between two or more parties that form a bond of cooperation on the basis of

agreement and mutual need in order to increase the capacity and capability in a particular field of business, or a certain purpose, so as to obtain good results. (Sulistiyani, 2004).

Rumah Pintar is a place of public education service to establish the society who love to learn (Learning Society). Community involvement and participation in community building is the key to create the prosperity. Rumah Pintar Al Barokah aims to become one of the Institutions that can facilitate and accommodate the needs of the community in building itself. The manager Rumah Pintar Al Barokah becomes a change agent who is expected to contribute while UPI, who present to accompany the establishment of Rumah Pintar from the beginning, through the role of students intend to participate together in facilitating and also teaching students in building community empowerment. In its role, the manager of Rumah Pintar is responsible for educating and empowering the community. Jim Ife

formulates 4 classes of community work, namely facilitative roles, educational roles, representational roles, and technical roles. In each group there are several tasks (capabilities) that must be owned by community workers. The role or skill of facilitating or can be called the task of facilitation, which is building the process of community activities has several tasks, including social animation, mediation and negotiation, support, consensus building, group facilitation, utilization of various skills and resources, and organizing. The partnership of Rumah Pintar' managers with UPI students becomes an interesting thing to be expressed in this study.

Based on the description above, the authors want to examine about student partnerships in the UPI Community Education laboratory and the manager of Rumah Pintar in doing Education and community empowerment tasks. With the formulation of research problems as follows 1. How is the collaborative activity of students and managers in facilitating the community to study at Rumah Pintar Al Barokah? 2. How is the collaborative activity of students in educating the managers at Rumah Pintar Al Barokah? 3. How is the collaborative activity of students and managers in the representation made by managers in building networks with resources outside Rumah Pintar Al Barokah? 4. How is the collaborative activity of students and managers in technical activities undertaken by managers in Rumah Pintar Al Barokah as center of learning and community empowerment?

2 RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses qualitative approach by using descriptive method. The subjects for this research are 5 people, namely the manager of Rumah Pintar, tutor, student resident, university student and a representative of society. Data collection techniques used by researchers in this study are interview, observation and documentation studies. Data analysis using three stages, they are reduction, display and verification.

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Student partnership and manager of Rumah Pintar Al Barokah include:

3.1 Collaborative Activities with Students and Manager in Facilitating the Community to Study at Rumah Pintar Al Barokah

Manager has provided support for others. Provision of support is done by each manager at Rumah Pintar in helping the community to study at Rumah Pintar. Support done by the manager aims to make people learn and work so they can grow. Manager of Smart House is very open and provides support for anyone and from anywhere to learn as well as the figure of Ms. Een Sukaesih becomes an inspiration to continue learning and doing positive things. Ife and Frank (2008: 559-562) suggest the ability to inspire, excite, activate, stimulate, move and motivate others to take action. A person working as a community worker should be able to get others to participate in various community activities (see in figure 1).

Figure 1: Students are involved in facilitating the community through activities in the center.

In the case of group facilitation which is conducted by the manager of Rumah Pintar Al Barokah is to offer and invite and collect the groups that lack of or do not have learning facilities and infrastructure to join and use the facilities and infrastructure available in Rumah Pintar. Some groups that have been facilitated include Qasidah, PAUD students, and MTs students.

Manager create the children to sing and dance. The manager of Rumah Pintar can be inferred to have utilized the various skills and resources as proposed by Ife and Frank (2008: 575) where a community worker should be able to identify and utilize the various skills and resources that exist with the community or groups. Community workers should be sensitive to resources and facilities that have not been utilized or fully utilized.

3.2 Collaborative Educating Activities by the Managers of Rumah Pintar Al Barokah and UPI students

The manager and UPI students stimulate, motivate and provide direction and input to the learning community to continue to learn and follow the activities and learning in Rumah Pintar. Awareness raising activities are conducted orally, which are carried out by inserting activities at the time of the learning schedule or break time. Activities provide information related to Rumah Pintar performed by managers either directly or indirectly like using communication media. The information conveyed is usually about activities in Rumah Pintar and activities outside Rumah Pintar such as notice of learning schedule or activities, invitations or competitions that can be followed by student resident. Based on the characteristics presented by Ife and Frank (2008: 583) then the manager of Rumah Pintar has done the awareness raising activities and provide information.

Confrontation is the ability to act decisively when necessary against individuals or groups of people who violate a principle of cooperation. Confrontation or assertiveness is always trying to be done by the manager at Rumah Pintar, but the learning community has not felt the firmness in discipline. Managers provide the usual assertiveness on the learning schedule but there are still learning residents who ignore the manager. Assertiveness of manager is usually delivered orally by advising citizens to learn not to make mistakes again. Figure 2 shows the training of making accessories from recycled stuffs.

Figure 2: Training of making accessories from recycled stuffs.

Training is the most specific educative role. According to Ife and Frank (2008), the training here is to conduct or link the community with other trainers to the knowledge and skills transfer activities required (requested) by the community. Manager of Rumah Pintar explained that the training activities that have been done at Rumah Pintar in the idea by the outside party in cooperation with the manager. In this activity the manager facilitates and codes the training activities undertaken. It can be concluded that the manager has conducted training activities as a specific educative role.

3.3 Collaborative Activities of Students and Manager in Representation in Building Networks with Resources Outside Rumah Pintar Al Barokah

Obtaining resources is an activity to facilitate cooperation with institutions outside the community that have certain resources. The Manager of Rumah Pintar carries out the connecting duty to build network with resources outside Rumah Pintar in order to find and add resources or donations. The steps taken by managers in obtaining resources as partners is to search and identify to obtain related resources and can contribute with Rumah Pintar, then the managers approach and lobby to participate and contribute in Rumah Pintar. So, it can be concluded that the manager has done activities to obtain resources at Rumah Pintar Al Barokah.

Community workers publish the activities, processes, and achievements to become community agendas. The Manager of Rumah Pintar in this case has been using the media for the development of communication in order to build a network is done by using blogs and twitter. The use of media has received a response from several parties so that the partners of Rumah Pintar Al Barokah are increasing. Conceptually, public relations and public presentation is the ability to make various public presentation. Community workers provide information on activities, processes and achievements to gain the support of various parties. The Manager becomes public relations and make a personal public presentation conducted on several occasions for example if you meet or stay together with parties from outside Rumah Pintar. Therefore, the public relation and public presentation have been done by the manager of Rumah Pintar Al Barokah.

The working network in Ife and Frank (2008: 600) mentioned means establishing relationships with diverse people, and being able to use them to

bring about change. Network as an activity to develop relationships with various parties to support the program. The manager of Rumah Pintar has done the job of networking by building a personal network to support programs or activities in Rumah Pintar Al Barokah. Although the job network seeking is personal, but to date there is a great deal of partnership involving governments and the private sector and certain communities or groups.

The manager and UPI students are sharing experiences and knowledge on Rumah Pintar to build networking. Wherever and whenever, if there is opportunity, the manager always personally tries to build a network by sharing experiences and knowledge about Rumah Pintar to outsiders. This sharing of experience and knowledge is expected to make the listener interested in contributing to Rumah Pintar. Therefore, managers have shared experiences and knowledge in accordance with the conceptual of community workers that is as facilitator of learning process between parties either formally or informally.

3.4 Collaborative Activities of the Manager and UPI Students in Technical Activities as Learning Center and Community Empowerment

Form of management activity is the main activity undertaken by the manager of Rumah Pintar Al Barokah. Rumah Pintar Management is under the responsibility of the education field of Al Barokah Foundation Een Sukaesih which was formed in April 2015 so it can be said that the transition phase from the previous management so that until now the improvement and development are still being done. The working mechanism of Rumah Pintar is that the chairman is responsible to the foundation. Besides, the chairman organizes, mobilize and coach the manager and tutor. Meanwhile the manager of the center and the tutor are responsible to the chairman in terms of learning activities or programs implemented at each center. However, before being responsible to the head tutor, the chairman is responsible to the manager of the center.

Ife and Frank (2008) mention some of the management activities of staff performance appraisal, building an effective team, helping an organization to define its goals and objectives, deciding on an adequate allocation of responsibilities within an organization, ensuring good communication between different people, deal

with conflicts and tensions, and ensure that proper authorization is obtained before decisions are made (especially those involving money). But in the next paragraph it is mentioned that the community-based organization of the process is done very differently when it is compared to a large conventional organization, but the role of management remains important.

4 CONCLUSIONS

Collaborative activities between manager and students through UPI Out-of-School Education Laboratory in empowering the community around Rumah Pintar Al Barokah keep on having development. Students through courses and assignments eventually make the lab site of Smart House Al Barokah as a place to practice while providing benefits for the community. The established partnership still leaves some problems related to the baton and the commitment of the students to be able to engage in more focused and serious partnership with the manager.

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