

Building Dreams And Achieving Aspirations: Training And Mentoring For Poco Ranaka Ruteng Students

Lena Ellitan¹, Lina Anatan²

¹Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya, Indonesia

²Universitas Kristen Maranatha Bandung, Indonesia

E-mail : lana@ukwms.ac.id

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Abstract: *A dream is a perfect desire to be achieved or realized. Having dreams in life is important for students since it provides a picture of their future life. Furthermore, dreams can train or encourage someone to explore their potential to the fullest and foster a fighting spirit in achieving their hopes. In order to build dreams and achieve their goals, 8 teams conducted mentoring activities for students at SMKN 1 Poco Ranaka, a public vocational high school located in Poco Ranaka District, East Manggarai Regency, East Nusa Tenggara Province. This Community Service Program (PKM) activity aims to motivate students of SMK Poco Ranaka to strive to achieve their dreams and have a clearer vision and mission for the future. Community service activities are conducted using several methods including lecture sessions, brainstorming, group discussions, and group presentations. Through lecture sessions, students are provided with knowledge and understanding about dreams and ideals, as well as how to realize those dreams and ideals. In brainstorming sessions, group discussions, and group presentations, students are given the opportunity to creatively gather ideas to explore their dreams and aspirations in solving problems they may face after graduating from school.*

INTRODUCTION

Dreams are different for every individual. Within each dream are positive desires, which in nature spur us to achieve something beautiful, namely ideals. Dreams are the motivation in achieving ideals, since motivation is a driving force that greatly influences the achievement of an ideal. Motivation will not just appear; it is motivated by forces originating from within and outside the individual. Motivation in education can begin in the environment closest to us, through the family, community, and school, so that we can become individuals who can solve the problems of the Indonesian nation.

A dream is a perfect desire to be achieved or realized (Samson, 2023). Having a dream in life is important for students since it provides a picture of their future life. Furthermore, dreams can train or encourage someone to explore their potential to the fullest and foster a fighting spirit in achieving their dreams. The first step in fostering dreams in children is by introducing them to various professions. A profession is a field of work that requires specific skills and plays a role in society as a permanent source of income. Students begin to show interest in future jobs long before they enter elementary school or kindergarten. This is due to factors surrounding them, starting with people asking what they want to be when they grow up, coupled with what they hear and see about the various types of jobs around them.

In this era of globalization, it is undeniable that the unemployment rate is increasing day by day. Unemployment is a complex and multidimensional problem (Carvalho et al., 2025). The main factors include an imbalance between job opportunities and the workforce; technological developments; lack of education and skills; and so on (Nguyen et al., 2020). Based on this phenomenon, the Community Service Program (PKM) team felt the need for mentoring for high school and vocational school students.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Dreams, Hopes and Aspirations

Building Dreams, why should we dare to dream, since with dreams we have hope and it enable to motivate every human being, basically all humans hope that what they hope for, which is built from their dreams can be realized in the real world. Human ability begins with the willingness, since the willingness that provide motivation to a person, with the existence of motivation someone has energy. Based on the root of the dream is the human subconscious kingdom that often works impulsively, with their dreams humans accumulate to form an attitude of empowering their dreams into hopes that can be realized. With dreams, humans have been inspired to make them come true with their efforts so that they can truly become real. Dreams are motivation, dreams are energy that gives humans the spirit to work hard in an intelligent way to make them come true (Dornyei, 2025). Building dreams with their courage, humans have shown that they are different from other creatures, where the difference with other creatures, since humans have reason that other creatures do not have, when humans with their differences have shown their courage by dreaming, the next question is, are humans able to have the ability to create dreams, not just dare to dream and build dreams but create dreams? (Majid, 2015; Kamaruddin & Nur, 2023). One of everyone's dreams is to have a successful career, however Indonesia currently has one of the highest unemployment rates due to the difficulty of finding work. Efforts to reduce the educated unemployment rate in Indonesia include producing graduates who are not merely job seekers but also job creators, or what we call entrepreneurs.

Dream Trends After Graduating from School and College

Creating college graduates who become entrepreneurs is not necessarily easy. Entrepreneurship is the application of creativity and innovation to solve problems and exploit opportunities encountered every day. Entrepreneurship is a combination of creativity, innovation, and the courage to face risks, achieved through hard work to establish and maintain new businesses (Covin & Slevin, 1989). Educated individuals tend to avoid this career choice due to their preference for office work. This preference is based on calculating the costs they have incurred during their education and expecting a comparable rate of return. Ernanie (2010), in her seminar, revealed that there is a tendency that the higher the level of education, the greater the desire for secure employment. They are reluctant to take on risky jobs like entrepreneurship. The only

significant opportunity remains to work by starting their own business. However, it is rare to find a graduate who wants to start their life after graduating from college by starting a business. Motivation to achieve dreams. Dreams are the inner ambitions of humankind that drive progress. Dreams are the desires that drive people to make them come true. This world has grown with higher civilization and greater technology thanks to the dreams of great people (Pogacnik, 2022). These great people are dreamers. People without dreams are like those who take public transportation to everywhere, making their lives very ineffective. People without dreams have desires or persistence that easily fade, so they easily reduce their dreams to very simple ones. However, big dreams have great power. People who have successfully made their mark in history generally have a characteristic: they are always able to renew their dreams. Dreams are a source of motivation. Dreams influence a person's subconscious mind. In fact, dreams can guarantee success since they are a constant source of motivation until they achieve their goals or reach their next goal. This motivational drive will move the body and determine the strategies to be adopted, such as how to seek information and establish communication and collaboration with others.

ACTIVITY AND METHOD

This activity was held in order to empower to improve the quality of high school students in Manggarai, East Nusa Tenggara, by conducting Training and Mentoring for the Development of Internship Student Competencies from SMKN 1 Poco Ranaka at the Watu Mori Plantation in Manggarai which was held on:

Date : Friday-Saturday, May 23-24, 2025

Time : 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM WITA

Venue : Watu Mori Farm Meeting Room, Melo, West Manggarai, East Nusa Tenggara

This activity was attended by 31 students of SMKN 1 Poco Ranaka who were interning at the Watumori Plantation from April to June 2025. This activity was carried out with lectures, brainstorming, group discussions and presentations.

Table 1. List of Participants, Dreams and Aspirations

Name	Gender	Aspirations
1. Reinardus Alfin Jematu	Male	NA
2. Agnes N. Sarni	Female	The dream that I have created is that I want to be a successful person and make my parents happy. I also want to help my parents financially from the sweat of my brow and be a motivation for my younger siblings and family.
3. Aleksander Acentus Kasih	Male	After I graduated from vocational school, I immediately registered for military training tests.
4. Mariani Kresensia Sokang	Female	After graduating from vocational high school, I'll continue my studies at Gadjah Mada University (UGM). I'll take the SNBT (National Selection for Law) exam. I'm also seeking scholarships to ease the burden on my parents. During college, I will join many organizations at UGM to develop my potential.

5. Febriano Gana	Male	Character development such as: mental training, developing self-confidence, becoming a leader and gaining knowledge through school and joining positive organizations such as OSIS.
6. Patrisius P. Safio	Male	NA
7. Yosefina Irmanati	Female	After I graduate from vocational school, I will continue my studies
8. Yanuarius F	Male	After graduating from vocational school, I want to continue my studies at St. Paul's Catholic University, Ruteng.
9. Maria K.J	Female	My life vision is that I want to be a successful teacher and make my parents proud so that I can be a good example for my younger siblings.
10. Aleksandra M	Female	After graduating from vocational school, I plan to work in Bali to help my parents' needs.
11. Eudoksiano P.R.C	Male	After returning from this internship, I will clear a small plot of land to plant crops like mustard greens and other vegetables. Earning money while studying is a great opportunity for me, especially after graduating.
12. Rofinus J.H	Male	After graduating from vocational school, I will continue my studies in the field of agrotechnology, for example machinery in the agricultural sector.
13. Petrus A.K	Male	Not Available
14. Yohana M.H	Female	After graduating from high school, I plan to open a gardening farm in my village. I'll save the money I earn from the gardening to help ease my parents' burden while I go to college. After that, I'll continue my education at St. Paul's Catholic University in Ruteng.
15. Yulianus F.H	Male	Must have self-confidence. My image, small children can gain knowledge
16. Margareta V.P	Female	After graduating from vocational school, before entering the Agricultural College at St. Paul's Catholic University in Ruteng, I wanted to open a horticultural business to prove what I had done during my vocational school years.
17. Jendrianus A.R.	Male	After graduating from vocational school, I worked first
18. Flora A.	Female	After graduating from vocational school, I want to continue working somewhere, namely in Bali for four years. After that, I want to start a business.
19. Yanoanus A.	Male	Soldier or football player
20. Alfianus L.	Male	I want to make the people in my village happy. I want

		to be seen as the greatest and bravest person in the eyes of my community.
21. Erminilda	Female	My dream after graduating from vocational school is to become an entrepreneur
22. Fersianus S.	Male	Businessman
23. Fransiskus D.	Male	Tourism Guide
24. Maria S.Y.	Female	After graduating from SNK, I will continue my education at university level in the field of agriculture.
25. Hendrikus M.	Male	After graduating from vocational school, I immediately took the police test.
26. Fansiskus C. D	Male	After graduating from vocational school, I took an automotive course.
27. Nikolaus W. A	Male	Entrepreneur
28. Jovian E.	Male	After I graduate from vocational school, I will continue to take the military test in Bali.
29. Febriyansi F. J	Male	Coffee farmers, continuing their parents' business
30. Desriana N	Female	After graduating from vocational school, I will enter the University of Muhammadiyah Malang, majoring in agriculture. I will work while studying.
31. Ferdinandus S.	Male	Successful farmer

Source: Authors's Elaboration

Table 2. Dreams and Aspirations According to Students' Perspective

The Difference Between Dreams and Aspirations	The Importance of Dreams and Aspirations	The Role of Dreams and Aspirations in Life
Dreams are fantasies, while ideals are dreams that we must achieve.	It is necessary, because dreams and ideals lead us to life and think broadly.	The benefit of having dreams and aspirations is that dreams and aspirations can provide enthusiasm for life or motivation for life so that I can continue to be enthusiastic.
If a dream is an imagination/hope, then an ideal is the desire to become something successful.	It is necessary, because dreams and ideals must be achieved for a bright future.	Benefits of dreams: fantasies that must be achieved, ideals: to make yourself and others proud
The difference between dreams and ideals is that dreams are a fantasy, while ideals are desires within	I think a person must have goals and dreams	To have a zest for life

ourselves that we must fight for to achieve.		
A dream is an imagination, while an ideal is a desire that will be achieved in the future.	I think a person must have goals and dreams.	Due to environmental conditions that influence the changing sectors of the times that force people to be successful
A dream is a person's imagination that is not necessarily certain, while an ideal is a person's desire that must be achieved.	Yes, because without dreams and ideals we cannot develop.	The benefits of dreams and ideals that exist within a person are to find out the abilities within a person.
Dreams are imaginations and ideals, goals that must be achieved.	Yes, because if someone doesn't have dreams and aspirations for the future, that person is completely useless.	The benefits of a person's dreams can become reality or truly come true
A dream is an imagination, while an ideal is a future desire that can be achieved.	Yes, because without dreams and ideals a person will not be able to progress and be successful.	So that I can make my parents proud
Dreams are imagination and ideals are someone's desires	It is necessary, because dreams and ideals are one of the passions of life and life goals that must be achieved.	The benefit of dreams and ideals is that someone who has them will achieve them and can become a trustworthy person.
A dream is an imagination, while an ideal is an ability that can be built within oneself.	Yes, because if there are no dreams/ambitions, a person's future will be that of a useless person.	
Dreams are a fantasy in our lives and can also come true. Ideals are the main goal for achieving success.	Yes, because by dreaming and having ideals, a person's life will be more enthusiastic in achieving ideals and dreams.	
Mimpi adalah sebuah khayalan sedangkan cita-cita adalah sebuah keinginan menjadi sukses A dream is an imagination while an ideal is a desire to	In my opinion, having dreams and ideals is necessary, so that we can have a purpose in our life.	

be successful.		
A dream is a picture of someone who wants to be in the future, an ideal is something that someone must achieve.	Yes, because by dreaming and having ideals, a person's life will be more enthusiastic in achieving ideals and dreams.	
A dream is an imagination, an ideal is to become a good and responsible entrepreneur.	Yes, because if you don't have ideals, it's impossible to develop.	
Dreams are a person's imagination, while ideals are a desire for success	It is necessary, because dreams and ideals are present plans for future success.	
In my opinion, dreams are imaginations from within ourselves, ideals are desires from within ourselves.		
Ideals are a reflection of one's identity, while dreams are fantasies that must be achieved.		
A dream is a desire, while an ideal is a goal that must be achieved.		
A dream is an image, while an ideal is a goal that must be achieved.		
A dream is an imagination while an ideal is something we must achieve.		

Source: Authors's Elaboration

DISCUSSION OF MENTORING RESULTS

Everyone can renew their values and refine their identity with the power of dreams. So, do not be afraid to dream big, since dreams spark a strong desire to achieve them. Dreams can act as a source of motivation, fuelling ambition and optimism, enabling to overcome all obstacles and difficulties. Therefore, dreams serve as a source of strength and determination. The formidable challenges faced when striving to realize a dream become nothing more than a significant obstacle if a dream is our lifeblood. In fact, dreams can guarantee success, as they serve as a constant source of motivation until we reach our goals. This motivational drive will move the body and guide the strategies to be pursued. This is why dreams are truly necessary. Dreams create tremendous energy for achievement. Dreams make people full of vitality in their work. Dreams themselves are actually a source of energy to face challenging challenges.

Confidence makes a person never give up, even when others criticize or hinder them. This belief also fosters the awareness that humans were created in this world as winners. The second tip is loyalty or focus on realizing dreams. To gain extraordinary motivation, set a time target. The third tip is tenacity. A dream makes someone work longer and harder. The fourth tip is a positive mental attitude. Someone with a dream understands that success requires sacrifice, hard work and commitment, time, and support from others. Therefore, they are always enthusiastic about developing their abilities relentlessly and achieving continuous progress without limits. Dreams that have become the breath of life are an extraordinary driving force. Dreams make people stronger in facing all obstacles and challenges. This is because dreams can generate a strong will to realize them. Make dreams the breath of life. Since strong dreams make the tough struggle to achieve them a means of training to optimize other strengths, such as emotional, physical, and spiritual strength.

Thinking ahead doesn't mean worrying about the future, however rather preparing for it. Every decision, plan, and action will be considered for its future impact. Students at Poco Ronaka Vocational School have dreams, hopes, and aspirations for the future. They firmly believe that their dreams, hopes, and aspirations will lead them to a brighter future. Attached photos of the implementation of community service activities.



Figure 1. Lecture's Session



Figure 2. Brainstorming Session



Figure 3. Group Discussion



Figure 4. Presentation



Figure 5. Closing Session

CONCLUSION

A smart dream is one that is: Specific, meaning the dream must be clear about your end goal so that it will be easy to plan later. For example, when deciding "I want to be successful," the sentence should be replaced with "I want to be a director in the company" or "I want to be a successful entrepreneur and earn Rp x per month." Measurable, meaning your dream must be measurable so you can determine when your greatest opportunity for success is. Achievable, meaning your dream must be achievable by breaking down your small steps as a start to achieving something big. Time Bond, meaning the dream must have a clear timeline so you know what is needed to achieve your goal (Sujak, 2022). Dreams or aspirations in each individual are different, within each dream are positive desires, which are of a nature that drives us to achieve something beautiful, namely ideals. Dreams are motivation in achieving ideals, because motivation is a driving force that greatly influences the achievement of an ideal. Students of

SMKN 1 Poco Ranaka have tried to visualize their dreams and aspirations and think about achieving their dreams.

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