



# TESDA Women's Center NEWSLETTER

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

A Publication of the TESDA Women's Center

April - June 2017

## 342 graduates of competency-based training programs celebrate their accomplishments

by

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A graduate of Food Processing NC II receives a ceremonial training certificate during the TWC Closing Ceremonies.



Engr. Pedro G. Jose, Jr. receives a certificate and a token of appreciation during the TWC Closing Ceremonies, as Guest of Honor



Teaching and non-teaching staff together with the graduates of TESDA Women's Center with TWC Center Chief Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio and guest of honor Engr. Pedro G. Jose, Jr. for a photo opportunity

The closing ceremonies of the competency-based training program of the TESDA Women's Center (TWC) celebrating the accomplishments of 342 graduates from the following qualifications: Automotive Servicing NC II (13), Bartending NC II (16), Barista NC II (49), Cookery NC II (25), Dressmaking NC II (38), Electronic Products Assembly and Servicing (EPAS) NC II (15), Food and Beverage Services NC II (38), Food Processing NC II (33), Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) NC II (17), Housekeeping NC II (24), Plumbing NC II (16), and Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) NC I (24); SMAW NC II (34).

*continued on page 2...*

## Launching of TESDA emergency skills training

by Aries Glenn L. Montesines

On May 31, 2017 the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) launched the Emergency Skills Training Program (TESTP) at the Tandang Sora Hall of the TESDA Women's Center. Gracing the event was the Presidential spokesperson Ernesto C. Abella as the keynote speaker.

The program is a quick response training intervention of TESDA to the

*continued on page 3...*



Presidential Spokesperson Ernesto C. Abella (below 5<sup>th</sup> from left) with TESDA Deputy Director General for Policies and Planning Rosanna A. Urdaneta (below 4<sup>th</sup> from left), Deputy Director General for Partnerships and Linkages Rebecca J. Calzado (below 4<sup>th</sup> from right), Dir. Pilar G. De Leon (below 3<sup>rd</sup> from right) with the TESDA NCR District Directors (below) and selected TESDA Emergency Skills Training beneficiaries (above).

### 342 graduates of competency-based... from page 1

The program started with a thanksgiving mass held in the morning from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on June 22, 2017 at the TESDA Auditorium. It was attended by the graduates and their parents together with the TWC management, teaching and non-teaching staff members.

The processional march was formal as the graduates of the various qualifications entered the TESDA Auditorium. The TWC management, teaching and non-teaching staff members and the Guest of Honor all together joined the march.

After the Lupang Hinirang All Women Cast video was played, the TESDA Women's Center Chief, Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio, delivered the Welcome Message. She stressed that the closing ceremonies is part of the TWC norm: "As one family, we celebrate our successes and challenges. We support each other including the trainees and their parents."

Ms. Ignacio also thanked the TWC trainers for being instrumental in helping the graduates and imparting the needed knowledge and skills required in their respective qualifications. She gave this important advice to the graduates: "You have to value the national certificate that you have achieved from the TWC. It is a crucial and vital document to show when you will apply for local or overseas employment."

Ms. Ignacio also sought the help of the graduates: "I request every one of you to disseminate and promote the free training programs offered by TWC using the flyers and brochures included in the graduation program. The best form of advocacy is your word of mouth. I encourage you to serve as role models as proof of the quality training programs and services provided by the institution," she passionately said.

Likewise, she thanked the parents of the graduates for trusting and choosing to enrol their beloved ones at the TWC and for the support that they have given them in order to



Engr. Pedro G. Jose, Jr. delivers his message as the guest of honor to the graduates during the TWC Closing Ceremonies.

complete their training. Now that the training has ended, said Ms. Ignacio "I want you accept this challenge! You have to apply what you have learned from your skills and empowerment training at the TWC, either for wage or self employment. Also, you have to share your blessings to others or at the very least share your good training experiences so that you can touch the lives of other women who want to improve their lives too by gaining access to TESDA's free skills training programs."

Ms. Ignacio also gave this announcement: "The TWC is continuously providing training even to the graduates as part of the lifelong learning program of the institution through the TESDA Women's Center Alumni Association (TWCAA)."

As her final closing message, she congratulated the TWC family for delivering its mission as the lead TVET institution of excellence in women empowerment by advocating and providing programs and services geared towards quality-assured, inclusive and gender-fair TVET.

Gracing the closing ceremonies and delivered a message was Engr. Pedro G. Jose Jr., Administrator, Heats School of Welders Inc. and National President, Philippine Welders & Fitters Society Inc. He acknowledged and thanked the TESDA Women's Center for having him as the Guest of Honor for the Closing Ceremonies of the Competency-Based Training Programs.

He mentioned about the graduation theme: "Kasanayang bigay ng TESDA, hatid ay pagbabago sa buhay at kinabukasan ng pamilya't sambayanan." He said that the theme is timely because scholarship programs are now readily available at TESDA unlike during his time that scholarships programs were rare. "Just like you, I was also a beneficiary of a free education through a scholarship program," Engr. Jose, proudly said.

He opened up his message by sharing his own success story growing up from a humble beginning and how he persevered in his studies until he finished an Engineering degree through a scholarship program. He emphasized the importance of TESDA's training programs especially to those in need of financial resources. "Poverty should not be a hindrance to obtaining education and attaining success in your career," he said. "You might think that you have just finished a vocational course, but I tell you, you're wrong because you finished an important skill needed by our country, and the local and foreign industries as well." He urged the graduates to take a look at the infrastructures going-on around, such as buildings, roads and highways, marine transport system, shipyard, etc. "Such projects need mason, carpenters, welders, fitters, cook, food processing technicians, and your skill is one of those needed by these industries. You should be proud of the skills training that you have just completed, you will a big part in the infrastructures

*continued on page 4...*

## Launching of TESDA Emergency... from page 1

vulnerable sectors comprised by immediate family members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP) who died or were wounded in line of duty, families affected by armed conflicts, family members of the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), former drug dependents and their families, and the distressed or displaced overseas Filipino workers (OFWs).

In his message, Spokesperson Abella said, "We want them to know they are not alone, that the government is with them... We want them to realize that we can make things happen. We can be successful." He mentioned that the government will provide scholarships and Php 100 allowance per day through TESDA.

TESDA Deputy Director General for Policies and Planning, DDG Rosanna A. Urdaneta said that at least 2,345 beneficiaries nationwide have been given scholarship grants under the program. "It aims to empower a greater number of Filipinos," she added.

Programs available under the TESTP are: motorcycle/small engine servicing; prepare cold meals; solar lamps assembly; nihonggo language; hilot (wellness massage); carpentry; process food by salting, curing and smoking, and maintain and repair audio/video products. Aside from the Php 100 daily allowance during the skills training program, TESDA will give free assessment and certification and a free starter kit.



**TESDA Women's Center**  
East Service Road, Upper Bicutan, 1630 Taguig  
Government Organization  
8,146 people checked in here



<http://www.facebook.com/TESDAWomensCenter>

## Benchmarking in APACC accredited institutions

by Aries Glenn L. Montesines



TWC Team headed by Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio Chief of TESDA Women's Center (1<sup>st</sup> from left) with Engr. Ernesto S. Nadera, Supervising TESD Specialist (5<sup>th</sup> from left) of KorPhil Center, Davao City

In 2018, the TESDA Women's Center will apply for reaccreditation with the Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC), hence the TWC went on benchmarking activities at the Korea-Philippines Vocational Training Center and Lupon School of Fisheries on April 20 and 21, 2017.

The team from the TESDA Women's Center was composed of Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio, Ms. Mylene H. Somera, Ms. Gerrelen D. Balbin, Ms. Lucia P. Tabu, Ms. Ritchie U. Briagas, Ms. Kimberly G. Gabriel, Ms. Mindy Lee S. Villegas, Mr. Michael William H. Del Rosario and Mr. Aries Glenn L. Montesines.

The 2-day activities focused on observing first-hand the best practices of these centers and observing its day-to-day operations as a training center.

The TWC team visited the Korea-Philippines Vocational Training Center, TESDA's Regional Training Center (RTC) located at Buhisan, Tibungco, Davao City. It was established thru partnerships between the Government of Korea and Philippines through the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). The training center offers industrial training to agricultural professionals, technicians, and agriculture-based workers. The center is a holder of Silver Level Accreditation status with APACC.

The TWC team was welcomed upon arrival from the Davao International Airport by Engr. Ernesto S. Nadera, Supervising TESD Specialist and Ms. Ruth R. De Castro, Administrative Department Head. Before the team proceeded to the KorPhil Center, they made a courtesy call to TESDA XI Regional Director Gaspar S. Gayona and Provincial Director Nestor S. Tabada.

At the KorPhil Center, the team was given a warm welcome and a video presentation was shown. Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio greeted the KorPhil staff and thanked them for their hospitality. She introduced the team and shared TWC's journey of acquiring the APACC Silver Level status. Engr. Nadera shared the good practices at the KorPhil Center.

A tour of the Center was led by Engr. Nadera, assisted by Mr. Major P. Salipot. They showed the TWC team how KorPhil operates. Members of the TWC team were allowed to inspect and take photos in every area they desire. Questions were freely asked during the tour and gladly being answered. The team was impressed and amazed to see the organized system of the Center and inspired to mimic some of the systems that are applicable to TESDA Women's Center.

Later that day, the TWC team met with KorPhil team to ask queries and

*continued on page 5...*

**342 graduates of competency-based...  
from page 2**



Ms. Shirley G. Alah (left), Trainer in SMAW/GMAW delivered an inspiring message. Micca S. Abauan (right), a graduate of Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) and Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) delivered her message during the TWC Closing Ceremonies.

that are being built. Engineers need you, because the skilled workers, in reality do the construction jobs for the infrastructure projects,” he added.

Likewise, he shared his career journey working as a Technician for two years even if he finished a Mechanical Engineering degree. He emphasized the important values of humility, perseverance, positive work attitude and excellence in work that has brought him to where he is now. “I used to work with high school graduates as a technician although I finished a bachelor’s degree, but after two years I became a project Engineer, gradually I became a QC manager,” he shared.

He expressed his confidence to the graduates that they too can succeed in their work after completing their training at the TESDA Women’s Center. He shared this good advice to the graduates: “Do not be choosy in your job, be humble to accept job offer and learn from it because this will serve as your stepping stone to greater job opportunities.” He challenged the graduates to become supervisors, foremen, coordinators, managers or owner of their own business, five to ten years from now.

He also congratulated the TESDA Women’s Center officers, trainers and support staff for providing the trainees and graduates the needed knowledge, skills and proper attitude required for the workers in the industry. Lastly, he quoted the bible at Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Ms. Gerrelen D. Balbin, Unit Head, Training Management Unit, presented the 342 graduates for graduation coming from the following qualifications: Automotive Servicing NC II, Bartending NC II, Barista NC II, Cookery NC II, Dressmaking NC II, Electronic Products Assembly and Servicing (EPAS) NC II, Food and Beverage Services NC II, Food Processing NC II, Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) NC II, Housekeeping NC II, Plumbing NC II, and Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) NC I, and SMAW NC II. The Center Chief, Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio, gave the response to confirm the graduates presented.

The Guest of Honor, Engr. Pedro G. Jose Jr., together with the TWC Chief, Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio, and the Supervising TESDS, Ms. Mylene H. Somera awarded the certificates to all the graduates of the TWC Competency-Based Training Programs. Each Trainer called the names of the graduates in every qualification. All the graduates received their certificates on stage.

Micca S. Abauan, a graduate of Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) and Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) delivered her message highlighting her journey how she decided to enrol in Welding NC II at TESDA Women’s Center (TWC).

She opened her message with these statements: “Change is the only constant thing in this world, whatever happens, whatever it takes, change is always there.”

Micca shared about her life before attending training in TESDA.



Ms. Jonaliza V. Relente, Dressmaking graduate led the Pledge of Loyalty



Graduates recite their Pledge of Loyalty during the TWC Closing Ceremonies

“I was a marine student at the PMI Manila, aspiring to be a seafarer like my brother.” She continued, “One day my brother who worked as a seafarer arrived from Europe, and he told me the good things about welding because he worked there as a welder. It was the turning moment when I started to dream again and my training journey at the TWC started.”

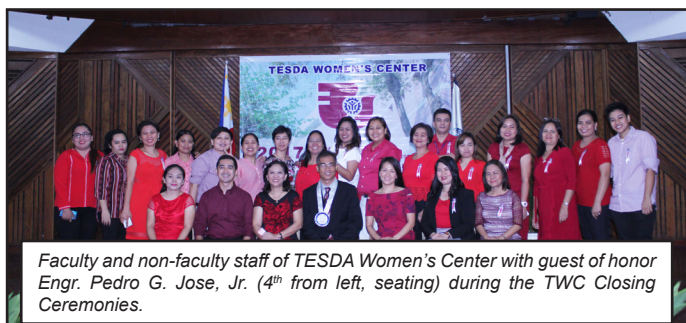
Micca also shared her misconceptions about welding. “I thought that welding is just like lighting up the match with fire but I was wrong. I will not dwell on my frustrations and stresses about the things that I have experienced in my training but I would rather share and talk about the values that I have gained in addition to the skills that I have gained from my training at the TWC.” She mentioned about patience, punctuality, perseverance and humility.

Lastly she encouraged her co-graduates to hold tightly and embrace the good moral standards, and practice the knowledge and skills taught by the trainers at the TWC. She ended with this statement, “The TWC did not just train us to earn a living but it has trained us to change the way we live.”

Ms. Shirley Alah, Trainer in Shielded Metal Arc Welding and Gas Metal Arc Welding at the TWC delivered her

*continued on page 5...*

**342 graduates of competency-based...  
from page 4**



Faculty and non-faculty staff of TESDA Women's Center with guest of honor Engr. Pedro G. Jose, Jr. (4<sup>th</sup> from left, seating) during the TWC Closing Ceremonies.

message for the graduates. She shared about her humble life story and how at a very early age she valued hard work and dedication.

She shared about her first job after finishing high school: "I worked as a Tourist Guide at Villa Escudero and at the same time I learned the Japanese language. My self-confidence was enhanced and I learned how to deal with people of various cultures."

Filled with much emotion, Ms. Shirley shared about her early marriage, and how she managed taking care of her son while working and pursuing her studies. She finished Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and pursued other courses such as Education, Caregiving and Reflexology that paved her way to work as a Tutor in Australia. It was in Australia that she learned about Welding.

She emphasized the same values that she cherished which contributed to achieving success in her career and occupation. She shared how she answered in one of her employment interviews: "The main reason why the company should hire me is because I am different from all the other applicants." She added, "I value perseverance, adaptability, honesty, positive work attitude but most importantly I believe in myself as an empowered woman."

Now, as a Trainer in Welding at the TWC, she shared about the high employment rate of her trainees who have completed their training in Shielded Metal Arc Welding and Gas Metal Arc Welding.

She pointed out the importance of continuous learning and development of skills and knowledge by attending seminars related to Welding in order to be updated with the latest developments and trends in the industry.

She ended with this powerful quote from Charles Darwin: "It is not the strongest of species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to change."

After the Trainer's message, Ms. Jonaliza V. Relente, a Dressmaking NC II graduate, led the pledge of loyalty for all the graduates.

Ms. Mylene H. Somera, Supervising TESD Specialist delivered the Closing Remarks. She said that the graduation is a celebration of success filled with emotion as we heard real-life stories of our speakers. She thanked the speakers for sharing their wisdom and giving inspiring messages. She also thanked the parents and guardians of the graduates for their untiring and unconditional support.

The graduates rendered a song of thanks dedicated to their parents, trainers and loved ones. Bouquet of flowers were handed by the graduates to their parents, trainers and loved ones. The famous song entitled "TESDA Way" was harmoniously sung by all the graduates with their faces filled with joy.

Ms. Joanna P. Tabu, Empowerment Trainer and GAD Focal, and Mr. Michael William H. Del Rosario, Guidance Counsellor hosted the closing ceremonies.

**Benchmarking in APACC...  
from page 3**



TWC team headed by Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio (6<sup>th</sup> from right) with team of Lupon School of Fisheries headed by Ms. Maria Magdalena P. Pomar (7<sup>th</sup> from right) during the benchmarking activities at the 1<sup>st</sup> TVET Gold Level Status Awardee Lupon School of Fisheries, Lupon, Davao Oriental



Sharing Lupon School of Fisheries' good practices with TWC team

discuss about APACC documents.

Level.

The second day of the benchmarking activity started with a tour from the City of Davao to Lupon, Davao Oriental to visit the Lupon School of Fisheries (LSF), a training center managed by TESDA and the 1<sup>st</sup> TVET center in the Philippines to be accredited by APACC with Gold Status

The TWC team was welcomed by Ms. Maria Magdalena P. Pomar, Assistant Professor II and the APACC team leader of LSF on behalf of Ms. Ruth R. Pundang, Vocational School Administrator III who was in

*continued on page 6...*

## TWC APACC benchmarking... from page 5

an official business meeting at Davao City.

Ms. Pomar gave a brief presentation about Lupon School of Fisheries and their APACC journey to become the 1<sup>st</sup> TESDA Training Center with Gold Level Status Accreditation. Ms. Ignacio thanked the staff of LSF for their warm reception.

After a brief presentation and discussion, the TWC team toured the LFS facilities. The team took photographs and notes during the tour observing good practices and systems implemented in their offices, workshops and work areas.

Ms. Pomar proudly presented to the TWC team the researches of LFS. The team was impressed about the ingenuity of the researches. From simple to complex researches, all demonstrating technology innovation and creativity that can be used to make life simpler or be more productive. Ms. Pomar said that these researches are currently being applied in their school.

After the tour, the TWC team met with the LFS team to discuss matters about the good practices being observed.

Ms. Ignacio and the rest of the TWC team bid farewell to the staff of LFS and thanked them for their hospitality and warm reception.

Overall, the two-day benchmarking activities were productive and successful, giving way on defining TWC's best practices, discovering weaknesses and identifying opportunities for improvements.



**FREE Skills Training for Women**  
<http://twc.tesda.gov.ph/programs/application>



**FREE Skills Training for Women**

**NIGHT SCHEDULE**

(Mondays - Fridays, 4:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.)

**ENROLLMENT IS ON-GOING**

Training starts in August 2017

25 trainees per program

First-Come-First-Served

#### AVAILABLE PROGRAMS

Full Qualifications	Nominal Duration
• Barista NC II	288 hours / 67 days
• Food and Beverage Services NC II	480 hours / 120 days
• Plumbing NC I	218 hours / 55 days
• Plumbing NC II	288 hours / 64 days
• Shielded Metal Arc Welding NC I	288 hours / 67 days
• Shielded Metal Arc Welding NC II	288 hours / 67 days

## TWC extends skills training to the communities

by Lucy Tabu



TWC Extension Program entitled "Serbisyo ni Juana para kay Juana" with Barangay Kagawad Rosario Mendoza (4<sup>th</sup> from left, seated) with TWC Trainer, Charmaine P. Fider and trainees of Cookery together with the residents of Brgy. South Signal Village, Taguig City

The TESDA Women's Center is shaped by a commitment and mission to advocate and provide programs and services geared towards quality-assured, inclusive and gender-fair Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET). To this end, the Center is extending its programs and services to the communities aside from offering center-based skills training programs, according to the TWC Chief, Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio. "As a form of advocacy, orientation programs are conducted to increase the participation of more women in accessing technical education and skills training within their own communities," Ms. Ignacio, added.

The Extension Program entitled "Serbisyo ni Juana Para kay Juana" consists of a Career Talk given by the TWC Guidance Counsellor promoting the TESDA Women's Center (TWC) as the lead TVET institution of excellence in empowering Filipino women. "The career talks were conducted in two schools namely, Taguig National High School, and Pateros National High School," Ms. Gerrelen Balbin, Unit Head, Training Management Unit, said. "More than 700 students were provided information about the Competency-Based Skills Training programs that can be availed for free by qualified training applicants," she added.

To complement the orientation program, skills demonstration in different qualifications such as Food Processing, Cookery, Dressmaking, Baking, and Welding were conducted by the TWC trainers. Skills demonstrations were conducted in Barangay

San Lorenzo, Makati, and Barangay South Signal, Taguig City, according to Ms. Balbin.

The culmination of the extension program was the distribution of certificate of participation to the attendees of the skills training, Ms. Balbin shared.

The orientation and extension programs were conducted by: Ms. Charmaine Fider, Trainer, Cookery and Baking; Ms. Wenny Cabantog, Trainer, Food Processing; Ms. Irene Mortel, Trainer, Dressmaking; Ms. Shirley Alah, Trainer, Shielded Metal Arc Welding; and Mr. Michael William del Rosario, Guidance Counsellor of the TESDA Women's Center.



### TESDA Women's Center

#### Vision

"TESDA Women's Center is the lead TVET Institution of excellence in empowering Filipino women."

#### Mission

"As the lead TVET Institution of excellence in women empowerment, TESDA Women's Center advocates and provides programs and services geared towards quality-assured inclusive and gender fair TVET."

### TESDA Women's Center

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