



TESDA Women's Center NEWSLETTER

4th Quarter

A Publication of the TESDA Women's Center

October - December 2017

TWC celebrates achievement of 619 graduates



Closing ceremonies of the competency-based training at the TESDA Women's Center was a celebration of the trainees' achievement over several months of skills training and having successfully passed assessment and certification. More than six hundred graduates were recognized during the presentation and confirmation of graduates that took place on December 7, 2017 at the TESDA covered court in Taguig City.

The 619 graduates composed of 479 women and 140 men completed their training in Automotive Servicing NC II, Bartending NC II, Barista NC II, Cookery NC II, Dressmaking NC II, Electronics Products Assembly and Servicing NC II, Food and Beverage Services NC II, Food Processing NC II, Gas Metal Arc Welding NC II, Housekeeping NC II, Motorcycle/ Small Engine Services NC II, Plumbing NC II, and Shielded Metal Arc Welding NC II.

The TWC Chief, Ms. Maria Clara Ignacio in her opening remarks, expressed thanks and appreciation especially to the graduates and their parents or guardians, the TWC family, and the guests.



The guest of honor was Mr. Danilo Cerence, Assistant Vice President, Aboitiz Foundation Inc. who conveyed an inspiring speech on behalf of Ms. Maribeth Marasigan, First Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

He gave a brief background about their company. He said that Aboitiz Foundation is a strong advocate in driving change for a better world. Under

its corporate social responsibility, he mentioned that 70% of the Aboitiz CSR funds go to public education as a way of contributing to the government by investing in basic education and technical vocational education and training. He congratulated and expressed his sincere message to the graduates: "Aboitiz is honored to be part of your success and your journey in moving forward," said Mr. Cerence.



The Keynote Speaker was Director General/Secretary Guiling "Gene" A. Mamondiong. The DG mentioned about the number of enrolled, graduates, assessed and certified in Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) during the past year. He encouraged the graduates to organize themselves into a National Union of TESDA Alumni. "This formal organization could have representation in the TESDA Board," he said. He also encouraged them to organize into a cooperative, so that they can have access to financial support from the government. "Be proud to be graduate of TESDA, the world needs skilled workers," said the Director General.

A message from the graduate was delivered by Lira Marilag Bitao, Food and Beverage Services NC II graduate. She shared about her family life having grown up from Camarines Sur, Bicol. Lira finished Bachelor of Science in Human Resource Management from the University of Santos Tomas, Manila before she enrolled in TESDA. Three months after graduation, she landed a job in Starbucks. Then, she worked as a Cook in a small restaurant.

She pursued skills training in Food and Beverage Services NC II at the TWC. Her Trainer was Ms. Shella Bawar. "Noong una akala ko madali lang pero nahirapan ako tulad ng pag set up ng French, Russian, English o American table set up. Ang hindi ko makakalimutan ay yung wine service. Ang laki ng naitulong sa akin ng TWC sa aking trabaho ngayon," Lira said.

Lira works now at The Bistro Group (Italianni's) in Greenbelt, Makati City as Bartender. She shared three most important lessons: be humble, be grateful, and never settle for just okay.

A message from the Trainer was given by Ms. Shella Bawar of Food and Beverage Services. She was hailed as the National Tagsanay 2017 grand winner during the search for most outstanding TVET Trainer.

"I still remember way back in 2009 graduation ceremony, I was a graduate in Food and Beverage Services NC II here at the TWC," Ms. Shella recalled. She gave special mention and thanks to her Trainer, Ms. Maria Regina Ansay who has been an instrument in shaping her to become a Trainer.

She shared her life story before TESDA: "I was a former OFW who worked as a private tutor and lady driver in Doha, Qatar driving a BMW X3 for my employer who was very kind to me." Before she worked overseas, Ms. Shella graduated Bachelor of Science in Computer Science at Adamson University in year 2000. She also finished Masters Degree in Business Administration.

Ms. Shella inspired the graduates by enumerating the types of work she experienced such as Quality Control Officer in an Electronics Company, Account Executive in a multi-national company, overseas employment as a Tutor and Lady Driver, and now as a TVET Trainer. "Love ko ang profession ko bilang isang Trainer. Ito ang tadhana ko. Hindi man ako educator by profession, hindi ito ang una kong plano at hindi rin sanay magsalita sa harap ng maraming tao. Pero nag try ako at pinatunayan ko sa sarili ko na kaya ko," Ms. Shella passionately said.

After the message, the pledge of loyalty was recited led by a Food and Beverage Services NC II graduate, Ms. Andrea Lyn Logan. The closing message was delivered by the TWC Supervising TESD Specialist, Ms. Mylene Somera. The masters of ceremonies were Mr. Michael William del Rosario, Guidance Counselor, and Ms. Joanna Tabu, GAD Focal/Empowerment Trainer.

TWC graduates celebrate 1st homecoming

More than 300 graduates attended the 1st homecoming of graduates organized by the TWC alumni association, since the Center was established in 1998. The event was aimed to promote active participation of the graduates in its continuing programs and services. It was also a venue to acquire additional competencies thru skills upgrading, avail of TESDA's scholarship programs, and build a strong support network between and among the graduates and trainers.

It was a two-day event held on November 9-10, 2017. During the first day, jobs fair and one-stop shop services were held at the TWC lobby. Twelve companies participated in the jobs fair, namely: Fineco Management, UMC, MIROF Resources Incorporated, Metro Market Market, Jolly Management Solutions Inc., Zeutica Incorporated, Love My Nails, Cebu Pacific, Sterling Global, Henry's Electronics, PR Gas, and EDI Staff Builders International Inc. The organizations that participated in the one-stop shop were: Social Security System and Pag-Ibig. There were 291 graduates that participated in the jobs fair and one-stop shop services.

Seminars were simultaneously conducted such as Financial Literacy participated by 80 graduates. Online entrepreneurship using Face book was also conducted by the TWC Supervising TESD Specialist, Ms. Mylene Somera.

Skills demonstrations were likewise conducted such as Takoyaki Making and Ham Making. Takoyaki is a Japanese food that is very much liked by many Filipino people. It is one of the recipes offered in the 5-day Japanese Cuisine training offered at the TESDA Women's Center in partnership with ABC Cooking Studio, Japan. Ms. Wenny Cabantog, Food Processing Trainer did a skills demonstration on Ham Making.

The highlight of the event was an awarding program held on November 22, 2017. The president of the TWC alumni association, Ms. Bernardita R. Escaño, delivered a welcome message.

On behalf of the TWC, Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio, Center Chief, gave a warm message to all the graduates. She emphasized about rededicating their commitment for one vision: "This is a very memorable day to reckon with, but more importantly, it is a day to commend

ourselves for the ever undoubting spirit, courage and commitment to attain the vision of our organization. Today, let us rededicate our commitment for one vision, one direction, and one TWC."

Ms. Annie Enriquez-Geron, Adviser of the TWC Alumni Association, delivered an encouraging message. She said that the graduates especially the women are symbol of strength and victory. "Kayo ay simbolo ng pagtataguyod, kakayahan at lakas tungo sa pagkapantay pantay," she added.

She underscored the theme: Reuniting the TWC Family" #tataktwforever. She said, "Iba po ang tatak TWC forever na nanalantay sa DNA niyo. Ito ay tatak at dugong TWC, buhay na simbolo ng TESDA." Finally, she pointed out, "Huwag makakalimot sa pinanggalingan," and to be compassionate to others by sharing your knowledge and skills.

The Deputy Director General for Partnerships and Linkaging, Rebecca Calzado gave a special message for the TWC graduates, on behalf of Director General Guiling "Gene" Mamondiong.

Also, part of the program was the awarding ceremony. In recognition of the true stories of the successful graduates, awards were bestowed to the most deserving graduates. The winner of the TWC Idol Award Self-Employed Category was Cherry Galit, graduate in Food and Beverage Servicing NC II and Bartending NC II. Cherry is now an entrepreneur, managing a mobile bar provided by Genebra San Miguel. She was one of the scholars of TESDA-GSMI scholarship program at the TWC. Her JCAB Imix mobile bar caters to the needs of clients for bar services during events. She employed seven of her classmates in their mobile bar. She plans to own another mobile bar. Her trainer at the TWC was Ms. Kimberly Bautista.

The TWC Idol Wage-Employed Category Award was won by Lira Marilag Bitao, graduate of Food and Beverage Services NC II. Lira works as Bartender at The Bistro Group (Italianni's) in Greenbelt, Makati City. She handles guest service, provides wine service, makes cocktail and mocktail drinks at the bar, and prepares coffee and coffee-related drinks at the dining area. She also does inventory of drinks, canned and bottled beverages

for the store. Lira is now pursuing skills training in Bartending at the TWC. She attends her training from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and works at Italianni's from 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Her trainer at the TWC was Ms. Shella Bawar.

The recipient of the Early Bird Award was Jane May Ofalla, a graduate of Bartending NC II and Barista NC II. All the TWC Trainers from the past until the present time were recognized and awarded with a simple gift.



Jobs Fair



Seminar on Financial Literacy



Seminar on Online Entrepreneurship Using Face book



Skills Demonstration on Ham Making

Satte rotary club of Japan visits barista training in TWC

The Rotary Club of Satte in Japan headed by its President Shingo Mimaki together with Yamaguchi Toshimichi, Nagashima Shiegeo, Kono Masaru, Miyazawa Minoru, Tamaki Kazuo, and Iwakami Koji visited the Barista NC II Training at the TESDA Women's Center (TWC) on November 23, 2017. The Rotarians were led by Ms. Aida Sotto of the Rotary Club Mandaluyong Uptown.

The Rotary clubs of Mandaluyong Uptown, and San Juan Central together with the TWC collaborated thru a

Memorandum of Agreement for the conduct of a joint research entitled: Case Study on the conduct of Training and Competency Assessment for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Barista NC II and Housekeeping NC II.

The Rotarians were interested to see the PWD trainees enrolled in Barista NC II. They committed to support the Barista Training for PWDs.

The TWC Chief, Ms. Maria Clara Ignacio welcomed the Japanese guests.

An orientation about the TWC was presented by Ms. Lucy Tabu, Head, Research and Advocacy. A guided tour was led by Ms. Mylene Somera, Supervising TESD Specialist.

Japanese cuisine training continues with 1,033 graduates

The partnership program between the TESDA Women's Center and ABC Cooking Studio, Japan has produced 1,033 graduates comprised by 89% women and 11% men, from CY 2014 to CY 2017. The graduates utilized their cooking skills in employment jobs in some hotels and restaurants while others practice their skills in teaching. Many of them were happy to share that they are cooking Japanese food for their families because it is beneficial for their health. Other graduates are interested to find overseas jobs.

ABC cooking studio operates a chain of cooking studios offering various Japanese Cuisine in Shanghai, Beijing, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Korea, and Japan. It is also planning to open a cooking studio in the Philippines and provide employment

opportunities to some of the graduates. There is a growing demand for Washoku worldwide as evidenced by the registration of Washoku Japanese Cuisine in 2014 as a UNESCO world cultural heritage.

A memorandum of agreement has been forged in 2014 and renewed annually for the continuing program implementation of skills training on Japanese Cuisine. The program consists of five-day cooking lessons on Japanese Cuisine "Washoku" for the household service workers/housemaids, housewives, returning OFWs, senior citizens, persons with partial disabilities, victims of VAW, and TESDA trainers and graduates in Cookery, Food Processing, and Food and Beverage Services.

The ABC cooking studio representatives, Sensaki Hiroshi, Yoshimura, and Fukuoka met some of the graduates at the TESDA Women's Center on November 22, 2017. "We truly appreciate interviewing and having special session on the spot with the graduates. We think that this was the best opportunities for us to reevaluate the results so far, and think of what we should do going forward. We will advise you to prepare the contract for next year," said Mr. Hiroshi.

Yoshimura and Fukuoka, ABC cooking studio core members of the project since 2014 said, "We were moved to see the program continues for four years now, having more than 1000 graduates."

Case study on training for PWDs in Barista NC II and Housekeeping NC II shows high certification rate

Persons with disabilities (PWDs) in the Philippines are estimated to be about 1,443,000 persons or 1.5% of the total household population of the Philippines. The statistics show that there are more male (50.9%) than female (49.1%) PWDs.

In education, under the Magna Carta of Women, the PWDs are entitled to educational assistance to pursue primary, secondary, tertiary, post tertiary as well as technical vocational education in both public and private schools.

The TWC in collaboration with the Rotary Clubs of San Juan Central and Mandaluyong Uptown conducted a research to document a pilot skills training in Housekeeping NC II and Barista NC II conducted for the hearing-impaired and persons with autism.

The study is the first of its kind that focused on the skills training and assessment of the PWD trainees and graduates. It was aimed to contribute not only to the knowledge base of the TWC but also contribute to the directions that the Center will take in the future for skills training of PWDs. The study also aimed to benefit the PWD trainees and their parents who have longed for improvement in their economic and personal well-being.

The research method used was case study. Gathering of information and data

made use of desk interview and available secondary data, one-on-one structured or semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, and survey questionnaires.

The study used purposive sampling. Aside from the PWD graduates, the research respondents included stakeholders' clusters such as training partner organizations, collaborators, trainers, and assessors.

The study showed that the first batch of eighteen (18) PWD trainees consisting of six (6) hearing-impaired, six (6) persons with autism, together with six (6) mothers/ guardians enrolled in Barista NC II conducted by Global Skills Formation Institute in collaboration with the Rotary Clubs of San Juan Central and Mandaluyong Uptown, in November 2016. They also enrolled in Housekeeping after the Barista training. After completion of skills training, the Barista trainees took and passed the national assessment with a 100% certification rate. The deaf graduates in Barista NC II are now employed in coffee shops, while the persons with autism have just completed their on-the-job training at Special Cup Coffee. The program continued and in May 2017, ten (10) PWD trainees enrolled and completed their training in Barista NC II. Again, the trainees successfully passed the National Assessment. The TWC

Trainers in Bartending and Housekeeping served as the Assessors during the assessment. Most of the graduates are employed in coffee shops.

The result of the case study paved the way for the TWC to offer skills training in Barista NC II for the deaf. There are eight (8) deaf trainees who are now enrolled at the TWC. The training is a joint collaboration with the Rotary Clubs of San Juan Central and Mandaluyong Uptown. A memorandum of agreement has been forged to formalize the three-year partnership program. The Rotary Clubs committed to continuously recruit PWDs to enroll at the TWC. The partnership program has recently gained support from the Satte Rotary Club of Japan who visited the Barista Training at the TWC in November 2017.

Photo below was taken during an interview with a PWD hearing-impaired graduate in Barista NC II now working at Café Avenue, assisted by an interpreter, Sister Catalina Tuble together with Ms. Lucy Tabu, Sr. TESDS, TWC and Research Consultant, Ms. Mayette Macapagal.



Person from the book entitled "Young People Ask, Answers that Work." The trainees were glad to receive free copies of the book which were distributed at the end of the seminar. More than 500 copies were availed by the trainees.

The activity was aligned with the 2017, 18-day campaign to end violence against women which is observed annually from November 15 to December 12. The TESDA Women's Center supports the government's goal to protect human rights of women and its commitment to address all forms of violence against women.

Seminar on HIV AIDS for trainees

One of the lifelong learning programs for the TWC trainees was a seminar on HIV AIDS conducted to two batches of trainees on December 5 and 15, 2017. It was designed to raise awareness among the trainees about the HIV epidemics in the global, regional and local contexts. Almost three hundred trainees participated in the one-day seminar held at the Tandang Sora Hall, TESDA Women's Center, TESDA Complex, Taguig City. The resource persons were Ms. Maria Regina Ansay, Lead Empowerment Trainer and Ms. Joanna Tabu, GAD Focal/ Empowerment Trainer.

An overview of HIV and AIDS, its transmission, window period, and stages

of HIV infection were comprehensively discussed by Ms. Joanna. A trainee said: "I learned that disease progression can be delayed by prevention and early treatment of opportunistic infections, antiretroviral therapy, and positive living." Videos narrating the various forms of violence against women (VAW) which include VAW in the home, workplace, school, public spaces, and online harassment were facilitated by Ms. Regie. The trainees shared their views on how they can eliminate VAW and how they can help the victims of VAW.

Practical solutions to common problems and issues experienced by the youth were quoted by the Resource

Food Processing champions cultural show

Cultural day is a celebration to recognize the talents of the trainees, develop their self-esteem and promote teamwork. It was held on December 19, 2017 at the Tandang Sora Hall, TESDA Women's Center.

The importance of the event was emphasized by Ms. Maria Regina Ansay, Lead Empowerment Trainer, in her opening remarks. "Aside from developing the technical knowledge, skills and attitude of the trainees through competency-based training, it also provides variety of activities and learning experiences that will enhance the trainees' mental, emotional, social, spiritual and physical development," she said.

Ms. Regie added, "The activities also promote socialization which will help the trainees cope with the challenges of life and eventually develop their full capacity as individuals for their continuing participation in society. The trainees as part of the TWC family are nurtured to become more responsible and productive member of the society."

The half day activity included competition between and among trainees from different qualifications. The trainees showcased their talents and skills aside from what they have learned during their skills training. Each team prepared a production number or artwork/handcraft work and competed with each other, based on the given theme. The winning

teams were recognized and awarded cash prizes and tokens. The event was hosted by Ms. Roxy Constantino, TWC librarian.

The winners of the cultural show were: Food Processing NCII, Champion; Dressmaking NC II, 1st Runner Up; Food and Beverage Services NCII, 2nd runner up; Housekeeping NCII, 3rd runner up.

The winners of the cos-play were: Barista NCII (DJhoanna Marie B. Nucum), Champion; Food Processing NCII (Nieva Tabangay), 1st Runner up; Food and Beverage Services NCII (Cielo Aguinaldo), 2nd Runner up; and EPAS NCII (Maria Fatima Campos), 3rd Runner up.

TESDA holds GAD assembly for GFPS

A four-day Gender and Development (GAD) assembly for the TESDA GAD Focal Point System (TESDA-GFPS) was held on November 21-24, 2017 at the TESDA Women's Center participated by regional and national GAD focal persons and GFPS Chairpersons.

The GAD assembly was a perfect venue for capacitating the participants thru the conduct of learning and deepening sessions on GAD; presenting the major GAD accomplishments for 2017; sharing of best practices on GAD mainstreaming from the regional offices; and formulating draft GAD plans and budgets for 2019. It was also an opportune time to present and solicit comments on the newly developed draft Harmonized GAD Guidelines (HGG) Checklist for the TVET sector.

TESDA has been working towards the attainment of a gender-fair Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET). This necessitates enhancing TESDA's GAD Plans and Budgets (GPBs) at the central and regional offices, reflecting gender responsiveness in its policies, people, enabling environment, and PAPs.

The GFPS assembly started with an opening program delivered by Ms. Maria Clara Ignacio, GFPS-TWG Chair. She emphasized the role of the GAD Focal Persons as change agents.

On behalf of the GFPS-Executive Committee Chairperson, Deputy Director General Rosanna Urdaneta, the Vice-Chairperson, Executive Director Marissa Legaspi, delivered an inspiring message. She mentioned that TESDA or NMYC then, has been a strong advocate of Gender and Development (GAD). Likewise, TESDA is supportive of international and national commitments related to GAD.

ED Legaspi highlighted in her message not to look at GAD as another program, but to mainstream GAD in our regular work such as, planning, program implementation, monitoring and evaluation, scholarships, curriculum development and others. She gave an

assurance that the TESDA leadership is supportive of the various GAD initiatives, and encouraged the group to continue pursuing TESDA's GAD goals of women empowerment and gender equality, by making all TVET programs gender-responsive.

The program overview was presented by Ms. Maria Clara B. Ignacio, GFPS-TWG Chair. She enumerated the program objectives, expected outputs, and the contents of the four-day GFPS assembly. The major topics discussed during the first day were: Learning Session on Gender Mainstreaming in the context of TVET; Appreciation of Gender Mainstreaming through Gender Analysis; Reporting of Major GAD Accomplishments; Presentation of the GAD Logic Model and GAD Agenda.

The sharing of best practices on GAD mainstreaming from the regional offices of CARAGA, Regions XI, IV-A, and VII highlighted the second day of the assembly. The draft Harmonized GAD Guidelines Checklist for TVET was likewise presented by Ms. Jean Frances Ilo, GAD Consultant. She said that the tool is designed as guide in designing TVET interventions that address key issues of gender equality and women's empowerment and to help implement the Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710). It is also a tool for GAD budget attribution.

The third and fourth days were devoted to sessions on Applying and Sustaining Gender-Responsive TVET programs, activities and projects. The members of the GFPS participated during the workshops on the preparation of the CY 2019 TESDA GAD Plan and Budget.

The four-day GAD assembly concluded with a discussion on the next steps to TESDA's GAD progression, an online program evaluation, and a closing program. The GFPS-Executive Committee Chairperson, Deputy Director General, Rosanna Urdaneta, gave a message and assured the participants of her commitment and support to realize the twin GAD goals of women empowerment and gender

equality in the organization.

The TWC Chief, Ms. Maria Clara Ignacio and TWC GAD Focal, Ms. Joenna Tabu served as the Resource Speakers during the four-day GAD assembly. Ms. Mylene Somera presented the survey result on the utilization of the GST manual.

It was recommended by the participants to replicate the conduct of GFPS assembly in three zonal areas: Visayas, Mindanao, and Luzon in order to increase and empower more GAD advocates. The participants agreed to raise the Gender Mainstreaming and Evaluation Framework (GMEF) score of TESDA from Level 3 to Level 4 in CY 2021 in all 4 entry points: 1) Policy 2) People 3) Enabling Mechanisms 4) Programs, Activities and Projects (PAPs).



TESDA Women's Center

Vision

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

Mission

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

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