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MAY DAY

AWARDS

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COMRADE OF LABOUR

Makoto Watanabe

Vice President

Healthcare Services Employees' Union (HSEU)

Nominated by the Healthcare Services Employees' Union

Genuinely concerned about healthcare workers' wages, Makoto Watanabe actively engages in annual wage increment and performance bonus negotiations with his branch, the Agency for Integrated Care. As Vice President of the Healthcare Services Employees' Union (HSEU), he participates in public healthcare wage and Collective Agreement negotiations, showing his heartfelt commitment to workers.

As the dedicated chairperson of HSEU's Welfare Subcommittee, Brother Makoto provides direction to over 30 members representing 21 healthcare branches. He oversees the assessment and approval of bursary award and hardship grant proposals at the Executive Council level and has guided revisions to eligibility criteria and payouts, improving access to union members' children.

Beyond HSEU, Brother Makoto contributes as a committee member of NTUC Care and Share. He was part of the organising committee for the NTUC Care and Share Workplan 2022, where he facilitated topic discussions. Brother Makoto also regularly provides feedback on hardship grants, bursary programmes, and welfare schemes, aiming to improve the eligibility criteria and payouts in response to changing circumstances. He also gave input to the COVID-19 fund, which assisted union members affected by the pandemic.

As a dedicated member of HSEU's Job, Skills, and Training Subcommittee, he advocates for training and upskilling to enhance healthcare workers' wages and career prospects.