

COMRADE OF LABOUR

Ong Choo Eng

Executive Council Member

Healthcare Services Employees' Union (HSEU)

Nominated by the Healthcare Services Employees' Union.

Ong Choo Eng has served in the Healthcare Services Employees' Union (HSEU) for more than a decade and as the chairperson of the Singapore General Hospital (SGH) branch since 2018. She commands respect among her fellow branch officials and members and actively voices their concerns. This was evident during annual wage increments and bonus negotiations with the SingHealth Cluster, where she proactively gave her views as part of HSEU's negotiating team.

She is known to be very approachable and has a personal touch when it comes to helping members, paying particular attention to members who need any welfare assistance. When she got word of an application for a hardship grant from a member, she visited the member's home to get to know the member's situation and to find other avenues to help her.

Sister Choo Eng serves her members with passion and commitment. Despite her busy personal and work schedule, she dedicates her time to recruiting and retaining members through her interactions with colleagues and staff.

Her current position as chairperson of the Singapore General Hospital (SGH) branch showcases her leadership, and she has received tremendous support from her members. She works closely with the committee to organise numerous social activities for the members, such as overseas trips, tours and festival celebrations. Members received these well, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic, when some shared that they missed going on trips and excursions.

Sister Choo Eng is also involved in the NTUC Workplace Safety & Health (WSH) committee and has generously contributed her time and efforts to improve workers' safety nationwide. During meetings, she makes it a point to share and cascade the latest information on workplace safety with all members.

She has a good network of colleagues, friends and members who help monitor the workplace for any issues that may impact members. With her years of experience, she is not afraid to handle any grievance case, and she also empowers newer and younger union leaders to take on new roles within the union.

Additionally, Sister Choo Eng is an active member of the SingHealth—HSEU Jobs, Skills, and Training Panel. She advocates for adopting training at the cluster and provides ground sentiment feedback during panel meetings on courses and training initiatives undertaken by SingHealth.

A strong advocate for older workers' continued employment, she is an exemplary role model for training, upskilling, and continuous training. Even though she is already a specialist nurse, she continues to advance her skills, giving her the credibility to encourage mature workers to undergo training and upgrading.