

PARTNER OF LABOUR MOVEMENT

Marie Joy Pugrad

Migrant Domestic Worker

Nominated by the Centre for Domestic Employees.

Marie Joy Pugrad has been volunteering with the Centre for Domestic Employees (CDE) since April 2022. Sister Marie has established a robust connection within the domestic worker community in Singapore, utilising various platforms to share her knowledge and personal experiences to inspire others. She actively volunteers with CDE to assist fellow migrant domestic workers facing employment-related challenges. She proactively connects them with CDE for workshops and encourages them to volunteer.

Sister Marie is a shining example of someone driven by a thirst for knowledge, not merely for personal advancement but to impact those around her positively. Having completed her Diploma in Business and Sales Management at Kingston International College last year, she is already gearing up for a postgraduate Diploma to expand her business and people management expertise further. Remaining connected with her classmates, Sister Marie actively exchanges ideas on their respective business plans, fostering mutual encouragement and motivation towards their shared dreams.

While her family owns a small provision shop in their hometown in the Philippines, Sister Marie envisions a greater future for the business, with plans to expand it into a grocery store. Recently, she enrolled in Basic Elderly Care and Intro to Alzheimer's and Dementia courses at SITTICare, seeking to enhance her skills and knowledge, especially considering her employment with two elderly individuals aged 66. She anticipates the potential changes in their health and well-being and strives to understand their needs better so that she can become a more patient caregiver when the need arises.

Even during her free time on weekday evenings, Sister Marie dedicates herself to continuous learning by attending online entrepreneurship courses for Overseas Filipino Workers and serving as a Team Leader with Uplifters. In doing so, she enriches her understanding and contributes to the empowerment and upliftment of her fellow community members.