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MORE THAN 380 STUDY AWARDS HANDED OUT BY THE AGENCY FOR INTEGRATED CARE SINCE 2017

Over 380 individuals have received the Community Care Manpower Development Awards (CCMDA) administered by the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) since it was launched in 2017, with close to 100 awards given out this year. The award provides new entrants and current staff in the Community Care sector with opportunities to pursue and grow their careers. Community Care providers can tap on the awards to support the training needs of new entrants, while current staff can leverage on the CCMDA to upskill and expand their professional knowledge by pursuing studies in various clinical and non-clinical specialisations. The CCMDA complements the Community Nursing Scholarship and the recently-launched Community Care Scholarship to attract more manpower and talent into the sector.

2. The majority of the CCMDA recipients since 2017 are current staff in the Community Care sector. They work in various areas from nursing to operations across various settings in the Community Care sector. About 15% of the CCMDA recipients are new entrants to the sector and they are enrolled in a range of courses such as nursing, physiotherapy as well as occupational therapy. These individuals are passionate about serving seniors and building a purposeful career in Community Care.

3. Khairul Rusyaidie is a recipient of this year's CCMDA and a new entrant to the Community Care sector. The 21-year-old is currently pursuing a Work-Study Diploma (WSDip) in Rehabilitation Care at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE). The programme allows individuals to gain on-the-job experience while pursuing their studies at the same time. Khairul is currently employed as a Therapy Assistant with Vanguard Healthcare's Woodlands Care Home. He is thankful he gets to broaden his knowledge while gaining valuable hands-on work experience. Khairul looks forward to starting and growing his career in the Community Care sector, helping seniors to lead

active and independent lives; just like the dedicated therapist who helped his grandmother regain her ability to walk after an extended period of severe osteoarthritis.

4. “The number of CCMDA recipients is heartening and also demonstrates the spirit of lifelong learning within the Community Care workforce so as to provide better care for seniors,” said AIC’s Chief Executive Officer, Tan Kwang Cheak. “We will continue to partner Community Care providers to further strengthen their manpower and talent pool. Those looking to grow their careers in the Community Care sector can look forward to more training opportunities, as AIC will be appointing two new Learning Institutes (LIs) to the AIC Learning Network, to provide courses relevant to the sector,” Mr Tan said.

5. With the additional two LIs, the AIC Learning Network will have eight LIs from January 2021. They will provide about 11,000 training places yearly for the next four years. This is an about 20% increase in training places offered to Community Care staff to provide greater access to training opportunities.

6. In addition, AIC, along with the Ministry of Health, Public Service Division, Workforce Singapore and several Community Care partners started a pilot this year, which looks into re-designing job functions of support care roles within the Community Care sector. The aim is to provide more career options and enhanced progression pathways for current staff. Together with the CCMDA and AIC’s Learning Network, these initiatives are key to growing the capabilities of the Community Care workforce to equip them with skills of the future to deliver even better care for seniors.

7. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the annual CCMDA ceremony took place virtually this morning with the Guest-of-Honour, Dr Koh Poh Koon, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Health honouring the latest batch of CCMDA recipients.

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Media contact and queries

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About the Agency for Integrated Care

The Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) aims to create a vibrant care community for people to live well and age gracefully. AIC coordinates and supports efforts in integrating care to achieve the best care outcomes for our clients. We reach out to caregivers and seniors with information on staying active and ageing well, and connect people to services they need. We support stakeholders in their efforts to raise the quality of care, and also work with health and social care partners to provide services for the ageing population. Our work in the community brings care services and information closer to those in need. For more about us, please visit <https://www.aic.sg>