



MEDIA RELEASE

5 SEPTEMBER 2022 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AIC confers more than 100 manpower development awards to boost talent in the Community Care sector

Over 100 individuals were presented with the Community Care Manpower Development Awards (CCMDA) by Ms Rahayu Mahzam, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health, during a ceremony held on 5 September 2022. Administered by the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC), the CCMDA was first launched in 2017, and since then, almost 700 awards have been given out.

2. Speaking at the award ceremony, Ms Rahayu lauded the resilience of Community Care staff during the difficult two years with COVID-19. She highlighted the need to look into care beyond the pandemic, and noted that it is encouraging that many CCMDA recipients are pursuing studies to meet the changing needs of the community.

Attracting and developing talents

3. The CCMDA provides new and current Community Care staff with opportunities to pursue and grow their careers. Organisations in the Community Care sector can tap on the awards to attract new entrants into the sector by supporting their studies or training needs. At the same time, current staff can leverage the CCMDA to upskill and expand their professional knowledge and expertise by pursuing studies in various clinical and non-clinical specialisations.

4. This year, more than 80 per cent of the awardees are current Community Care staff seeking to further their knowledge and skills in areas such as palliative care and gerontology. Among them is Ms Jenny Ang, who left a career in the travel industry to join St Luke's ElderCare as a Centre Manager in 2017. Spurred by her appetite to

Contact:

Phone: 1800 650 6060
Fax: (65) 6820 0728
E-mail: enquiries@aic.sg
Web: www.aic.sg

Address:

Singapore Post
Centre Post Office
P.O. Box 1173
Singapore 914040

make a difference in the lives of both the elderly and their caregivers, Jenny hopes further education will equip her to develop programmes and policies that will positively impact the Community Care sector and its beneficiaries. She is now taking a Master of Science in Applied Gerontology at Nanyang Technological University.



Ms Jenny Ang (left) and Ms Rahayu Mahzam (right) at the Community Care Manpower Development Awards ceremony

5. Around 15 per cent of the award recipients this year are new entrants to the sector, and they are pursuing a variety of disciplines such as nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and social work. One of them is Mr Francis Ang, who has a strong interest in the healthcare industry from young, and is passionate about working with seniors. His two-year experience of volunteering at Villa Francis Home drew him to the field of physiotherapy, as he wants to help seniors improve their mobility so that they can live life to the fullest. He is now a third-year physiotherapy student at the Singapore Institute of Technology, and will join NTUC Health upon completion of his studies.

6. “Strengthening manpower capabilities and nurturing career aspirations of staff in the Community Care sector are among AIC’s key priorities,” said Mr Tan Kwang Cheak, AIC’s Chief Executive Officer. “I am heartened to see the strong spirit of lifelong learning among both new and current Community Care staff. Their drive to acquire new knowledge and skills will enable them to take on challenging roles within the sector, and contribute more towards improving care for our seniors. We stay committed to support our partners in their journey to grow their talent pool, and will continue to work with them to nurture a culture of learning in the sector.”

Advancing knowledge and skills of Community Care staff

7. Staff in the Community Care sector can enroll for training to upgrade themselves professionally. They can take up short courses conducted by Learning Institutes (LIs) appointed by AIC. There are a total of eight LIs under the AIC Learning Network which offer about 11,000 training places yearly.

8. Recognising the need to continually increase job value and opportunities in career progression for support care roles in the sector, AIC launched the Job Redesign initiative with the Ministry of Health in 2020. The redesigned roles were successfully pilot with four Community Care partners in 2021. The second phase of the initiative is underway, with about 370 support care staff on-board to adopt the redesigned roles. The aim is to expand for sector-wide adoption by 2024.

###

For media queries, please contact:

Integrated Communications and Marketing Department

Agency for Integrated Care

Email: corpcomms@aic.sg

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>.