

# **ORIENTING LIVE-IN CAREGIVERS: Upcoming research on the perceived needs of current and former LCP workers**

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# Background

- Since 1992, over 52,000 of women and men, well over 90% from the Philippines, have entered Canada under the auspices of the Live-In Caregiver Program (LCP) (Kelly et al. 2011)

# Why is research needed?

## **Current and former live-in caregivers**

### **lack knowledge about:**

- Accreditation of foreign credentials
  - Eligibility and accessibility of training and retraining
  - Services available for, and rights of, live-in caregivers
- &**
- In preparation for family reunification about: savings, housing, schooling for the children, labour and human rights (Spitzer & Torres, 2012).

# Why is research needed?

## Challenges

- Inaccurate information that workers receive through friends, relatives or informal networks (Spitzer and Torres 2012)
- Out-dated information or misinformation (Neufeld et al. 2002)

## Opportunities

- Accurate, timely, and up-to-date information is critical for workers and to families reunification and integration

# Background of Research

## 1. Objective

- Examine the learning needs of prospective, current, and former live-in caregivers

## Method

- Conduct focus groups with former, current and prospective live-in caregivers

# Background of Research

## 2. Objective

- Compare the content of the pre-departure orientation programs offered LCP workers in the Philippines with the perceived needs of prospective, current, and former live-in caregivers

## Method

- Literature review pertaining to pre-departure programs for Filipino LCP workers
- Observing pre-departure programs in the Philippines

## We are seeking answers for...

- How does the information that workers receive in the pre-departure orientation program compare to what they need to know in Canada?
  - Specifically, how useful was the information workers received in helping them during your first six-months in Canada?
  - What other information would they have liked to receive?

## We are seeking answers for...

- How useful was the information they received in helping them during the rest of their time under the LCP?

Looking back at the mandatory pre-departure orientation program they took in the Philippines:

- Are there any corrections to information they received that they would like to make?
- Are there changes to the format of the orientation they would like to make?



# Preliminary findings

## The literature

What is being provided to Live-in Care Givers before leaving the Philippines

- Mandatory pre-departure orientation seminar (PDOS) for Filipino citizens, who are issued visas to enter Canada, whether as temporary workers or permanent residents

## Preliminary findings

- PDOS seminar is not given particularly to live-in caregivers
- PDOS provided by OWWA is country-specific half-day seminar given to all departing OFWs or temporary workers. \*
- Conducted by partners such as recruitment agencies, industry associations, private organizations and NGOs approved by OWWA

# Preliminary findings

## Modules received by PDOS's Participants

- Employment contract familiarization
- Profile of destination country
- Stages of the OFWs life
- Health and safety
- Airport procedures
- Government programs and service available to them
- Financial literacy

# Policy implications

- We hypothesize that the pre-departure training is crucial to improve the experiences of migration, adaptation, and settlement of workers and families in Canadian society

and...

# Expected policy implications

The learning needs of workers would be better met through collaboration and participation of different sectors and groups in local, provincial, federal, and international jurisdictions



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Questions?



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