6th International Carers Conference, Gothenburg

Meeting The Needs of Migrating Nurses to Secure Constant High-quality Support of The German Care Sector



Presented by Steffen Zoller, Care.com Europe GmbH, Germany

Situation



In 2030, Germany will lack of 400,000 nurses. Caregiver migration still fails in making foreign nurses stay permanently with their employers.

Challenge: Develop migration program that ensures a permanent stay of caregivers

- Thousands of professional nurses needed
- Shortage will increase within next decades
- Governmental & private sector initiatives started recruiting foreign workforce
- Nurses' expectations not met
- Insufficient integration
- Foreign nurses return home soon

Solution: Understand caregivers' needs, prepare them intensely for stay abroad & support within first months/years + consider employers needs & find good matches



Objectives of Migration Program



There are still a lot of potentials to improve the preparation of foreign caregivers for their work abroad and make them feel more at home.

Main objective: Develop migration program that truly responds to employer's, caregivers' needs & guarantees a better integration

1. Identify gaps in preparation of migrants for their stay abroad

2. Identify deficits in on-site support of foreign nurses in Germany

3. Develop measures to better integrate foreign nurses \implies Care With Care

Design of Care With Care



In 2013, the German Recognition Act paved the way for a faster and easier acknowledgment of foreign professional qualifications from 3rd Countries.





September 5, 2015



Preparation Phase



Preparing foreign nurses adequately and managing their expectations of working abroad makes them stay longer in and support Germany.

- Understand employers' needs & find good matches
- Choice of candidates by a rigorous screening program
- Intense candidate training
- Management of entire pre-deployment process
- Organization of travel logistics



On-site Support

Offering additional services to encourage caregivers to stay longer in Germany and relieve the care sector. Covered by CWC or the Employer.

- Welcoming nurses
- Opening of bank account, insurances etc. ٠
- Accompaniment to German authorities ٠
- Housing & communication support (if needed) ٠
- Provision of telephone card ٠
- Networking information ٠
- General advice & problem management ٠





Project Evaluation



After 1.5 years of intense preparation and communication with authorities the Care With Care program finally could kick-off.

Milestones:

- Identification of integration gaps
- Analysis of migrants' true needs
- Determination of potentials for better integration
- Candidate selection & intense trainings
- Clarification of legal, recognition & authority aspects
- Pilot with the Philippines
- Pool of 1,000+ registered Filipino nurses willing to work in Germany
- Support of migrants' families by our Filipino partner

Project Learnings



As German authorities decide differently in every of the 16 Federal States working permissions, visa and other regulations were delayed by months.

| | Language skills not met due to non-affordable language courses in the Philippines | |
|---|---|---|
| Cooperate with authorities that quickly approve recognition, visa etc. Support centralization | | Recruitment limited to 5 employees by POEA |
| | Filipino partner Magsaysay offering courses at reduced prices | Care with Care disscusses alternatives with the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration |

Program Advantages



Care With Care makes a mark for immigrating nurses.

- Intense training of nurses, including expectation management & communication, nursing documentation
- Training in German medical terminology and care standards
- Helpline for freshly immigrated nurses for min. 12 months
- Payment of Filipino nurses equal to Germans (checked by German authorities)
- Experienced consulting team with German nurse & Filipino natives
- Support of migrants' families by our Filipino partner

Thank you!





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