

<NT> KYOSEI Global Journal

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For Living TOGETHER

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The number of foreigners working in Japan with visas, such as Technical Intern Trainees, Specified Skilled Workers, and EPA, is increasing.

In response to this trend, we have established the "KYOSEI Support Center," a general incorporated foundation that helps foreign residents overcome challenges and concerns they may face daily in Japan and live more comfortably.

As part of our activities, we will provide helpful information to foreign residents.

We hope that this publication and our center will be helpful to you and contribute to making your life in Japan more fulfilling.

Mari's
motto

Fall down 7 times, STAND UP 8 times!

"I didn't really want to come to Japan"



Ms. Marichelle Orca

Section Manager, Human Resources International Division Social Welfare Corporation, Ikeda Satsukikai Poplar Medical and Nursing Group

Filipino caregiver Orca Maricel came to Japan in 2009 as part of the first group of EPA caregivers and three years later became the first official EPA caregiver of Filipino.

In 2021, she was appointed deputy director of Poplar Kamishinjo. She plays a vital role as head of the overseas human resources development section, providing guidance and support for the 92 foreign staff members.

■Background to coming to Japan

Jorge: Ms. Marichelle, what made you choose to work in Japan?



Marichelle: I didn't want to come to Japan. That's because I couldn't speak Japanese at the time. However, I studied nursing care to broaden my options—the N.T.Group recruiting nursing care staff in the Philippines employed me, so I began working while learning Japanese.

After that, I came to Japan in 2009 as a member of the first EPA intake, and fortunately, because my Japanese level was sufficient, I was exempted from language training, so I started working straight away.

I am working hard daily as a leader in training overseas human resources.

As I continued to learn more Japanese and gain experience in nursing care, I began to think that working in Japan might be a good idea, and I began to realize the significance of my connection with Japan.

■Good things about living/working in Japan

Jorge: What are the positive things about coming to Japan?

Marichelle: I have gained a lot of experience with the support of many people, and I have always tried to look on the bright side, thinking that even if things are tough now, tomorrow will be better. At first, I had a hard time because the elderly Japanese people didn't accept me, but by building trusting relationships, I became friendly with them, and they started calling me "Mari-san." Foreign workers have problems communicating at work because of the language barrier, and they also experience a lack of support when they visit the hospital. I want to tell them to go to the hospital when they are not feeling well without holding back and to consult with the company.

■Life in Japan

Jorge: How do you feel when you look back on your life in Japan?

Marichelle: I am glad I chose to work in caregiving in Japan.

I am also very grateful for their support and connection with the N.T Group.



■Advice for Juniors

Jorge: Is there any advice you would give new workers coming over for the first time?

Marichelle: Cultural differences exist in every country, not just Japan.

The key is persevering, working diligently, and confidently tackling your work.



Jorge: Before we end, could you share your favorite Japanese words, Ms. Marichelle?

Marichelle: I love the phrase `Fall down seven times, STAND UP 8 times!

Jorge: Even through tough times, Ms. Mari embraces the 'Fall down seven times, STAND UP 8 times' mindset and keeps moving forward. I appreciate your time.





HELPFUL TIPS

"I WAS GROPED ON THE SUBWAY."



WHAT HAPPENED?



"I WAS GROPED ON THE SUBWAY.

I FROZE. I HAD NO ROOM TO MOVE.

WHOM SHOULD I CALL FOR HELP?"





What to Do After Being Groped

What options do we have?

When one of our staff members accompanied a woman who was being groped on her way to work, the usual groping pervert appeared, so our staff member was quick-witted and pretended to take a commemorative photo with everyone and successfully managed to get a photo of the man's face for the record.

When we took the photo to the police, the police were able to give the man a direct warning, and after that, the groping stopped! It's excellent that we were able to solve the problem.



