

DOMESTICS' CROSS-CULTURAL NEWS

monthly newsletter of the Toronto Organization for Domestic Workers' Rights

July 1994



(INTERCEDE)

ORDER TO DEPORT EDMONTON NANNY REVERSED BY FEDERAL COURT

A Federal Court order overturned a decision of the Immigration Ministry to deport Celia Felipe, a Filipino nanny in Edmonton who was diagnosed with cancer three years ago.

INTERCEDE published Celia's story in its newsletter of December 1993 and had appealed to Immigration to reverse the deportation order against her. INTERCEDE learned about the nanny's plight from supporters and friends who are credited with carrying out a year long campaign to oppose the Immigration ministry's decision which was upheld by former Public Security Minister Doug Lewis.

Because she was diagnosed with cancer, Celia was declared medically inadmissible even if her own doctor and immigration physicians confirmed that the cancer was in remission.

Sharish Chotalia, Celia's lawyer, was pleased with the favourable decision of the Federal Court but said that medical inadmissibility remained unchallenged. That means that workers in the Live-in Caregiver program who are subjected to another medical exam after applying for permanent residence may not be granted landed status if she or any of her dependents are found to be medically inadmissible.

According to the lawyer, denying LCP workers and their dependents entry into Canada because of physical disability constitutes a violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Chotalia said that domestic workers in the LCP

should know that decisions made by Immigration officials such as deportation orders, or decisions taken by any other government officials, can be subject to judicial review, which is the recourse taken in Celia Felipe's case.

LCP WORKERS MUST RENEW OHIP BY JUNE 30 - CALL INTERCEDE IF YOU DON'T MEET DEADLINE

The Ontario Ministry of Health has confirmed in a press release that OHIP coverage will continue for workers, nannies and caregivers under the Live-in Caregiver Program (LCP), including those already on open work permits.

At the same time, the Ministry also confirmed the requirement that domestic and caregiver workers "must take their work authorizations to a Ministry of Health office to renew their OHIP coverage beyond June 30, 1994". In addition to this work authorization, they must bring their passport and another document that shows their name and current address.

Anyone under the LCP who has missed the June 30 deadline must call INTERCEDE for assistance. The Health ministry has also confirmed that even if the LCP worker is covered under OHIP, family members who came to Ontario with her will not be covered and will need private health insurance.

Come to INTERCEDE's monthly meeting on Sunday, July 10, 1994, 3-5 p.m. at Cecil Community Centre, 58 Cecil Street, South of College & Spadina

2-3 p.m. New member application and renewals. Members with ID numbers 93-0441 to 93-0468 must renew or be dropped from membership list.

3-5 p.m. **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN - KNOWING YOUR LEGAL RESOURCES** with Leslie King, Community Legal Aid and Services Program (CLASP)

CLASP Legal Clinic will be open.

SIGNIFICANCE OF JULY 14, 1994 TO FOREIGN DOMESTIC WORKERS

July 14, 1994 has been declared "Freedom from the Debt Day" by groups around the world that are pressuring to cancel Third World Debts made through the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank (IMF-WB).

The IMF-WB are international lending institutions that keep countries of the Third World (countries like the Philippines, in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean) in a "debt trap". These countries are forced to follow the dictates of the IMF-WB about how their economies should be run so that they can pay their ever-increasing debt loads.

As a result, debt-ridden countries have suffered massive poverty, destruction of their environment, political instability, dictatorship and militarism - and forced migration of their people from rural to urban areas to foreign countries in search of work.

Most foreign domestic workers in Canada have migrated from such countries. The Philippines, for example, depends on the dollar remittances of its migrant labourers all over the world in order to pay interest and services on its estimated \$38 Billion dollar debt. So it is no exaggeration to say that domestic workers who form the majority of contract workers leaving the country, are paying the Philippines' foreign debt.

INTERCEDE POT-LUCK PICNIC AT HIGH PARK

near Bloor St. entrance
Sunday, July 24, 1994 11 am - 4 pm

PLAY GAMES, EXERCISE FOR YOUR HEALTH!
call 324-8751

ORIENTATION MEETING

Sunday, August 21, 1994 10 a.m. - to 5 p.m

Topics:

1. IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR RULES
2. HEALTH SERIES: DEALING WITH STRESS

Register by calling 324-8751
and pay \$5 registration fee
(Refunded if you are present on Aug 21)

Ironically, through the workings of the IMF-WB such as the manipulation of interest rates, up to \$50 billion annually is being transferred from the impoverished countries of the South to the rich countries of the North.

Apart from other actions, Canadians are being asked on July 14 to transfer to credit cooperatives and credit unions the funds that they keep in the Royal Bank, T-D Bank, Scotiabank, CIBC and Bank of Montreal, because these banks are involved in commercial activities that are destructive to the people and environment of the Third World such as Latin America, Caribbean and the Philippines. (For more info call Women for a Just & Healthy Planet, tel. 868-0672).

REUNION HISPANA

el domingo, 17 Julio 1994 : 1-3 pm

Llame a Coco, 324-8751

We wish to thank the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (Immigration Settlement and Adaptation Program); Canadian Heritage; Multiculturalism and Citizenship; Ontario Ministry of Citizenship; Ontario Ministry of Health; Ontario Ministry of the Environment; Ontario Women's Directorate; the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto (Community and Social Services); and the City of Toronto Grants Review Board for their continuing support.

TO ALL SUBSCRIBERS since June 1993 (Does not apply to current members)

INTERESTED TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER? SEND THE FORM BELOW WITH PAYMENT.
IF NO RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTION BY END OF JULY, WE'LL REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM OUR MAILING LIST.

RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTION NEW SUBSCRIPTION CHANGE OF ADDRESS

MAIL TO : INTERCEDE, 489 College St., Suite 402, Toronto, Ontario M6G 1A5

Please send *DOMESTICS' CROSS-CULTURAL NEWS* to:

NAME : _____

ADDRESS : _____

CITY/PROVINCE : _____

POSTAL CODE : _____ TELEPHONE : _____

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION RATES :

INTERCEDE Members :	FREE	Non-member Domestic :	\$20.00
Non-Profit Organizations:	FREE	Others	\$25.00

WORKERS' COOPERATIVE MEETING

Sunday, July 17, 1994

3-5 pm

with: Cathy Kennedy of the
Ontario Federation of Coops, and
Coco Diaz of INTERCEDE

*Do you want to have more control over
your employment?*

*Are you interested in improving your
working conditions?*

Let's talk about your ideas!

Call for place 324-8751

FIRST AID FOR EMERGENCIES

(by St. John Ambulance, 2nd of a series)

To handle an emergency situation properly, use Priority Action Approach. What is Priority Action Approach?

1. Take charge.
2. Call out for help.
3. Assess the hazards.
4. Make the area safe. Protect yourself and others by wearing latex or vinyl gloves when giving first aid. Use a shield or face mask with a one-way valve.
5. Identify yourself and offer to help.
6. Assess the casualty for responsiveness. If unresponsive, send or go for medical help.
7. Assess the casualty and give first aid for stopped breathing. Assess the casualty and give first aid for severe bleeding. Give first aid for unconsciousness.
8. Send or go for help - ambulance, police etc.

If head and/or spinal injury is suspected, do not move the casualty. Send for medical help.

FREE COMPUTER COURSE FOR INTERCEDE BEGINNERS

OFFERED BY CANADIAN AUTO WORKERS (CAW)

When? Saturday, 1 - 6 pm
starting July 9 through August

Where? CAW Workers Centre
527 College St., west of Bathurst

- * Course will be accredited with George Brown College
- * Experienced Instructor from Metro Labour Education Centre

10 spaces only so register NOW 324-8751

DID YOU CHANGE ADDRESS?

Please inform us by phone or mail so that you can continue getting your newsletter and we don't waste postage expenses for returned mail!

Artificial respiration AR (adult)

1. Perform step 1 to 6 of Priority Action Approach above.
 2. Open the airway by lifting the chin and pressing back on the forehead.
 3. Check for breathing for 3 to 5 seconds:
 - look for chest movement
 - listen for breathing
 - feel for breath on your cheek.
 4. If the casualty is not breathing - keep the airway open and pinch the nostrils. Make a tight seal over the mouth and blow 2 slow breaths. If the chest does not rise, reposition the head and try again.
If the chest still does not rise, give abdominal thrusts (see * below)
 5. If the chest rises - check pulse at the side of the neck for 5 to 10 seconds. If no pulse is detected, and you are trained, apply CPR.
 6. If a pulse is felt, continue AR, giving one breath every 5 seconds. Recheck pulse and spontaneous breathing after one minute of AR and every few minutes after that. Continue AR until the casualty starts breathing or medical help takes over.
- * Abdominal thrusts
- Kneel astride the casualty's legs. Find the top of the hip bones with your hands.
 - Place the heel of one hand midline on the abdomen, and slightly above the other hand. Place the other hand on top, fingers raised.
 - Thrust inward and upward up to 5 times. Make each thrust forceful and distinct.

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INTERCEDE THEATRE GOERS

If you want to join other members to see a play, a musical, or any other entertainment,

FOR FREE OR AT A DISCOUNT

then put your name on our Theatre-Goer List. Please register by calling 324-8751

We already had free tickets to the musicals "Miss Saigon" and "Heart of Mine" and to the Du Maurier Musical series at Harbourfront.

From Pg 3

Unconsciousness

Loss of consciousness may threaten life if the person is on her/his back and the tongue has dropped to the back of the throat, blocking the airway.

Make certain that the person is breathing, then turn her/him into the recovery position (lying on the left side, with left leg straight and right knee bent comfortably, and right elbow bent so that face rests on the back of right hand).

Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious casualty. Get medical help and check breathing frequently.

(St. John Ambulance offers courses in First Aid and CPR, Call 967-4244, Continuation of this info series next newsletter).

STAFF NOTES

by Coco Tarape-Diaz

We danced our hearts out...

with over 200 friends celebrating INTERCEDE's Decade of Service at the Scadding Court Community Centre auditorium on May 28th.

After a filling dinner, from the time Playhouse DJ started the music, there was no stopping our dancing shoes except to introduce our guests and award prizes.

Now everyone is eager to have a repeat in October. Order your tickets soon.

Thank you big-time donors from INTERCEDE's past and current members - you know who you are!

VANCOUVER CDWCR

Committee for Domestic Workers' & Caregivers' Rights
(an INTERCEDE Affiliate)

Contact Julie or Lorina (604) 222-1897

DOMESTICS' CROSS CULTURAL NEWS

c/o INTERCEDE

489 College Street, Suite 402
Toronto, Ontario
M6G 1A5

FIRST CLASS

INTERCEDE WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS

at monthly meetings and in the office to help in newsletter mailing.

Call 324-8751 for dates.

Celia thanks God and her friends...

Celia Felipe has herself and her friends to thank for their persistence in pressuring for a reversal of an Immigration deportation order against her.

A lesson for all of us - fight injustice and discrimination wherever it occurs, you are not alone.

Helpful tips for job interviews...

- * Take someone along during your job interview specially if you are not familiar with the area and to minimize dangers of sexual assault.
- * Dress appropriately and wear comfortable shoes for walking.
- * Carry just enough cash.
- * Bring copies of your references and inform your references if they are going to be called.

PILIPINAS MEETING

Saturday, July 23, 1994

2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

58 Cecil St. Basement

"PREPARING TO BECOME
A PERMANENT RESIDENT"

Call 324-8751 for info

INTERCEDE SERVICE UNIT

Place: 489 College St., Suite 402, Toronto, Ont.
Time: Monday-Friday, 9 am - 4 pm
Tel: (416) 324-8751 Fax: (416) 324-8790

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