



Joy of Serving

20-21 Outstanding Community Service Awardee

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Do you remember what it was like to volunteer for the first time? What drives you to volunteer? Have you ever wondered why we use our spare time to work without pay? Some people may think that this is a thankless job and waste of time but I find "happiness" in volunteering.

When I first entered BLMCSS, I joined to become a member of the Red Cross Society. Volunteering began to become a part of my life. I started to come into contact with different groups in the society, including the elderly, scavengers, foreign domestic helpers, etc. Every volunteer service is a valuable learning opportunity for me, and it also allows me to gradually realize the true meaning of social service.

It is said that giving is more blessed than receiving, and the satisfaction of serving others cannot be compared with any material benefit. I like to participate in volunteer service to help others with my talents. The affirmation and appreciation received from our service objects made me feel satisfied and happy. I came to understand also that serving is a two-way street. When we serve, we at the same time broaden our horizons and receive infinite inspiration in return. I remember an experience with scavengers who shared with me their daily work. They toil with sweat every day to make a living. I admire their perseverance towards life.

When I was in the third year at LMC, I began to involve in the planning work and became one of the organizing committees of the service project "Happy Beauty". I reflected over the process of selecting clients, collecting data, formulating project goals, designing the content of activities and to the start of the service day that I as a planner, should not concern the needs of clients from my own perspective. Instead, I ought to put myself in their shoes to understand what they really need and thus to design suitable activities for them. Sometimes, we may unconsciously see people through tinted glasses. However, it is only when we are in the shoes of others that we can truly appreciate their feelings and thoughts.

In that service project, we had the opportunity to chat with foreign domestic helpers and listened to their stories. I admired their perseverance in life. They are a group of hardworking people deserved our respect. During the exchange, both the project members and the foreign domestic helpers enjoyed the time with each other, and were grateful that the project ended perfectly.

Volunteering is a kind of unpaid work but the benefit is huge. For myself, I am constantly inspired and satisfied in each service when I see clients get helped and are happy because of my dedication. Since we can also gain something while serving others, why not do it?