# Uplifters holds year-end party



Members of Uplifters celebrate the holidays

### By Mavic Reyes

DECEMBER 16 was truly an uplifting day for members and supporters of Uplifters, an organization providing online education to migrant domestic workers, as they wrapped up the group's first year with a party at Chinachem Hollywood Centre, Central.

The year-end party paved the way for Uplifters' organizers, volunteers, students and future students to meet in real life.

The graduates of the online courses also shared the impact of these courses on their lives and how they helped migrants achieve their dreams.

With the aim of breaking the cycle of poverty thru online education, Uplifters empowers migrant domestic workers and believes that everyone deserves hope and an education.

The group was founded by Marie Kretz Di Meglio. She created Uplifters to empower migrant workers thru financial education.

She truly believes in women empowerment to eradicate poverty and community-based problems. Her team members--Marion Dechy (Development and Communications Officer), Dr. Blandine Prevost Le Louer, Helene Ricordeau and other volunteers---work hand in hand to realize the group's aims.

Anchored on a triangular approach of improving life skills, vocational skills and raising awareness around migrants' specific needs and the wider public, Uplifters also supports building a healthy win-win work relationship between workers and employers.

Uplifters offers various free life skills and fee-based vocational courses (that are in production) that were created by experts and it follows best online teaching practices.

Uplifters' free money management and personal growth program comprises of a three-week course where students learn how to prepare for their future, not only financially but also by improving their

participants. This module is open to those who have completed the two previous

For those interested to join the online courses offered, hit like on their Facebook page Uplifters and simply send a private message and be a part of the growing Uplifters family here in Hong Kong.

# FDH...

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\$4,520 so agencies are allowed to collect only \$452 or around P3,000.

Imperial said her agency in Hong Kong offered her a job as a domestic worker in August 2017. At first, she paid a down payment of P10,000 on August 9, 2017.

She then paid another P10,000 when she met the owner of the agency in a hotel in Manila. After Imperial had her Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar, she paid P40,000 on October 30, 2017.

She added that she also paid P23,000 for her training and medical exams. Imperial said she did not know that she could file a complaint until Mission members approached her and her friends in their hangout in Tamar Park in Admiralty.

"Someone approached us and said that, if we fell victim to illegal collection by agencies, we could still recover the money. We decided that, if there was a chance, we would pursue it," she said.

"It became clear to me that we could go after them but it should be within three

years (after the collection of she added.

Imperial said her agency offered to return P50,000 in September. She initially later changed her mind.

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On Dec. 5, agency in Manila masted







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Uplifters' free money management and personal growth program comprises of a three-week course where students learn how to prepare for their future, not only financially but also by improving their mindset, communication skills and building self-confidence.

Its second module is a year-long coaching course designed to support students in reaching their financial and personal goals and is open to those who have completed the firdst module.

The third module is a two-week course to develop leadership skills to become an Uplifters team leader for "Dare to Dream"

participants. This module is open to those who have completed the two previous courses.

For those interested to join the online courses offered, hit like on their Facebook page Uplifters and simply send a private message and be a part of the growing Uplifters family here in Hong Kong.

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## Chai Wan

It is a multicultural funfair where you will have fun at the cultural booths with various arts and performances. Delicious snacks, cultural displays and games, students' smiling faces and their traditional clothing shall amaze you. An eye-opening funfair, not less thrilling than Chinese New Year Market.

We have Turkish Marbling Competition (11:30-2pm) & Henna Competition (2:30-4pm) as well!

Date: January 26th 2019 (Saturday)

Time: 9 am - 5 pm

Venue: Islamic Kasim Tuet Memorial College

22 Tsui Wan Street, Chai Wan (5 minute walk from Exit D of MTR)



