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Health Worker's Day

News article



Rexil Ortega Bordaje

Bund Congress

The latest updates

On April 12, 2024, the vibrant city of Vienna, Austria, played host to a significant event in the healthcare landscape - the inaugural Congress of Bund Philippinischer Gesundheitskräfte in Österreich (Filipino Health Workers in Austria).

Organized in collaboration with prominent entities such as Arbeiterkammer (AK), Younion Die Daseinsgewerkschaft, Vida, GPA Meine Gewerkschaft, and Gewerkschaft Öffentlicher Dienst (GÖD), alongside the esteemed Philippine Embassy led by Her Excellency Evangelina Lourdes A. Bernas, this gathering marked a pivotal moment for the Filipino healthcare community in Austria.

The congress served as a platform for Filipino health professionals in Austria to converge, exchange insights, and address pertinent issues concerning their profession and well-being within the Austrian healthcare system. With a rich tapestry of experiences, expertise, and dedication, Filipino health workers have long been integral contributors to the healthcare sector in Austria, enriching it with their skills, compassion, and cultural diversity.



Österreichischer Gewerkschaftsbund ÖGB

Renate Anderl (AK) and Andrea Wadsack (Younion),



Arbeiterkammer Präsidentin Renate Anderl and MBA Andrea Wadsack of Younion, Chamber Councillor and the Chairwoman of Health and Social Workers Committee in AK Wien played indispensable roles in orchestrating the Healthcare Filipino Workers conference, a landmark event that resonated deeply within the Filipino healthcare community in Austria. Their leadership and unwavering dedication were evident throughout the planning and execution process, ensuring that the conference was both impactful and enlightening.

Renate Anderl's steadfast advocacy for workers' rights and social justice, combined with Andrea Wadsack's expertise in labor representation and support, provided a solid foundation for the event's success. Their collaborative efforts facilitated meaningful discussions, empowered participants, and fostered a sense of unity and solidarity among Filipino healthcare professionals. As champions of diversity and inclusivity, Renate Anderl and Andrea Wadsack's involvement underscored the importance of recognizing and addressing the unique challenges faced by the Filipino healthcare workforce in Austria.

Their vision and commitment to creating a more equitable and supportive healthcare environment have left an indelible mark on the community, inspiring optimism and renewed determination for the future. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Renate Anderl and Andrea Wadsack for their outstanding leadership and tireless advocacy on behalf of Filipino healthcare workers in Austria.



The speakers Francis Lachica (*Firma Carabao*), Claudia Lehmann MSC (*Gesundheitsberufe und Pflegepolitik*), and MSN-ANP Marjorie Albeza (*Empfehlungen zum Gesundheitspersonal-Integrationsplan*) at the Inaugural Congress of Bund Philippinischer Gesundheitskräfte in Österreich captivated attendees with their expertise, passion, and dedication to the advancement of Filipino healthcare professionals in Austria. Their presentations covered a diverse array of topics, ranging from the latest developments in healthcare practices to the challenges and opportunities facing Filipino health workers in Austria.



Through their engaging discussions and thought-provoking insights, the speakers provided attendees with valuable knowledge and practical strategies to navigate the complexities of the healthcare landscape. They emphasized the importance of collaboration, resilience, and advocacy in overcoming obstacles and achieving professional fulfillment.



The Ambassador of the Philippines to Austria, Her excellency Evangelina Lourdes A. Bernas, emphasized the invaluable contributions of Filipino health workers to the Austrian healthcare system. In her address, she highlighted the dedication and resilience displayed by Filipino healthcare professionals, often working in demanding environments to provide quality care to patients across Austria. Ambassador Bernas also underscored the importance of recognizing and addressing the challenges faced by Filipino health workers, including issues related to employment rights, professional development, and cultural integration.

Overall, the speakers' contributions were instrumental in making the congress a resounding success, leaving a lasting impact on all who participated. Their dedication to supporting and uplifting Filipino health workers in Austria reaffirmed the congress's mission to create a more inclusive, supportive, and equitable environment for all healthcare professionals.

The inaugural Congress not only marked a milestone for the Filipino healthcare community but also sparked an atmosphere of excitement and full-house support among participants. The event received overwhelming backing from various sponsors, including **YJYA**, **Infinity Balikbayan cargo**, **MA Transfer**, and **Saladmaster**, further amplifying the sense of enthusiasm and anticipation surrounding the congress.



Art Exhibit

Health Worker's Day

Art Exhibit

The painting contest held during the Inaugural Congress of Bund Philippinischer Gesundheitskräfte in Österreich added a vibrant dimension to the event, showcasing the artistic talents and cultural richness of the Filipino community in Austria. Artists from diverse backgrounds came together to express their creativity and interpretation of the congress's theme, illustrating the profound connection between healthcare, culture, and community. The artworks served as powerful reminders of the shared experiences, aspirations, and values that bind Filipino health workers together, transcending borders and barriers.

The contest provided a platform for participants to explore the intersection of art and healthcare, with entries ranging from poignant portrayals of healthcare workers in action to colorful depictions of Filipino traditions and values. Each artwork served as a testament to the resilience, dedication, and contributions of Filipino health workers to the Austrian healthcare system.

Bernhard Bauer and Maria Luisa Bauer, a remarkable mother and son tandem, are recognized for their invaluable contributions as moderators of the event. Their seamless coordination and adept facilitation ensured that the Healthcare Filipino Workers conference ran smoothly and effectively. With their combined expertise and commitment to fostering dialogue and collaboration, they played a pivotal role in creating an inclusive and engaging atmosphere for attendees. Their dedication to the success of the event exemplifies the spirit of community and support that defines the Filipino healthcare workforce in Austria. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Bernhard and Maria Luisa Bauer for their outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication to advancing the interests of Filipino healthcare professionals.



- Marjorie Akistoy

"BPGÖ President:

'Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to everyone who joined us in commemorating Health Workers' Day during World Health Workers Week from April 7th to April 13th, 2024. It was an inspiring opportunity for Filipino healthcare professionals in Austria to unite our voices and exchange valuable insights.'

Through our discussions, we have gained a deeper understanding of how we can contribute to enhancing Austria's healthcare system. We are steadfast in our commitment to maintaining this connection and actively contributing to healthcare improvement.

Special thanks to our sponsors, AK Wien, Gewerkschaft (Younion), Vida, GPA, and GOED, as well as the sponsors of our side events.

We also express our heartfelt appreciation to all the officers of the Bund philippinischer Gesundheitskräfte in Österreich. Without your unwavering support, this event would not have been as successful.'

"BPGÖ Vice President reflects:

I believe our inaugural congress was a resounding success. Our distinguished guest speakers shared insightful ideas, enriching our event with valuable perspectives. We created an inspiring environment for open exchange and meaningful dialogue, benefiting all involved. The success of our art competition was evident as the paintings evoked powerful emotions and mirrored the experiences of healthcare professional working abroad.

I take pride in being part of this initiative and eagerly anticipate the future of the Bund philippinischer Gesundheitskräfte in Österreich."



- Daniel Garces

"The Congress proved to be both intriguing and educational. As a debut event, it was undoubtedly successful, though there is always room for enhancement. The Artworks competition particularly struck a chord, shedding light on the struggles faced by healthcare professionals; I found myself moved to tears hearing their stories. Congratulations to BPGÖ! Wishing you continued success and influence."

- JH

Last Friday's conference (April 12, 2024), for Filipino healthcare workers in Austria was a blend of enlightening and engaging discussions. I am grateful for the valuable insights imparted and commend the organizers for their meticulous planning and seamless execution. My heartfelt thanks for hosting such a remarkable event! Gratitude to BPGÖ for their efforts.

- Blair

"The Healthcare Filipino Workers conference in Austria has been overwhelmingly positive. Attendees have offered glowing feedback, lauding its informative sessions and seamless execution, making it a highly successful and impactful event."

- RB

"We are delighted by the turnout for our inaugural Congress and thrilled to have had esteemed speakers impart their knowledge to our community. Gratitude is extended to our sponsors and to all those who dedicated their valuable time to support our cause. We eagerly anticipate the upcoming events organized by BPGÖ."

- MB

"On April 12, we were thrilled to be part of the first Congress of the Federation of Filipino Health Workers in Austria. It was a special highlight to meet so many of our great candidates in person in hear their success stories. It fills us pride to be a part of their journey in Austria and to support them on their way. A big thank you to the BPGÖ for organizing this great event!"

- YJYA

Commendation!

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