

“Fire Safety x Press to Shock, Save a Life” training programme for foreign domestic helpers launched (with photos)

The Consul-General of the Philippines in Hong Kong, Mr Antonio Morales, and the Director of Fire Services, Mr Li Kin-yat, officiated at the launch ceremony of the "Fire Safety x Press to Shock, Save a Life" training programme today (July 8) at Sheung Wan Fire Station.

The programme is jointly organised by the Fire Services Department (FSD), the Philippine Consulate General in Hong Kong and the Domestic Workers Empowerment Project.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Li said one of the programmes to enhance fire safety awareness is the Fire Safety Ambassador Scheme. "To ensure that different ethnic communities know the important fire safety messages, we have conducted tailor-made fire safety programmes for them and prepared the pamphlets 'Fire Escape' and 'Fire Prevention in Home' in different languages."

"FSD has launched the 'Press to Shock, Save a Life' training programme last year, which aimed to encourage the public to help save life by performing cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and using automated external defibrillator (AED) before the arrival of ambulance crew. Members of the public are encouraged to take part in the training programme since early defibrillation and CPR can enhance the chance of survival. Foreign domestic helpers play an essential role in providing home care service to children and the elderly in local households. As members of many households in Hong Kong, they can contribute greatly in enhancing fire safety and the emergency resuscitation of cardiac arrest patients," he added.

Mr Morales pointed out that, as carers and first responders in many homes in Hong Kong, household service helpers play a critical role in saving lives. "This training programme will help equip them with basic rescue and safety skills, and will make them more effective and competent helpers," he said.

The ceremony attracted about 100 foreign domestic helpers. Many of them took the opportunity to try out the use of fire extinguishers and perform CPR. The programme is expected to provide training to about 600 foreign domestic helpers by the end of this year.

