

CÔMIX

Zekon Chronicles

by Stephan Wilks



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Win with WIN

Katie Wilson
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Nurses from around the world were awarded their nurse pins at a pinning ceremony for the WIN program last Thursday.

The Workforce Improvement with Immigrant Nurses (WIN) is set up to help nurses from other countries become nurses in the U.S.

This was the program's third graduating class and was composed of 12 students: Berenice Albuquerque (Brazil), Hiroko Bird (Japan), Roena Bruley (Philippines), Mihaela Coea (Romania), Louisa Duru (Nigeria), Iryna Dzhyga (Ukraine), Sofica Lidia Hutuleac (Romania), Leona Kanczula (Czech Republic), Deffo Mebrat (Kenya), Sandra Merino (Peru), Elena Raab (Russia) and Pritpat Sohal (India).

"The past years have been most rewarding," said Adria

Valentin, the WIN program cultural advocacy coordinator, in her introductory speech.

"I have learned from you," she said to the graduating class, "and you are my heroes ... One year ago, you didn't know each other ... you didn't trust each other. You've grown into a family."

Sohal, the class representative spoke about when the students first met each other.

"It was hard for us to remember each other's names," she said.

"I had doubts in my mind," she said, "and some questions: 'Will I be able to make my friends and family proud of what I did?' I'm so excited I can barely, barely speak."

"[The WIN program] gave us a dream that, in spite of any obstacles, we will be here successfully," she added.

The WIN program, based at the Harmony Campus, is one of the largest of its kind in the country, according to Valentin.

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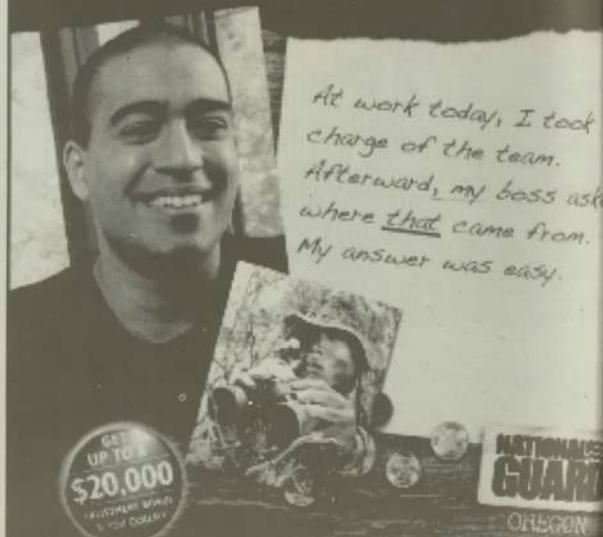
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