

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program: Vocational Training Courses in Dog Kennel Care, Vegetable Gardening, and Dining Hall Kitchen Work

Year: 2025/6

Name of the Program:

Vocational Training Courses: Dog Kennel Care, Vegetable Garden, and Dining Hall Kitchen Skills

Year of activity:

2026

Name of the report's writer:

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Function of the report's writer:

Resource Development

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Number of active participants in the program:

17 in total (5 in dog kennel training, 5 in vegetable garden training, and 7 in dining hall kitchen training)

Estimated number of impacted participants:

Approximately 25 members, including those who benefit indirectly through improved teamwork, smoother day to day running of the branches, and knowledge shared informally between members.

Give the actual state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

The dog kennel training and the vegetable garden training each ran for two months, meeting five days a week. The dining hall kitchen training ran for eight months, also meeting five days a week. All three courses have now been completed, and the members who took part are continuing to apply what they learned in their daily work in these branches. Instructors report that members are working with more independence and confidence than before the courses began.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.):

In total, 17 members took part in this year's training courses across three branches. Five members completed the dog kennel course, five completed the vegetable garden course, and seven completed the dining hall kitchen course.

Across all three courses, members gained skills that are directly useful in their workplaces. In the dog kennel, members learned how to handle and walk the dogs safely and correctly. In the vegetable garden, members took on new and more advanced tasks and grew in confidence in work they had already been introduced to. In the dining hall kitchen, members learned practical skills such as loading the dishwasher properly and keeping their workspace clean and organized.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...):

Evaluation Report on Vocational Training Program Success

Introduction

This report evaluates the vocational training courses run this year in dog kennel care, vegetable gardening, and dining hall kitchen work. The aim of the courses was to build practical, workplace relevant skills and to help members take on tasks with greater independence in the branches where they work.

Methodology

Feedback this year was gathered directly rather than through formal surveys. Instructors spoke with members regularly throughout the courses about how they were finding the training, and social workers held check-ins with members as part of their ongoing support. This gave a clear and consistent picture of how each member was progressing and how they felt about the course.

Findings

1. Member Experience

Feedback from members was consistently positive. Members shared that they enjoyed the courses and, more importantly, that they were now able to carry out tasks in their workplace that they had not been able to do before the training.

2. Skill Development

Members in all three courses showed clear progress in practical, workplace-relevant skills, from safe dog handling to more advanced garden tasks to proper kitchen hygiene and dishwasher loading. Instructors observed members applying these skills consistently once the formal training had ended.

3. Completion and Engagement

All members who began a course completed it, meeting five days a week for the full duration of their course. This level of engagement reflects both the members' interest in the training and the suitability of the courses to their needs.

4. Workplace Impact

Because the courses were built around real tasks in the dog kennel, vegetable garden, and dining hall, the branches themselves benefited directly. Members are now contributing more independently to day to day work, which eases pressure on staff and strengthens the overall running of each branch.

Conclusion

This year's training courses met their goals of building practical skills and supporting greater independence among members. The consistent, positive feedback gathered through instructors and social workers, together with the full completion rate across all three courses, confirms that this hands-on approach to vocational training continues to work well for our members.

Looking ahead, we plan to build on this success by expanding into new areas while continuing the courses that are already proving valuable.

Provisional guidelines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

1. **Launch a New Course in AI Tools and Video Editing** We plan to introduce a new training course in AI tools and video editing for members working in the media branch. This will give members in that branch the chance to build modern, transferable digital skills that reflect the direction the branch is moving in.
2. **Continue the Dog Kennel Training** Dog care involves a wide range of ongoing skills, and members in this branch continue to need regular learning and guidance. We plan to continue running the dog kennel course to build on this year's progress.
3. **Review the Vegetable Garden and Dining Hall Kitchen Courses** We will assess, together with instructors and social workers, whether these courses should run again next year in the same form or be adapted based on members' evolving needs.

With continued support from the Matanel Foundation, these plans will help us keep building a vocational training program that gives our members real, practical skills and greater independence in their daily work.