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Health Care Aide Training Provides New Opportunities for Newcomers to Canada

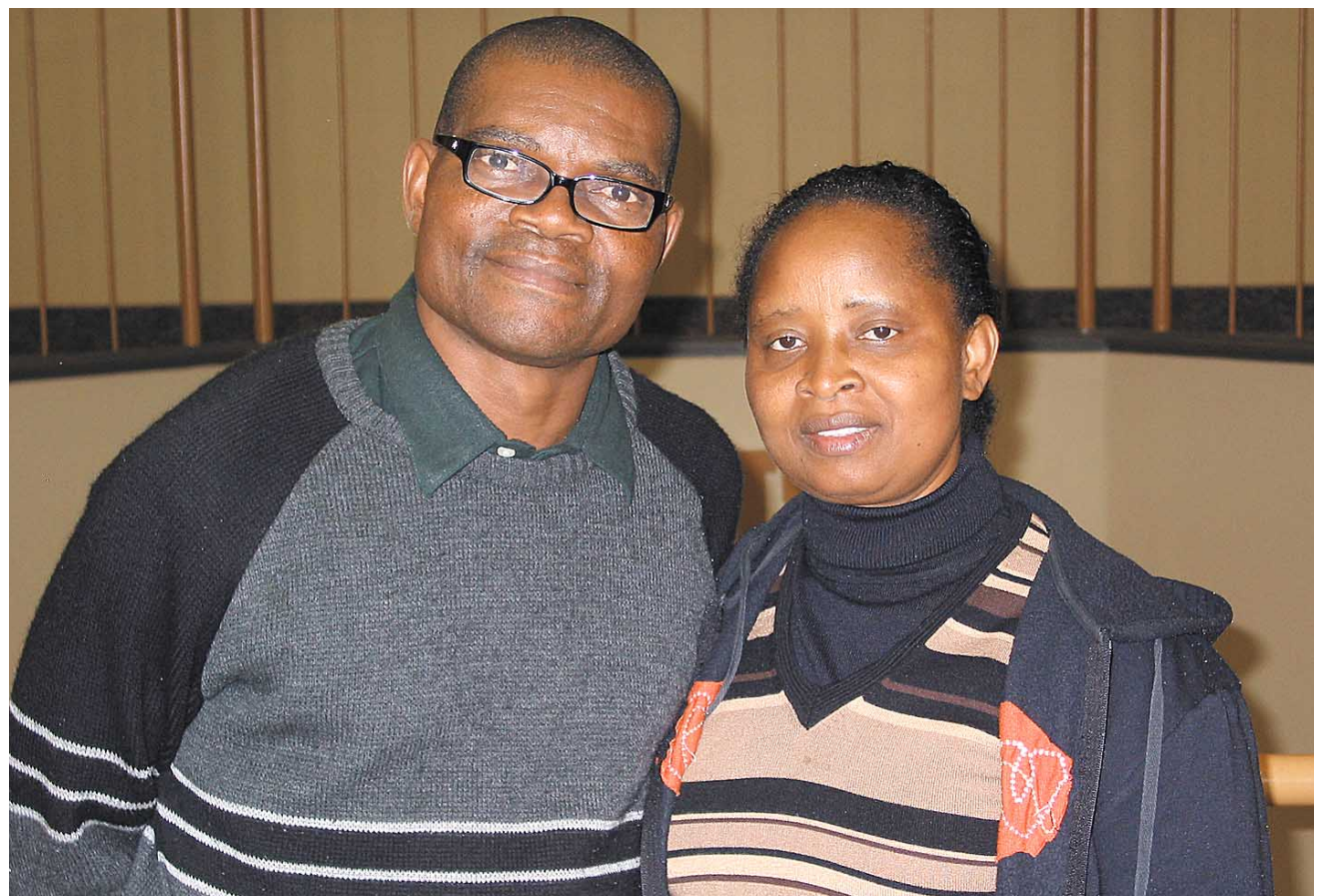
In 2007, Elias and Maria Ezekwem decided to move their family from Nigeria to Winnipeg to create new opportunities for their children. But in order to create these opportunities required going back to school. Maria recently graduated from the Health Care Aide program at Robertson College and her husband Elias will be graduating shortly. Because of their hard work and dedication, they are now able to provide these new opportunities for their family. When asked why they chose to pursue a career in health care, their reason was the same. “It was personal interest and a love for humanity”, responded Elias. Maria added that it was also the job opportunities that this kind of training provides.

“Job demand is extremely high right now for Health Care Aides”, comments Debra Stockwell, Vice Principal of Robertson College, “the health industry will continue to grow and not crest until 2030. We consistently have employers sending us job postings for Certified Health Care Aides.”

Living in a new city with many colleges that provide career training, Elias and Maria needed to make a decision to which college would be best for them. The Ezekwem’s heard about the Health Care Aide program at Robertson from friends that had taken the program previously. Maria said, “the testimonies I heard from people that attended Robertson and hearing about the instructors and facilities” is what convinced her. Elias commented that his reasons were similar in coming to the program as well as he was very impressed with the success his wife had while studying at Robertson.

With receiving hands-on experience in the classroom, it can help a student succeed in the workplace, for Maria that could not be truer. Maria stated, “It was the practice in the lab that helped prepare me for what was expected on the job.” Elias was very appreciative of the president’s involvement in the college and was impressed with the quality of instruction. Elias also commented that hard work and good study habits are instilled in them during their class time.

With the training they have received, both Elias and Maria have secured employment in the health care field.



Elias works for a local home care service while still in school and Maria found employment shortly after graduation with both the WRHA and St. Amant. When asked to elaborate on the favorite parts of their job, the Ezekwem’s both agreed that their favorite part is assisting those that are in long-term care and helping meet their needs. Some of the other duties they perform are helping clients with their mobility, assisting with personal hygiene, meal preparation, medication dispensing as well as palliative care. Besides learning these hard skills, both

Maria and Elias learned some soft skills like problem solving. Elias and Maria are passionate about their new vocation choice and recommend this career to anyone who is professional, ethical and have a love for humanity.

For those that would like more information about the Health Care Aide program or other programs that Robertson College offers, please visit www.RobertsonCollege.com, email Info@RobertsonCollege.com or call (204) 943-5661. The next Health Care Aide class begins on September 25, 2008.

Stuck in a Rut?

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