

## BLR Conducts Outreach and Awareness Raising Activity in Pasay City Jail Female Dorm



The Bureau of Labor Relations, in celebration of the 2019 National Women’s Month, conducted an outreach and awareness-raising activity on 27 March 2019 at the Pasay City Jail Female Dorm.

The activity was organized to encourage the participation of BLR personnel in setting gender perspectives in the implementation of BLR programs and in the promotion of the DOLE mandate to facilitate employment and to protect the rights of workers, particularly among the vulnerable sector.

“This activity was organized as our means of making change work for women inmates and to apprise them of the labor and employment policies so that they can have wider perspectives and they can prepare for possible employment reintegration”, Ms. Myra Ampong, BLR GAD focal person explained.

BLR personnel discussed the programs and services of DOLE the female inmates can avail of once they get out of jail. The workers’ right to self-organization was also discussed during the activity. It was explained that workers with employers can join or form a union to bargain with their employers for better working conditions and benefits, while self-employed workers can join or form a workers’ association for mutual aid and protection.

The female inmates, who are now called Persons Deprived of Liberty, expressed their thanks to BLR personnel for giving them hope and for reminding them that there is life after jail. They expressed appreciation for the BLR's efforts to reach out to them and celebrate women's month despite their situation.

SJO3 Corazon Sevilla, Assistant Jail Warden of Pasay City Jail Female Dorm, also thanked the BLR personnel for informing the inmates of the opportunities available to them outside of detention cells. She said it's good to know that there are employment and livelihood opportunities waiting for them outside.

**END/Kim Maragrette B. Martinez**