



February 16,2020

## Makoto Yamada Testimony from VIDES JAPAN



From Left : Makoto,  
Sr. Annicie, Makoto's mother

### Summary of My Work

Work as a translator for  
Sr. Annicie.



Make seminar slide in  
Japanese



Welcome Sr. Annicie in  
Happy House



I hope we can continue  
to contact with  
Sr. Annicie and share  
what we are doing and  
how we are developing  
after her visit.



Thank you for visiting us!!

Dear Sr. Annicie

### -About Myself :

Graduated from Elementary School led by FMA in Tokyo and working with VIDES JAPAN from 2015 as a youth member and PR manager.

Thank you for visiting us and spending your time to see our activities as VIDES JAPAN. We get encouraged by you to proceed to the next step as an international volunteer group.

### My testimony during Sr. Annicie's visit in Japan

VIDES JAPAN has welcomed Sr. Annicie in Happy House which is located in Akabane, one of the city in Tokyo which has many children with foreign nationalities and those who have troubles to getting used to Japanese high standard educational curriculums especially in private schools. Also Japan has still struggle to accept foreigners or children of them so some parents also have difficulties to getting used to Japanese life styles.

That is why VIDES JAPAN has started Happy House project and accept these children and parents after school and serve meals and time to relax, study and talk freely about what they are thinking about their school lives such as with friend and teachers. They even do their homework with volunteer staffs who are university students in Tokyo. We have welcomed Sr. Annicie with these heart-warming atmosphere and we hope she has felt it with us.

In another day, we had a seminar with Sr. Annicie and she has given us very important lessons to consider about the spirits of VIDES and how to be creative to think practical methods to bring many activities into practice with especially young people with the charisma of Don Bosco. I was very honored to work as a translator near from Sr. Annicie and learned many things too.

The most impressive lesson was her remarks of "What is empathy". She said "empathy" was not the same as "sympathy" because "empathy" toward others could change the person's personality and made them developed in their own ways. Having these "empathy" is an essential attitude to work as an international VIDES volunteer with the "Developmental" spirits in its logo.