This talk explores “communities of care,” which use The Labor of Care’s multidirectional care model as a form of reorganizing care horizontally, from migrants to other migrants informed by their transnational familial experience. Communities of Care moves beyond the transnational family into the fictive kin created abroad among migrants.

Although the relationships between migrants living and working in New York City are the subject of this talk, the stories demonstrate that migrants actively draw from their subjectivities as transnational family members and domestic workers to build a community of care. Drawing from Queer theories and Black feminist thought on fictive kinship, this talk demonstrates how horizontal care among migrants is configured socially rather than biologically.