

Festive boost for three shelter homes

Foundation gives RM9,000, resumes buka puasa dinners for needy kids in Negri Sembilan

By C.S.NATHAN
metro@thestar.com.my

THREE shelter homes in Negri Sembilan received a welcome boost of RM9,000 from Matrix Concepts Foundation (MCF), in time for the Hari Raya festivities.

The philanthropic arm of developer Matrix Concepts Holdings Bhd also feted 100 children from the three shelters – Yayasan Kasih Sayang NS, Darul Asnaf Seri Tanjong and Darul Asnaf Seri Sendayan – to dinner at d'Tempat Country Club in Bandar Sri Sendayan near Seremban.

The children, aged between eight and 17 years, were the evening's guests of honour while MCF advisor Datin Seri Yong Chou Lian and event organising chairperson Datin Nur Simah Meon took charge at the buffet line and served them dinner.

The children enjoyed festive treats like *ayam percik* and satay, as well as sweet delights like *ais kacang*, *apam balik* and cakes.

MCF chairman Datuk Noordin



Mohd Yatib said the event was part of the foundation's annual corporate social responsibility (CSR) programme that included giving aid to less privileged communities.

"We have allocated RM300,000 annually to help communities in need and this includes aid for incidents like house fires.

"Apart from channelling aid to underprivileged children and senior citizens, we are also pro-

viding assistance this year to 10 schools in the state that need funds," said Noordin.

He said this year's event was even more special as it was the foundation's first *buka puasa* dinner with shelter children since the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We hope that the contribution can bring joy to the children and help ease the financial burden of these shelters.

"We were forced to halt the



Yong giving duit raya to guests from Yayasan Kasih Sayang NS.

(From second right) Noordin, Yong, Nur Simah and MCF deputy chairman Datuk R. Batumalai presenting the contributions to representatives of the three shelters.

said the funds would go towards purchasing revision books and supplementing co-curricular activities for the children.

"We are grateful for the contributions and the children are happy to attend the *buka puasa* dinner.

"It was also a good opportunity for the children to showcase their talent and boost their confidence," she said, adding that Kompleks Darul Asnaf oversaw Darul Asnaf Seri Tanjong and Darul Asnaf Seri Sendayan.

Her sentiments were echoed by Yayasan Kasih Sayang NS assistant manager Mas Leizatty Mohd Zaki.

"Every contribution goes a long way in helping to improve the lives of these less fortunate children, and providing them a shot at a better future," said Mas Leizatty.

MCF was incorporated in 2013 with CSR initiatives that encompass the five pillars of education, sports, community, social and environment.

buka puasa dinners temporarily during the pandemic, so it's nice to once again break fast with the children and see their beaming faces," he added.

Guests were entertained by musical performances by some of the children.

Each child received *duit raya* of RM30, which was presented to them by Yong.

Kompleks Darul Asnaf assistant director Siti Hajar Hasim