

Food aid where needed

MyKasih Foundation ensures poor families put food on the table

By **NURUL HUDA JAMALUDDIN**
— nurul.huda@mmail.com.my —

GOMBAK: It is hard to imagine being in a situation where RM80 can mean whether you can put food on the table for a month.

But this is what keeps single mother Zulhasni Mar Hassan, 43, going as she is unemployed, and has two children aged nine and 11.

"My youngest daughter Khairina Puteri Sariman is a congenital cerebral palsy patient who needs regular physiotherapy. I have to stay at home because she needs extra attention. This contribution is much needed."

The single mother from Taman Sri Gombak was among 96 underprivileged families receiving food aid worth RM80 monthly under the MyKasih "Love My Neighbourhood" programme.

"This contribution does ease my burden. At least, essential food items for our daily needs are covered," said Zulhasni who has also been getting support from another

charity body, Community Based Rehabilitation (PDK), for the past four years.

Another recipient was Angela Muniyandy, 41, who lives in 8th Mile Gombak. She was thankful for monthly grocery money as her family's income barely covers expenses.

"It's a relief for me and my family. I am the breadwinner as my husband is disabled and unemployed. So, we need help even more now."

Muniyandy works as a cleaner, earning RM600 a month and has five children, aged between 6 and 18. Three children are still schooling.

The 96 families under the MyKasih "Love My Neighbourhood" Programme in Kelana Jaya and Gombak received their monthly groceries yesterday from the programme's partner, Giant Hypermarket, in Batu Caves.

In a related development, the Selia Group of engineering and construction companies donated RM100,000 towards the programme yesterday. Selia Selenggara chairman Tan Sri



JOY: Some of the MyKasih programme recipients

Subhan Jasmon made the presentation on behalf of the company which is one of the corporate sponsors for the programme.

The event also saw the launch of RM3 million worth of City University scholarship awards to help 1,000 deserving students annually, including children from

MyKasih Foundation. To date, two students from MyKasih families have received the scholarship.

The foundation was launched in April 2009 and has leveraged on the use of MyKad technology, a system developed by ePetrol to facilitate the distribution of aid through recipients' MyKad.