



▲ The dining area on the upper floor of Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim in Puchong. Natrah says the linoleum mat lining the floor and other parts of the tahfiz has deteriorated over time. The school which doubles as a home for its students also lacks proper storage space.



▲ At Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah in Puncak Alam, the children's clothes are kept in large, stacked containers as there are no shelves or cupboards to properly store them.



▲ A worker delivering 15 stand fans and four washing machines to Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim. The same reader also donated electrical goods to the other two homes.

Generous donors step up to do their part

Three shelter homes in KL, Shah Alam and Puchong receiving much-needed items through campaign

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IT'S been 10 days since *StarMetro* launched its "Do Good. Grant-A-Wish" campaign and over the last week, generous donors have stepped forward to do their part in helping the less fortunate.

The project, which started on May 23, has received heart-warming support from readers and companies who have either pledged to assist or chipped in with donations ranging from essentials such as foodstuff (instant noodles and canned food) and toiletries to electrical goods.

For the campaign's fourth initiative, we reached out to two shelter homes - Rumah Titian Kaseh in Kuala Lumpur and Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah in Puncak Alam - and a *tahfiz* (religious school) which doubles as a home for its students, Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim in Puchong.

Rumah Titian Kaseh, Kuala Lumpur

A few days after the campaign started, Rumah Titian Kaseh (RTK) received the four wall fans they requested and 40 bed sheets for its Asrama Putera boys' shelter in Jalan Ledang, Taman Duta.

Some readers also visited *The Star* office in Petaling Jaya to drop off basic items such as shampoo, body wash and instant noodles, but we hope more people will come forward to assist these homes.

The 40 girls and 50 boys at RTK, mostly orphaned and abandoned children, are happy when they get to indulge in sausages and nuggets, so frozen food donations would be much appreciated.

The home also included good quality sanitary pads for the girls in its wish list and so far, about 1,000 pieces have been collected.

But the home's main worry is the dilapidated condition of Asrama Putera, as the zinc roofs and ceiling panels need to be replaced as well as the fences, electrical wiring and floor tiles.

When it rains, the boys are in quite a predicament as the water leaks through the roof and floods the floor, making it dangerous when rainwater flows down the walls where there is faulty wiring. The shelter needs to be repainted as well.

Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah, Puncak Alam

Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah received two vacuum cleaners and two washing machines from a generous donor.

One of the home's requests, sponsorship for the printing of 72 children's uniforms, is important, says the shelter's manager, Amirul Syahid Yaakop, as they want the children to look tidy. Majority of the children - abandoned, orphaned, abused and even stateless - are unable to go to regular school as they lack proper documentation such as birth certificate.

Additionally, services for plumbing repairs are also needed as the



home is facing problems with regular maintenance.

Other items on the wish list include volunteers to educate the children on specific subjects during weekends. Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah has only 10 teachers to teach the 36 boys and 36 girls.

Donations for recreational equipment for sports such as badminton rackets, shuttlecocks, basketballs and skipping ropes are much needed, too.

Other general items that are yet to be donated include double-decker beds, mattresses, pillows, bed sheets and pillowcases, metal storage racks, clothes drying racks and exercise books.

Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim, Puchong

Meanwhile, Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim was fortunate to

Where to drop off the items?

StarMetro appeals to the public to help two homes and one tahfiz (religious school) fulfil their wishes.

The selected homes are Rumah Titian Kaseh, Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah and Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim.

Collection for the donated goods will take place from **May 23 to June 4**.

The items can be dropped off between **11am and 4pm** at the **loading bay** (behind the building) of **Menara Star** in Phileo Damansara 2, No 15, Jalan 16/11, Section 16, 46350, Petaling Jaya.

We would like to highlight the following to ensure a smooth process:

■ If you wish to donate bulk items such as washing machine, mattresses and cupboard, please contact *StarMetro* at the number or email given below.

■ Please note we are **NOT** collecting cash, cheques, perishable items (such as fish, poultry or vegetables) and second-hand goods (unless specified).

■ For details, call **03-7967 1388** ext **1410** (Azhah) / **1851** (Aida) / **1473** (Bruce/Kartini) / **1854** (Christina) / **1194** (Ing Yeen) or email metro@thestar.com.my

receive four washing machines, 15 stand fans and three ceiling fans.

On its wish list is a van (new or second-hand), as the place face problems with transportation.

The school which has shelters for its students, also needs tiles for various parts of the premises, help in installing window panes donated by a Good Samaritan and sponsorship of monthly payment of electricity bills.

To ease the homes' burden, Jasmine Food Corporation Sdn Bhd

WISH LIST

Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim

■ **Urgent:**

- > Monthly payment of electricity bills
- > Tiling work (dining area/kitchen, surau, classroom, staff room)

■ **General:**

- > Van (new or second-hand in good condition)
- > 4 washing machines **FULFILLED**
- > Freezer **PLEDGED**
- > Cupboard for clothes (50 units)
- > Mattress (50 units)
- > Ceiling fan (6 units) **PLEDGED**
- > Stand fan (15 units) **FULFILLED**
- > Water filter
- > Clothes drying rack
- > Rice/Noodles **FULFILLED**

WISH LIST

Rumah Titian Kaseh

■ **General Items:**

- > Wall fan (4 units) **FULFILLED**
- > Bed sheet (40 units) **FULFILLED**
- > Vacuum (2 units)
- > Antibacterial soap
- > Shampoo
- > Face wash
- > Comb
- > Slippers
- > Hair gel (for boys)
- > Sanitary pad (thick ones)
- > Frozen food
- > Instant noodles

■ **Repair Work:**

- > Ceiling made of zinc roofs need to be replaced
- > Ceiling boards
- > Fencing
- > Electrical wiring
- > Floor tiles
- > Simple welding for bed frame
- > Painting
- > Sofa

WISH LIST

Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah

■ **Sponsorship:**

- > Printing of home uniforms for 72 children
- > Plumbing repairs

■ **Electrical:**

- > 2 vacuum cleaners **FULFILLED**
- > Washing machine (11kg, 2 units) **FULFILLED**
- > Laptop (6 units)

■ **Medicine and health supplements:**

- > Antibiotics and antihistamines (cream or pills)
- > Vitamin for children

■ **Foodstuff:**

- > Rice/Noodles **FULFILLED**
- > Canned food
- > Milk powder
- > Biscuits

■ **General Items:**

- > Double-decker beds (heavy-duty, 40 units)
- > Mattresses and pillows (80 pieces)
- > Bed and pillow sheet (80 sets)
- > Metal storage racks (heavy-duty, 4-level, 10 units)
- > Bookshelves (3 units)
- > Clothes drying racks with wheels (3 units)
- > Body wash
- > Shampoo
- > Toothpaste
- > Toothbrushes
- > Detergent for clothes and dishes
- > Exercise books
- > Recreational equipment for sports/games

■ **Volunteers:**

- > Educators to teach weekend programmes

recently donated packs of rice and *bihun* (rice noodles).

According to Amirul and Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim co-founder Natrah Mohamed, the children and full-time staff of Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah and Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim consume an average of 10kg of rice daily.

"This aid reduces the burden on parents and guardians who help by contributing whatever they can to the school every month," said Natrah.

The rice and dry noodles from Jasmine will give them one less thing to worry about for the time being and they hope more people will come forward to help, she said.

Jasmine chief operating officer Md Faizal Md Ali, an avid reader of *The Star*, said the company had its own annual allocation for mosques and other homes during Ramadan, but this was the first time it collaborated with *The Star*.

"It is a very good campaign and in the spirit of Ramadan, we want to share blessings with those in

need. This is the least we can do," he said after he met representatives of both homes at Jasmine's headquarters in Shah Alam.

Amirul thanked Jasmine for their assistance. "Now we have some extra money to spend on supplements and medicine for the children or provide them with nice dishes for Hari Raya that includes seafood instead of the usual chicken. Many of them rarely eat anything like that," Amirul said.

Md Faizal added that Jasmine had contributed to more than 30 mosques in the Klang Valley, Melaka and Johor over many years and hoped other corporations would follow suit.

"We are happy to establish a relationship with these homes and they can call us if they need more," he said.



▲ (From left) Natrah, Maahad Tahfiz Az-Zikrul Hakim co-founder Mohd Helmy Hashim, Md Faizal, Jasmine Food Corporation Sdn Bhd procurement officer Aziz Abdullah, Amirul and Rumah Perlindungan Safiyyah assistant manager Muhammad Amirul Azahar during the symbolic handover ceremony at Jasmine Food Corporation's headquarters in Section 25, Shah Alam.



▲ When it rains, this disintegrating zinc roof causes rainwater to leak through the ceiling panels, flooding the boys' dormitory at Rumah Titian Kaseh Asrama Putera in Taman Duta, Kuala Lumpur.