

Headline	22 child patients get school bags from charity fund
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## 22 child patients get school bags from charity fund

**KOTA KINABALU:** MAA Kidney Charity Fund handed out school supplies to 22 of its child patients on its Fun Day Out at The Green Connection yesterday.

The children's parents, who were kidney failure patients on dialysis treatment at the Peter Mole - MAA Medicare Charity Dialysis Centre, were assisted in their children's preparation for school next year through Kids@Medicare Back to School Programme, said Dato' Aliyah Karen, CEO of the MAA Medicare Charitable Foundation.

She said that the program was held every year since 2009.

"Each year all dialysis centres will organize various activities for the schoolgoing children of our patients via its kids@Medicare program, she said.

The staff will encourage recycling projects, painting or singing as these kids hardly get to have fun during holidays as their parents are on dialysis.

"At the end of school year, we provide them with school bags and essentials to help ease the children of our patients.

"This year, some 150 schoolgoing children aged between six and 16 are assisted. We would like to thank Hospitech Marketing for sponsoring stationery and KCT Marketing for the school bags," she said.

Meanwhile, MAA Medicare's Board of Trustee member Tan



Ibrahim (fourth right) with the children who received the school bags, yesterday.

Sri Datuk Ibrahim Menudin said that the foundation had provided monthly groceries, additional injections and medications as well as some transport fares to their patients via Patients Welfare Program.

"I am very proud to be associated with such programs. With the current economic climate, it's really tough on some of our patients who can't afford the bare minimum.

"As for the parents, it's an expensive affair, more so when they are unable to work due to kidney failure. It's the least we can do and for this centre, the kids had previously gone to the zoo and now here, it's just good to share their joy," he added.

MAA Medicare Kidney Charity Fund, an arm of the foundation, is now the second largest non-profit provider in Malaysia providing highly subsidized treatment and care to 830 patients at 12 centres nationwide.

The dialysis centre here is

located at 88 Market Place in Kepayan, provides highly subsidized treatment to 62 patients this year, who could not afford treatment at private hospitals and centres.

The foundation has been recognized internationally with four winning awards this year, among others were The BIZZ 2016 at Marrakesh, Morocco.

Moreover, the foundation has established MAA Medicare Heart Charity Fund, the first Cardiac Diagnostic and Treatment Centre for the underprivileged in the country.

MAA Medicare Heart was established to save lives and improve health through disease prevention, live saving cardiac diagnosis and safe treatment modalities.

It also advocates health education with the objective to create awareness and instigate research on cardiac disease.

For more information, visit <http://maa-medicare.org.my/>