



FOR IMMEDIATE MEDIA RELEASE

MALAYSIAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY AND MAAEDICARE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION LAUNCH KLINIK AMAL PERCUMA FOR UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

KUALA LUMPUR – 17 JANUARY 2023: The **Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS)** and **Maaedicare Charitable Foundation (Maaedicare)**, two significant non-profit organisations in Malaysia, have teamed up in a breakthrough partnership to deliver free, affordable healthcare in the country.

Klinik Amal Percuma will provide free medical services to the underserved members of the community. Among the services offered are primary care, chronic disease management, as well as health education and counseling. **16** Klinik Amal Percuma will be established in different states in Malaysia in the coming years.

Presently, two **Klinik Amal Percuma** have begun operations in January 2023. The clinics are located at Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh, Perak. The free clinics are open between Mondays and Saturdays from 9am to 1pm. No appointment is necessary, and patients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis.

Yang Teramat Mulia Dato' Seri DiRaja Tan Sri Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz Binti Almarhum Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, Tunku Temenggong Kedah and National Chairperson of The Malaysian Red Crescent said the mutual collaboration is focused on making a positive impact in the community and help to improve the health and well-being of those in need.

"This partnership is a powerful way to make a positive impact and achieve common goals. Healthcare providers, organisations, and community leaders can pool their resources and expertise to reach more people and provide more comprehensive care," **Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku** said in her keynote address here today.

Yang Mulia Tunku Dato' Yaacob Khyra, the Chairman of Maaedicare Charitable Foundation said the lack of access to basic medication and treatment is a significant concern in Malaysia.

"Basic health care is a fundamental human right. Our government hospitals are here to provide very cheap and sometimes, free medical for the poor. But even with our government hospitals, many low-income communities still lack access to simple medication and treatment," he said in his opening speech at the launch of **Klinik Amal Percuma** today.

Tunku Dato' Yaacob reiterated that overcrowding in government hospitals is one of the main reasons the gap has widened for the low-income communities. "We want to bridge that gap. We view this as part of our CSR; to assist our government," he said.

Currently, Maaedicare Charitable Foundation is providing subsidised kidney dialysis and cardiac diagnosis to the less fortunate. With **Klinik Amal Percuma** being the latest addition to its expansion, the Foundation is aiming to offer many other health screenings as a fully equipped Diagnostic Centre over the coming years.

Klinik Amal Percuma will be staffed by a team of dedicated healthcare professionals, who are committed to providing high-quality care to patients, regardless of their ability to pay. The clinic will also have volunteer opportunities for members of the community who wish to get involved.

For more information about **Klinik Amal Percuma**, please visit https://www.maaedicare.org/klinik-amal-percuma or call Maaedicare Charitable Foundation at 03-4044 4468.

Klinik Amal Percuma was officiated by Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change, Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad. The event was witnessed by the Principal Office Bearers and the Governing Board Members of the Malaysian Red Crescent Society, the Board of Trustees from Maaedicare Charitable Foundation and the senior management team of MAA Group Berhad.

About Maaedicare Charitable Foundation

The MAA Medicare Kidney Charity Fund was initiated in 1994 and rebranded to MAA Medicare Charitable Foundation (The Foundation) in 2014. Since 2022, MAA Medicare Charitable Foundation is known as Maaedicare Charitable Foundation or Yayasan Amal Maaedicare (YAM). The Foundation is the 2nd largest non-profit dialysis provider in Malaysia that offers highly subsidised treatments at its 11 dialysis centres in the country. In September 2018, the Foundation set up Malaysia's first heart charity centre – the Maaedicare Cardiac Diagnostic Centre in Jalan Ipoh. The cardiac centre provides quality care, and comprehensive cardiac and vascular services and consultations, with subsidies. In 2022, the Foundation set up Klinik Amal Percuma to provide affordable healthcare to the underserved community. For more information on Maaedicare Charitable Foundation, visit https://www.maaedicare.org

About Malaysian Red Crescent Society

The Malaysian Red Crescent Society, also known as the Malaysian Red Crescent, is a non-profit humanitarian organisation, dedicated to voluntary service, providing care and relief assistance to the needy and vulnerable communities. It provides a wide range of activities and services, from disaster response and relief; 24hr emergency ambulance service; community health and welfare services to first-aid and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) trainings; mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS), water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and vaccination programmes to communities at large.

Established by an Act of Parliament (Act 540), the MRCS carries out its auxiliary role to support and assist the Government in the humanitarian field in times of peace and in situations of crisis. The National Headquarters is based in Kuala Lumpur with 16 State chapters and 158 branches and units at Districts and Institutions of Higher Learning, supporting its operations throughout the country. On a global setting, the MRCS is an active Member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and works closely with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) as one of the 192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies dedicated to humanitarian services. For further information on MRCS, visit https://www.redcrescent.org.my/

Media queries:

Maaedicare Charitable Foundation

Ms. Ruka Kunasagaran (Senior Manager, Communications and Fundraising) 019 2267729 / saithuruka@maaedicare.org

Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS)

Ms. Jaya M. Maruthan (Manager, Communications, Resource Development & International Support) 013-3540097 / jaya@redcrescent.org.my