

MAA-MEDICARE Charity Fund raises RM40k

MAA-MEDICARE Kidney Charity Fund has managed to raise RM40,000 through a Notepads for Charity project that was launched in July 11, 2008.

The carton notepads which bore the artwork of the renowned cartoonist Reggie Lee, costing RM4 per book and RM30 for a set of eight designs, were sold to schools, colleges and the public.

The amount raised from the project was used to buy a dialysis machine to be placed at the MAA-MEDICARE Charity Dialysis Centre in Butterworth, Penang.

The centre in Penang houses 15 machines and provides highly subsidised dialysis treatment to 77 end stage renal disease sufferers who are termed as kidney patients.

In a press release, MAA-MEDICARE's vice president Aliyah Karen said the charity fund is in "constant need of the support of generous and caring donors to enable us to run our centers effectively.



Reggie Lee chatting with one of MAA-MEDICARE's kidney patients after the Machine Tagging ceremony

"We are grateful for the contribution of talent from Reggie Lee enabling us to raise these much needed funds for our Butterworth centre which is in need of an over-haul after 14 years in operation," she said.

"At MEDICARE, we aim to provide as much help and support to our patients who mostly hail from low or middle income families. Many of

them are young and have families to look after. As such, we assist them by providing as much help as possible in the form of free blood-tests and free erythropoietin (epoietin) injections to relieve some of their costs.

Our work has become more crucial over the years as the cost of medication, treatment and consultation have all increased.

We strongly believe that our patients need to be assured that they will find some financial relief through the contributions of the caring Malaysia public," added Aliyah.

As a gesture to mark the MAA-MEDICARE announcement of the successful fund raising, a Machine Tagging Ceremony was held at the MAA-MEDICARE Charity Dialysis Centre in Jalan Ipoh in Wisma MAA-MEDICARE.

Wisma MAA-MEDICARE also houses the Secretariat of the Fund which functions as the nerve centre for the organisation. MAA-MEDICARE runs 12 charity dialysis centers nationwide.

The MAA-MEDICARE Kidney Charity Fund relies on the generosity of the Malaysian public through their donations and contributions for the successful operation of its centers which provide highly-subsidized dialysis treatments for about 720 patients in Malaysia.