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Granting wishes of 200 needy children for Christmas

BY IVAN LOH



Ong (in batik shirt) presenting the RM10,000 mock cheques to representatives of Bethany Home and Perak Palliative Care Society during the Grant A Wish press conference at Ipoh Parade.

SOME wanted shoes while some wanted toys – about 200 underprivileged children are hoping that their Christmas wishes will come true during the 7th Annual Grant A Wish event at Ipoh Parade shopping centre.

The children's wishes have been put up on a special board near the shopping centre's stage for public viewing. Good Samaritans and shoppers who wish to grant the children's wishes can drop their gifts in a donation box placed near the information counter at the ground floor from now until Dec 30.

The gifts can be brand new items, pre-loved items or money that will be used to buy gifts for the children.

The children are from Good Shepherd Family Home, Precious Gift Home, Salvation Army Children's Home, Salvation Army Ipoh Boy Home, Vision Home, Pertubuhan Anak-anak Yatim dan Miskin Anning, Pertubuhan Pengurusan Pusat Jagaan 1Malaysia, Ipoh Christian Centre (Agape Family) and Pertubuhan Kebajikan Harapan Baru.

The gift presentation and unwrapping ceremony will be held on Dec 31.

In conjunction with the festive celebration, Ipoh Parade has also selected two welfare bodies, Bethany Home and Perak Palliative Care Society (PPCS), to each receive RM10,000.

The donation was part of ARA Asset Management Limited's CARES (Comprehensive Assistance and Responsible Engagement Services) initiative with support from the Tan Sri Tan Foundation.

The Foundation's council member Datuk Richard Ong presented the mock cheque to Bethany Home administrator Walter Woon and PPCS committee member Guddi Roy on Tuesday.

Ong said the foundation was set up to help the underprivileged, homeless, sick and needy.

"We want to help those who deserve it, to serve them and make them happy.

"They also deserve to have better lives like everyone else," he said.

"We have chosen a total of eight charitable bodies to receive the funds," he added.