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Caring Malaysians help HIV kids

BANGKOK: A group of Malaysian expatriates here organised a charity dinner which raised more than 300,000 baht (RM31,950) for a home for children affected or infected with HIV/AIDS and a school.

C. Maheswary, who initiated the event with a group of friends, said: "We felt it was good for us to repay the kindness of our Thai friends by helping the children's home

and the school.

"Some of the homes are facing closure due to lack of funds," said Maheswary, who has been residing here for the past decade. Some of the proceeds will also be given to an old folks home in Malaysia.

Janpen Ngoensamut, a caretaker manager of the Baan Nor Giank, a Bangkok home for children affected or infected with HIV/AIDS, said they needed about 300,000

baht a month to provide all the amenities, daily medicines and hospitalisation provisions for 20 children, as well as rental and staff salaries.

"We have children aged five to 15."

The home was set up in 1997 by the late Bob der Kevorkian, who was then the chief executive of K-Tech construction and a well-known figure here.

Janpen said she was over-

whelmed by the support and dedication shown by the Malaysian expatriates and their Filipino and American friends.

Part of the proceedings from the ticket sales, auction, cash donations and lucky draws also went to Baan Aur Ta Khian, a school in the southern province of Nakhorn Si Thammarat, and the Vivekananda Margam Welfare Society. — Bernama