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# Home benefits from firm's Kiss

## Company staff set up mini library and computer centre for the kids

SHARMILLA GANESAN

**A** HOME for HIV-infected and -affected children in Kuala Lumpur was brightened by a visit from L'Oreal Malaysia staff members, who helped set up a mini library and computer centre for the youngsters.

Rumah Solehah, which houses 25 children ranging from three months to 15 years old, received computer tables and bookshelves from the cosmetic company as well as other materials like a photocopier and a flip chart stand.

The L'Oreal staff members also brought a large collection of second-hand books donated by their office and conducted a book reading session for the children.

The visit to Rumah Solehah was part of L'Oreal's Keep in School Scheme (Kiss), which provides funding for children affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS so that they can continue their secondary education.

Mooted last year in conjunction with L'Oreal's 100th anniversary and launched in partnership with

the Malaysian AIDS Foundation, the programme aims to support 100 children aged 12 years and above every year.

For 2010, L'Oreal has pledged RM106,000 towards the KISS programme to provide for the daily needs of these children, and their basic schooling necessities like school fees, uniforms and shoes.

L'Oreal Malaysia corporate communication and media relations director Tay Ai Leen said they would be organising four more home visits this year and try to get more employees involved.

"We feel that it is not enough just to provide financial aid; it is about touching the lives of children and engaging our staff in the process," she said.

Rumah Solehah supervisor Wan Hava Wan Hussin said such efforts allowed the children, 14 of whom are HIV positive, a chance to experience a normal life.

"Even though these children's lifespan may be unpredictable, they each deserve the chance to

learn, and live a full life before they leave this world.

"We are grateful to L'Oreal for providing these facilities so that these children can forget (about their condition) and have the opportunity to study like any other child," she said.



**Tay:** 'We feel that it is not enough just to provide financial aid'

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**Let's read:**  
L'Oreal Malaysia staff members showing the Rumah Solehah kids the books that are now available to them in the mini library.