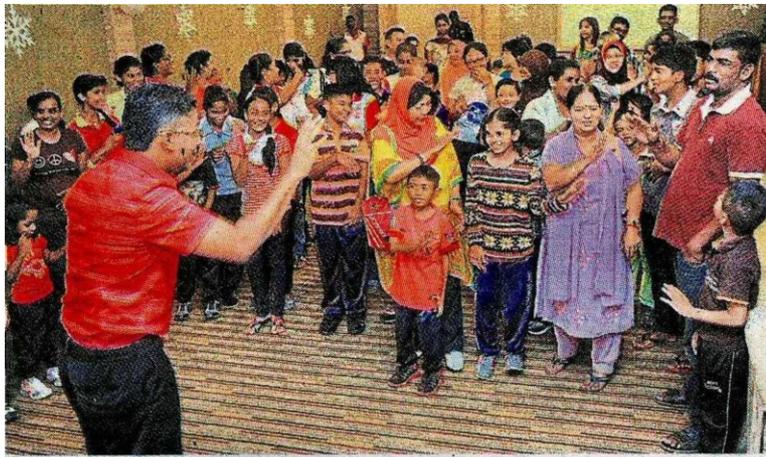


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Kids have great time at party



Day of fun: Community AIDS Service Penang (CASP) member Michael Xavier (left) guiding the participants in a game during the centre's Red Ribbon Children's Party at Sunway Hotel Seberang Jaya.

LAUGHTER can be heard as the children gathered at the Community AIDS Service Penang's (CASP) Red Ribbon Children's Party at Sunway Hotel Seberang Jaya in Penang to celebrate the centre's Silver Jubilee celebration.

About 70 children attended the afternoon party where they played games, participated in musical performances and dances before they were treated to a buffet lunch at the hotel.

Sharvin Raj, eight, said the event was fun as he managed to make new friends, some of the same age.

"The games we played were fun but my favourite was the one where we had to hold hands and spin, which was fun."

Calistar Anne, 10, who performed a dance for the audience, said it was an honour to keep the crowd entertained and she was glad that they liked her performance.

"I love to dance, and seeing so many children liking my dance just motivates me to not only dance better, but to also perform more to cheer up the needy."

According to CASP chairman P.R. Selvarajan, this year's event was to celebrate the 25th anniversary since the establishment of CASP in 1989.

"It is also to celebrate World AIDS Day which is on Dec 1 every year.

"The event gives children with HIV the opportunity to come together for a day of fun, laughter and activities," he said.

Selvarajan said children living with HIV and AIDS were especially vulnerable to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

"All of us have the duty to ensure that children and families affected by HIV and AIDS can live positively and productively without the stigma or discrimination," he added.