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Charting a brighter future

> Bank sets up lab for children with special needs

STANDARD Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad (SCBMB), as part of its corporate conscience effort to contribute to the development of the local community, recently set up a computer lab for 'Pusat Jagaan Kanak-Kanak Istimewa Sri Eden' a special needs children's learning centre in Cheras. This initiative was made through the "Youth, Health and Education" programme under its charitable arm Standard Chartered Trust Fund (SCTF).

The new lab comes complete with brand new desktop computers with learning software and other education materials. It will benefit more than 38 special needs children between the ages of 3 and 17 years old and will help to encourage and enhance their learning opportunities.

The first time the Bank set up a similar lab was for Persatuan Dyslexia Malaysia two years ago that has benefitted some 200 dyslexic children to date.

SCTF chairman Osman Morad, who is also the managing director and CEO of SCBMB said:

"At Standard Chartered, we recognise that there are limited resources, learning and development facilities for special needs children. Implementing a tailored learning programme with specially trained teachers and programmes can also be costly. Therefore, we aim to provide support for the special

children in this centre so that they will have a chance to lead a normal life through learning enhancement programmes. We have been in

Malaysia for 136 years, and as part of the community, we appreciate the trust we have received, and are committed to repaying that trust in kind."

The lab is equipped with Fitzroy programme – a systematic phonics method to teach the special needs children how to read quickly while having fun. This international learning method is highly recommended to increase their reading comprehension and writing.

SCTF was registered in 2005 under the Trustees Incorporation Act 1952 as the charitable arm of Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad.

SCTF identifies and channels financial support and aid to deserving community programmes in Malaysia through the Bank's sustainability programmes based on three pillars, i.e. Living with HIV – HIV and AIDS education programme, Seeing & Believing, and Youth, Health & Education programme.

The "Youth, Health & Education" programme under the SCTF started in 2009 with Persatuan Dyslexia Malaysia as their first beneficiary.

To date, SCTF has disbursed RM95,730.00, benefiting more than 200 special needs children.



Osman (left) presenting a certificate to Persatuan Kebajikan Sri Eden Selangor & Kuala Lumpur president Ron Hee Yoon Choy at the opening ceremony of the Sri Eden Computer lab.