

Two receive sponsored dialysis treatments

TBP 08.11.2024 P.02

KOTA KINABALU: Two people have been sponsored with free dialysis treatments for life as part of Qhazanah Sabah Berhad's (QSB) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme.

Through a cooperation with the Sabah State Health Department (JKNS) and Hospital Universiti Malaysia Sabah (HUMS), QSB through its wholly-owned subsidiary WH Medicare Sdn Bhd are giving the patients RM50,000 annually for their treatments.

State Community Development and People's Wellbeing (KPMKR) Minister Datuk James Ratib lauded the initiative as a meaningful effort to help people with chronic kidney problems, especially those from the B40 group in Sabah.

For many patients afflicted with kidney diseases, dialysis treatment is the only way to continue living, but the financial burden they have to bear often becomes an obstacle.

Today, with the support of QSB, we witnessed an important effort to ease the burden of patients, allowing them to get treatment without having to worry about cost. In the context of the state of Sabah, initiatives like this not only help to reduce



Dr Shim (second right), Yusof (fourth right), Dr Malehah (left), Dr William (third right) and Ahmad Rizal (third left) with the recipients of the QSB donation.

burden on the patient's family, but also support our efforts in further strengthening the health system for all levels of society," he said when officiating the handing over ceremony at Menara Kinabalu here on Thursday.

His text speech was read by JKNS chief assistant medical director Dr Shim Jyh Ye.

QSB chairman Datuk Dr Yusof Yacob said their inaugural initiative goes far beyond fulfilling their CSR obligations and it is a reflection of the values that they hold, while understanding that their success as a corporate entity is closely related to the

community's wellbeing.

"Our hope is that this effort can not only ease the burdens of families and provide a solution to those struggling with chronic disease, but also contribute to upgrading the quality of health facilities for the community," he said.

HUMS director Prof Madya Dr Malehah Datuk Mohd Noh said chronic kidney diseases are among Sabah's most challenging health issues, and haemodialysis treatment requires regular care and long-term support.

Dr Malehah said hence, the donation, of which the recipients

were selected by JKNS, coincides with their emphasis on B40-friendly patient care and wish to enable access to inclusive and continuous treatment to all.

"HUMS believes that the success of a health system also depends on collaboration between the public and private sectors. We hope that more companies can follow in the footsteps of QSB in supporting noble efforts for the wellbeing of society," she said. Also present were CSB chief executive officer Datuk Ahmad Rizal Dahli and Queen Elizabeth Hospital director Dr William Gotulis.