



UMS Labuan Campus club secretary Nurhani (centre, right) handing a cheque to Jenny during the visit.

Labuan's special people need help

DE 28.04.2007 P. 5

Sohan Das

LABUAN: The Special People Association (SPA) here is in dire need of funds to continue with its noble programmes to help the physically disabled.

Welcoming a visit to the SPA centre by a team from University Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Labuan International Campus Staff and Wives Club, its newly-appointed Chairman, Jenny Chong, said:

"The centre provides basic skills training, including in handicraft making, tailoring, sign language and sports, apart from conducting religious classes, to 12 physically disadvantaged aged above 18."

She said this is to ensure the less fortunate are also able to lead meaningful and happy lives through the caring society concept, adding the centre welcomes any amount of donation from anyone.

"We especially need funds for transportation of the special people to our centre for training and also to bring them for medical check-ups and sports activities. They need transportation specially designed for them," she added.

The centre operates from Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4pm, supervised by two volunteers and an association member.

It receives an annual grant of RM5,000 from the Welfare Department but this is insufficient to cover the costs as rental for the premises alone is RM700 per month.

Jenny said this year the centre also plans to visit Bukit Harapan on Family Day, and "we hope this would be a fun and interesting outing for them, but then again this needs funds."

Among those present to welcome the 30 club visitors led by Safiah Anis were SPA advisor Vivian Alsagof.