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We are delighted to bring you the latest edition of our newsletter, filled with exciting updates and inspiring stories of impact. As we reflect on the recent events and initiatives, we are reminded of the incredible power of unity, compassion, and the unwavering dedication of our community.

In this edition, we will take you on a journey through the meaningful milestones we have achieved together. From the heartwarming Wheelchair Handover ceremony to the empowering TikTok Workshop for individuals with disabilities, we have dedicated ourselves to create a more inclusive and accessible society for all. These endeavors have been made possible through the support and collaboration of generous donors, volunteers, and partners who share our vision.

Furthermore, we are thrilled to share the success of the MILAD Community Housing project, which aims to provide a safe and supportive environment for people with disabilities to thrive independently. Through the June Run for Compassion, we witnessed the incredible strength of our community as we rallied together to raise funds and awareness for this significant project. Your participation and contributions have brought us one step closer to achieving our goal of creating a space where individuals can flourish and reach their full potential.

We are immensely grateful for the support and involvement of our partners, including SRKK Group, H.O.C - 慈善之心, The Seventh-Day Adventist Church, and many others who have passionately joined hands with us to make a lasting impact. Together, we have demonstrated the power of collective action and the importance of compassion in transforming lives.

In this edition of our newsletter, we invite you to celebrate these remarkable achievements and be inspired by the stories of resilience, empowerment, and hope. Each success story serves as a testament to the boundless possibilities when individuals come together with a shared purpose.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to every individual, organization, and sponsor who has played a role in supporting our initiatives and spreading the spirit of compassion. It is your generosity, dedication, and unwavering belief in our mission that continue to drive us forward. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey towards creating a more inclusive and compassionate society. Together, we can make a difference.



# JUNE RUN FOR COMPASSION: UNITING HEARTS, TRANSFORMING LIVES

We are thrilled to share with you the highlights of our recent event, the June Run for Compassion. It was a day filled with remarkable moments, as we came together to champion the belief that every individual deserves dignity and the opportunity to pursue their dreams.

The event marked the launch of our ambitious MILAD Community Housing project, a crucial initiative aimed at providing a safe and supportive environment for people with disabilities. We recognize the importance of empowering them to lead independent lives, and this project will play a significant role in fostering their personal growth and unlocking their potential.

Our initial target was to raise RM500,000 to secure the necessary housing for the Community Housing project. We are humbled and grateful for the overwhelming support we received from all of you. Together, we managed to raise RM120,000—a substantial step forward in realizing our vision. This remarkable achievement would not have been possible without the generosity and kindness of our participants and donors.

We would like to express our deep appreciation to our event partners, SRKK Group, and our collaborative co-organisers: H.O.C - 慈善之心, The Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 十十行善, 扶貧計劃協會 Community Care Enrichment Programme, and Lions Club Selangor TCM. We are also grateful for the support we received from Pejabat Khidmat Parlimen Damansara and Pejabat Khidmat Adun Kg Tungku, Bukit Gasing dan Bandar Utama.

Furthermore, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our main sponsor, SRKK Group, as well as other generous sponsors including Kian Joo Group, SS20 Cares Society, DUMC, Agape Community Church, The Gentle-Bright Corporation Sdn Bhd, ATROBOT SDN BHD, La Flor, Alexander Lam, and many others. Your unwavering support played a vital role in making this event a resounding success and brought us closer to creating a compassionate and inclusive community.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the co-organizers, supporters, and sponsors who made the June Run for Compassion a truly remarkable and impactful event. It is through our collective efforts that we are making a difference and transforming lives. We are deeply grateful for your commitment to our mission.

Thank you once again for your continuous support. Together, let us continue our journey towards a more compassionate and inclusive society.



# WHEELCHAIR HANDOVER CEREMONY: EMPOWERING THE OKU COMMUNITY

Our recent Wheelchair Handover Ceremony was a gem of an event. We distributed 27 brand new wheelchairs, valued at a whooping RM 83,000, to individuals in the OKU community. This was made possible by the generosity of our donors.

A big round of applause coupled with our heartfelt gratitude to YB Lim Yi Wei, Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye, SS20 Cares Society, Rukun Tetangga SS2B, Seon Lai, Eric Lim, volunteers, and friends who joined us at the ceremony. Your presence and support meant the world to us. Most importantly, you launched the smiles and joy on the faces of our beneficiaries who echoed volumes of thankfulness to each one of you. Our commitment to promote inclusivity and accessibility in our community was realised.

At MILAD, we firmly believe that specifying the right quality of wheelchair enables individuals with disabilities to better lead independent lives. We take pride to offer these high-quality wheelchairs to significantly impact their lives.

With this as our motivation, we march on in our work to create a more inclusive and accessible society for all. By collaborating with dedicated individuals like you, we strive to make a lasting impact on the lives of people with disabilities. Together, we can foster a community that values and supports the independence and well-being of every individual, regardless of their abilities.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of this memorable ceremony. Your support has not only provided mobility and independence to the OKU community but has also brought hope and inspiration to countless lives.

Thank you for standing alongside MILAD on our journey towards a more inclusive future. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of people with disabilities.



# **2-DAY TIKTOK WORKSHOP FOR OKU**

We are delighted to announce the successful conclusion of the two-day TikTok workshop for individuals with disabilities. Today, the closing ceremony and certificate presentation were graciously hosted by YB Teo Nie Ching. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the mentors, assistants, and volunteers who generously contributed their time and effort.

Throughout this workshop, we witnessed touching stories and witnessed how individuals with disabilities showcased their talents and unleashed their potential in the digital age. None of this would have been possible without the unwavering support and hard work of the Malaysia Ecommerce Industry Alliance (MEIA), China Ecommerce Association, as well as the mentors, assistants, and volunteers.

We extend our sincere thanks to Victor Chow, President of MEIA; 黄国栋, Acting President of MEIA; 张小娟, Vice President of MEIA; 蔡传富, Treasurer of MEIA; Wong You Huat, Founder of Apexx E-Learning; as well as 彭慧美, TikTok Sifu Livestream Mentor, and 叶嘉萱, TikTok Sifu Seller Mentor, along with many other mentors who graced the workshop with their presence and provided tremendous support and motivation.

Each of you played a vital role in this workshop. Your dedication in imparting knowledge and assisting individuals with disabilities in acquiring digital skills, showcasing their talents, and building their self-confidence was truly remarkable. It is through your hard work and commitment that the workshop was able to run smoothly and achieve such success.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Joanne from the China Ecommerce Association for generously gifting the successful participants and to Tony Pua and Wendy Chan for their presence, support, and encouragement.

Lastly, we extend our warmest congratulations to all the individuals with disabilities who participated in the workshop. You bravely transcended personal and societal barriers, showcasing your abilities and potential. We firmly believe that with your continuous efforts and determination, a brighter and more promising future awaits each and every one of you.

Once again, we extend our deepest gratitude to everyone involved in making this workshop a resounding success. Your support and dedication have made a significant difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities, empowering them to embrace the digital world and achieve their dreams.



# **NAGOMI ART JAM CLUB'S EXHIBITION SUPPORTS MILAD**

We are thrilled to share the heartwarming success of Nagomi Art Jam Club's recent exhibition, "With You All the Way - Nagomi Art Jam Club." The event, held in April, showcased an array of beautiful artworks created by talented individuals, with the aim of making a positive impact in society. We are delighted to announce that the proceeds from the exhibition's sales, totaling RM3500, have been generously donated to the Malaysia Independent Living Association for Disabled (MILAD) and Rumah Anank-anak Yatim dan Miskin "Anning" Ipoh, Perak.

The donation from Nagomi Art Jam Club's exhibition will greatly support MILAD in its mission to empower individuals with disabilities and create a more inclusive society.

The funds will be utilized to further MILAD's initiatives, including:

- 1. Skills Development: Providing vocational training and skill development programs to enhance employability and independence among people with disabilities.
- 2. Assistive Technology: Introducing innovative assistive technologies to improve accessibility and quality of life for individuals with disabilities.
- 3. Education: Promoting inclusive educational practices and ensuring equal access to education for all, regardless of disabilities.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Nagomi Art Jam Club for their commitment to social responsibility and supporting MILAD's cause. Together, we can create a more inclusive and supportive environment for individuals with disabilities, empowering them to lead independent and fulfilling lives.

We sincerely thank Nagomi Art Jam Club and all our supporters for their unwavering commitment to promoting equal rights and independent living for people with disabilities. Let us continue working together to build a more inclusive and compassionate society.



# **TRANSFORMING LIVES WITH ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIRS**

By Pang Macy

#### The following text has been translated from Chinese.

I am a person with cerebral palsy, a condition that affects my motor skills and causes slow movements in my limbs. Before I had an electric wheelchair, I relied on a manual wheelchair, but due to my limited dexterity, I could only move at a very slow pace. This restricted me to sitting at home with limited activities and often hindering my family from performing household chores.

Because my family did not allow me to learn to get in and out of vehicles independently, I always needed assistance when going out. Additionally, I had to rely on my family to push me in the wheelchair, which meant I spent most of my time confined at home. I would only go out around seven times a year, including for festive gatherings, hospital visits, and occasional shopping trips. However, my infrequent outings led to a weakened immune system and a lack of social connections, sometimes resulting in feelings of depression.

Furthermore, as my family rarely took me out, they were not proficient in pushing the wheelchair, which often led to dizziness when we went shopping. However, to avoid inconveniencing my family and sparing myself from discomfort, I complied with their wishes and stayed home. Unfortunately, this decision subjected me to ridicule and mockery from younger family members. Determined to change this situation, I resolved to venture out and explore the beautiful world beyond my home.

Everything changed when I acquired an electric wheelchair. The electric wheelchair brought new hope and opportunities into my life. I could now move comfortably and quickly to the places I wanted to go. It allowed me to enjoy the sunshine, improve my physical well-being, and accomplish tasks that were previously difficult. I could independently move dishes and plates to the kitchen without worrying about dropping them. This restored my confidence in reclaiming my independence!

More importantly, with the electric wheelchair, I could learn to go out on my own and join my friends, including my friend, Show Zhen Jie, who is always striving for independence. We could support and encourage each other while learning to complete various tasks independently, exploring the world, and pursuing our dreams. I could also expand my career opportunities outside the confines of my home.

The electric wheelchair not only transformed my life but also changed my mindset. I am no longer confined to my home, but rather, I am an individual who can be independent and self-sufficient. I have learned to appreciate life more and no longer let my condition be a hindrance to my progress.

Although I still face difficulties and challenges, the electric wheelchair has given me the courage and strength to face them and strive for a better life. I am deeply grateful for the electric wheelchair, as it has allowed me to rediscover myself and share the joys of life with friends, reassuring my family of the different person I have become. Therefore, I believe that in the days to come, I will continue to move forward bravely with my electric wheelchair, embracing new challenges, and realizing more dreams!



# DONATION PLEDGE FORM

### I (WE) WOULD LIKE TO PLEDGE TO MILAD

NAME(S) MAKING PLEDGE:
------------------------

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PLEDGE:

ADDRESS:

PHONE: EMAIL:

#### MALAYSIA INDEPENDENT LIVING ASSOCIATION FOR DISABLED

## MAYBANK 5122 3141 0368 SWIFT CODE: MBBEMYKL

EMAIL: INFO@MILADMALAYSIA.ORG MILADMALAYSIA@GMAIL.COM TEL: 013-397 3386 ADDRESS: NO. 33, JALAN SS3/14,TAMAN UNIVERSITI, 47300 PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR



#### **ABOUT US**

Malaysia Independent Living Association for Disabled ("MILAD") is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation run by a group of people with disabilities, to help people with disabilities toward Independent Living, regardless of their background, race and religion.

#### **OUR VISION**

It is our vision to establish a society that embraces the concept of Independent Living which promotes the disabled peoples full inclusion and participation in the community, wherein the disabled people are given the same life opportunities and the same choices in everyday life that the non-disabled people take for granted.





Our goal is to train, equip and empower disabilities the people with to live independently, and at the same time advocating for equal rights and opportunities for them. We strive toward creating awareness so that the general public will have the right perspective toward disability and people with disabilities. able and hence to help transform the society to allow full inclusion and participation at every possible level by the disabled people.

