

29/05/2000

RM50,000 boost for AIDS centre project

RAUB, Sun. - The Malaysian AIDS Foundation today contributed RM50,000 to help the Raub District Council set up a HIV/AIDS resource centre.

The centre, said to be the first project of its kind in the country, is aimed at creating awareness among the rural people of HIV/AIDS.

If successful, more centres would be built in other districts, said foundation president Datuk Paduka Marina Mahathir.

She said the pilot project was planned for Raub as the young people in the district had shown enthusiasm in learning the issues related to HIV and AIDS.

"This is the first time we are helping to set up a resource centre outside Kuala Lumpur. If it gets good response, we would open similar centres in other districts."

Marina was speaking to reporters after the opening of the International AIDS Memorial Day 2000 commemoration event under the theme "Break The Silence: Honour Every Death, Value Every Life" here today.

The event was officially opened by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob. Also present was Deputy Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Ng Yen Yen, who is also the Member of Parliament for Raub.

Marina said the resource centre in Raub would be directly linked to the one in Kuala Lumpur.

"I think Raub would be a nice test case before we try the same in other areas," she said.

Earlier, Marina received on behalf of the foundation a donation of RM200,000 from Promote Classics Sdn Bhd, which was represented by its chairman Lee Chow Hwa.

(END)