

**Caring Volunteers Concept Good Platform To Fight Drug Abuse - Najib  
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 25 (Bernama) -- The concept of Caring Volunteers can be a platform for participation of more Malaysians to fight drug abuse in a holistic and sustainable manner, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister said the concept had been made the theme of the National Anti-Drugs Day (HADA) 2012 and was being put in action by the 1Malaysia Squad, a mammoth voluntary movement which has 252,128 members.

"The 1Malaysia Squad reflects the deep concern Malaysians have on substance abuse issues and are always supporting the government's efforts to prevent drug abuse and rehabilitation of drug addicts," he said in his message in conjunction with HADA 2012, Monday.

The 1Malaysia squad, which was established on July 4 last year, is a movement of volunteers under the National Anti-Drugs Agency namely from the Friends Against Drugs (Rada), Drug Rehabilitation Committee, Women Against Drugs (Mawadah), Members of the Board of Visitors (ALP), alumni of the agency (Pendamai) and the Peers Mentoring Society (PRS).

The squad is involved in activities such as drug prevention, counselling, treatment and rehabilitation and social support, including when disasters occur.

Najib said young people should be encouraged to participate in voluntary work and for this, the Home Ministry (KDN) had established a movement known as "Skuad Muda KDN" (KDN Young Squad), which also involved the participation of the 1Malaysia Squad, comprising youths from various races between the age of 18 and 25.

He said a dynamic approach was needed to address the problem of drug addiction with the ADDK to take proactive action by offering treatment and rehabilitation services to society voluntarily through the 1Malaysia Cure and Care Clinic, Cure & Care Service Centre (CCSC) and Caring Community House (CCH).

"Since these services were introduced in 2010, there has been a positive impact with the accumulated number of people coming to the nine 1Malaysia Cure & Care Clinic standing at 15,508 people," he added.

He said the number of clients who sought services at the 39 CCSCS nationwide was 341,796 people, as of last May 30.

"God willing, the Home Ministry, especially the National Anti-Drugs Agency (AADK), will further widen these these services to ensure Malaysians are free from drug threats," he added.

According to the Home Ministry's report, there are 300,000 hardcore drug addicts nationwide with 80 per cent of them aged between 15 and 40 and 97 per cent of them men.

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