



Mums sew grateful for lifeline

Programme helps mothers to be financially stable

IT WAS a defining moment for 27 mothers from the lower income group when they completed the "Caltex Sew4Life" skills training and entrepreneurship programme recently, a joint effort by Chevron Malaysia Limited and MyKasih Foundation.

Caltex Sew4Life is a five-month community programme which started in May this year. It is aimed at empowering women with new skills to enable financial stability through weekly workshops conducted by MyKasih Foundation.

The trainees comprised mothers from lower income groups in Lembah Subang who are either sole breadwinners of their respective families or have a high number of dependants.

Chevron started Caltex Sew4Life with a one-off RM54,000 contribution to MyKasih Foundation, including start-up loans in material form for new entrepreneurs who showed promise.

Loans will be paid back to MyKasih Foundation to fund new students to make the programme self-sustainable.

Chevron Malaysia Limited country chairman Jeremy Oh said the programme results had been better than expected, surpassing timeline expectations in self-sustainability while achieving community savings in many areas.

"At Chevron, we value enduring relationships. With MyKasih's help and expertise, Chevron is able to contribute towards a self-sustainable programme that provides enterprising women with relevant skills towards financial stability," he said.

MyKasih Foundation chairman and co-founder Dr Ngau Boon Keat thanked Chevron for supporting a meaningful programme such as Sew4Life.

"This collaboration between Chevron and MyKasih is a reflection of our common objective to improve the well-being of the productive poor through skills training and income-generation projects."

"I hope that the success of this programme will inspire more organisations and individuals alike to devote their time and resources in helping the underprivileged. Likewise, I hope

MyKasih's welfare recipients will seize any opportunity available to carve a better future for themselves and their families," added Dr Ngau.

The current trainees also managed to raise funds for future students through the sale of their work during the *Driving Change with Caltex* reality TV show project last month where celebrities Henry Golding and Andrea Fonseka utilised their influence and network to raise RM309,725 in three days for the benefit of MyKasih Foundation.

As part of the graduation ceremony, the trainees also had a one-day display and sale of selected products at Menara Milenium, Pusat Bandar Damansara while their other products will be sold on the MyKasih Foundation website.

Caltex Sew4Life is powered by Chevron's Energy for Learning global initiative.

The initiative aims to support learning-based programmes, which help people acquire new knowledge, gain new skills or be exposed to different ways of thinking.

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We did it: MyKasih Foundation chief executive officer Jeff Perera (seventh from left) and Oh with some of the graduates of Caltex Sew4Life programme.



Showing off their work: Graduates of Caltex Sew4Life at their one-day sale at the Menara Milenium lobby.