

Sarawak

## Charity golf event targets RM1 mln for rural education fund

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Uggah (eighth right) with the organising committee and donors during the official launch of the Charity Golf Tournament for Rural Kids Education Fund Sarawak.

KUCHING: The organiser of the Charity Golf Tournament for Rural Kids Education Fund Sarawak is hoping to raise over RM1 million in this year's event.

Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah said the organiser has so far already received great support with over RM600,000 in confirmed donations.

He revealed that the donors, among others, are Sarawak Energy, DIALOG Group and Press Metal, which donated RM100,000 each, and O&M Materials which donated RM50,000.

Uggah, who is patron of the tournament, commended the organiser made up of a group of volunteers, for coming up with the second Sarawak charity golf event to continue with the education fund-raising for rural and needy children in Sarawak.

"The state welcomes support from everyone to help rural communities, especially in meeting the education needs of children in school.

"I would like to thank Dato Wee Yiau Hin, the organising chairman of the event, and his team for their efforts in raising money for our under-privileged kids in Sarawak," he said during the event's official launching at Sarawak Golf Club (KGS) here yesterday.

This year's event is scheduled to be held at KGS on April 28.

Uggah said the inaugural event in April 2017 was also mooted by a group of volunteers in Sarawak led by Datuk Richard Lee, as a corporate social responsibility project to support rural children badly affected by flooding.

The event, he said, had received overwhelming support from the benevolent fund project with RM1.025 million collected from 62 generous corporations and individuals across the country.

The 2017 event was organised in collaboration with Kota Samarahan Golf Club and MyKasih Foundation.

The donations were managed by MyKasih Foundation, a charity organisation that pioneered an innovative way of distributing aid using its cashless payment platform.

He said all donations then were channelled in full, directly to student beneficiaries through their smartcard.

"The proceeds from the inaugural charity golf in 2017 benefited 1,041 students in 16 primary schools, stricken by floods back then.

"The aid has certainly given financial relief to families who work hard to keep their children in school. Based on the positive feedback we have received from the schools, we have decided to continue this meaningful charity event this year," he said.

Uggah also express his gratitude to the collaboration partners for this year's event, namely KGS, Sarawak Energy and MyKasih.

He noted that KGS is letting the charity hold the tournament at the club; Sarawak Energy to manage the tournament directorate; while MyKasih will again be a platform to manage the fund.

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