



CHARITY TRIP TO ELEPHANT SANCTUARY, KUALA GANDAH, LANCHANG, PAHANG.

Annual Charity Trip Organized by Lung Foundation of Malaysia

Kuala Lumpur, 24th June 2012 Sunday – Once again Lung Foundation of Malaysia (LFM) organized the yearly outing trip for the children suffering from lung diseases from Persatuan Keluarga Anak-Anak Penyakit Paru Paru and Kelab Asma Kanak-Kanak. This year we had included the adult patients from Institut Perubatan respiratori (IPR) and Hospital Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (HUKM). More than 120 participants consisting of patients, guardians, medical staffs and trustee members of the Board of Trustees, left Kuala Lumpur in the early Sunday morning in 3 buses to Kuala Gandah. It is an educational as well as fund trip for all patients and their guardians.

The Kuala Gandah Elephant Conservation Centre was established by the Wildlife and National Park Department in 1989 for the purpose of elephant translocation programme. It is the only one of its kind in the country and the translocation of elephants are carried out for elephants from areas where their habitats were encroached by human development. Over the years the programme has help to prevent the decline of elephant population in the country and had relocated more than 600 wild elephants.

The aims of the Kuala Gandah Sanctuary are to promote public awareness of the elephant's plight in the country as well as support research into translocation and conservation. It also provided an opportunity for patients with lung diseases to socialize among themselves and enjoy a fun-full day of activities.

At the centre, participants were treated to an interesting, educational and informative video show on issues surrounding wild elephants, diminishing habitat and translocation of elephants, giving viewers better understanding and awareness of the plight of wild elephants in the country.

Besides the video shows, participants were welcomed to ride the elephants in the Centre, helped wash them in the river and participated in feeding them. All these activities were of course under the guidance of the trainers of the Centre to ensure safety of the visitors.

In between the visits and activities, participants were treated to a pack lunch provided by the Lung Foundation of Malaysia.

Chairman of the Lung Foundation of Malaysia, Dato' Dr. Zainuddin Bin Md Zin expressed his gratitude to the Presidents and Committee Members of those Associations and Societies which participated in the trip, and Nadicorp for their kind gesture in providing 3 buses with discounted fares and to those who were involved in organizing the trip.

Such outing provided the patients and parents and guardian the rare opportunity for them to be back with the nature and to understand and be aware of the importance of sharing the natural habitats with the wild animals.

This is the seventh charity trip organized by Lung Foundation of Malaysia in the series since 2005, and the Foundation will endeavour to organize such trip every year for the benefits of the patients suffering from chronic lung diseases.

Dated: 17/07/2012

