

MEDIA RELEASE

IDEAS COMMUNITY PROJECTS & PROJEK BANGSA MALAYSIA, SUPPORTED BY OCBC AL-AMIN, RAISE OVER RM1.5 MILLION FOR HOSPITAL EMERGENCY FUND

Kuala Lumpur, 2 August 2021 – Several hospitals in the Klang Valley will benefit from over RM1.5 million worth of hospital beds, oxygen tanks and monitors following a collaborative effort to raise the amount by IDEAS Community Projects and Projek Bangsa Malaysia, with the support of OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad (OCBC Al-Amin).



The oxygen tanks and monitors reaching one the hospitals

OCBC Al-Amin kick-started the Hospital Emergency Fund effort with a RM50,000 contribution that IDEAS Community Projects, alongside its partner organisation Projek Bangsa Malaysia, built on to raise the remainder.



Donation of infusion pumps to one of the hospitals

The RM50,000 contribution from OCBC Al-Amin comprised a corporate contribution through its Kota Damansara branch and personal contributions from the Bank staff, led by OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad CEO Dato' Ong Eng Bin and OCBC Al-Amin CEO Tuan Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik. The other funds came from thousands of donors who came forward with contributions from as little as RM5.

According to IDEAS Chairman Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin the contribution from OCBC Al-Amin alone enables them to bring a total of 15 monitoring sets, 15 oxygen tanks and 30 canvas beds to front-liners in the wake of the rising Covid-19 cases in the Klang Valley.

“The first-hand accounts by front-liners moved everyone who heard them, and while many efforts were already underway for communities in need, we thought a particular effort for hospital equipment would help ensure doctors and nurses can continue to save lives.

“The collaborative effort with OCBC Al-Amin was vital for the benefit of the medical personnel and ultimately those seeking treatment at the Hospitals as well,” he said.

He added that IDEAS Community Projects was grateful to the OCBC Al-Amin Kota Damansara branch for taking up the request to come in as a kick-starter sponsor along with the support of both the CEOs of OCBC Bank and OCBC Al-Amin and the wider network of staff as well.

“Their support set the tone for the contributions we went on to receive,” he said.

Tuan Syed Abdull Aziz said the Bank continues to strive to be more involved in the localities in which it operates and to become even more engaged in the community, going beyond simply providing superior banking products and services to meeting the social needs of the people as well.

“The social and economic effects of the global pandemic have been significant for many and so we wanted to reach out to support those who are most in need. We would also like to thank IDEAS Community Projects for sharing with us the privilege of helping in this meaningful project. Having worked with IDEAS Community Projects on their efforts to help people with autism before we know this effort is in very good hands,” he said.

About the Hospital Emergency Fund

IDEAS Community Projects (a sister organisation to IDEAS the think tank) and Projek Bangsa Malaysia are collaborating for a joint initiative called DANA KECEMASAN HOSPITAL (Hospital Emergency Fund) to aide hospitals and national frontliners.

This urgent initiative will support Malaysian hospitals, which are currently operating beyond their maximum capacity due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, hospitals are experiencing insufficient

facilities and are in need of additional equipment to support the increasing numbers of critically ill patients.

IDEAS Community Projects and Projek Bangsa Malaysia plea to all Malaysians/organisations to support “Dana Kecemasan Hospital”, to ease the burden of our hospitals.

All donations qualify for tax exemption. IDEAS has obtained tax donation approved status under Section 44 (6) of the Income Tax Act 1967.

About IDEAS

IDEAS Community projects is the charitable arm of The Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), a nonprofit research institute. IDEAS is dedicated to promoting solutions to public policy challenges, focussing on three overarching missions – advancing a competitive economy, ensuring trust in institutions and promoting an inclusive Malaysia. IDEAS is Malaysia’s first independent think tank, free of personal interests and partisan influences. For more information, visit www.ideas.org.my.

About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world’s most highly-rated banks, with Aa1 by Moody’s and AA- by both Fitch and S&P. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC Bank is consistently ranked among the World’s Top 50 Safest Banks by Global Finance and has been named Best Managed Bank in Singapore by The Asian Banker.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has more than 460 branches and representative offices in 19 countries and regions. These include over 220 branches and offices in Indonesia under subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and over 70 branches and offices in Mainland China, Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by its wholly-owned subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which operates on a unique open-architecture product platform to source for the best-in-class products to meet its clients' goals.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

OCBC Bank offers Islamic banking products and services in Malaysia through its wholly-owned subsidiary, OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com.my