

# ROTARY CLUB OF PUDU

Electronic Submission to District Award & Recognition Selection Committee

April 2014

Under

**Avenue of Service Projects & Public Relations**  
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT



**ERICAN EXPRESS ENGLISH PROGRAMME  
BENEFICIARIES - 5 MYANMAR REFUGEES  
APRIL 24, 2014**

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## **A BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT**

1 As of December 2013, there are more than 100,000 refugees residing in Malaysia with the majority (90 percent) originating from Myanmar.

2 United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) works with some partner organisations to support refugee health, education and community empowerment. As we realized that the resources of the non-governmental sector in Malaysia remain limited, The Rotary Club of Pudu therefore, extended our service to assist in improving “literacy” by way of providing English courses to these refugees.

3 The Shelter Home for children is one of the many homes that work closely with UNHCR by providing schools for the refugee children aged 6 to 16. There are five (5) schools under its umbrella in the Klang Valley.

## **B BENEFITS AND EFFECTIVENESS**

4 With the said aim in mind to help the refugees in the English Language, The Rotary Club of Pudu worked sought sponsorship by approaching some English Language Centres and was finally granted five (5) sponsorships of the Erican Express English Programmes amounting to RM7,550 courtesy of the Erican Education Group.

5 The beneficiaries of the Erican Express English Programmes will be the Refugees teachers who are currently teaching in the refugee schools, which are based in Puchong.

The programme aimed at:-

5.1 Mastering the four (4) basic English skills:-

5.1.1 Reading, writing, listening and speaking;

5.2 Build a solid grammar foundation;

5.3 Increase vocabulary knowledge;

5.4 Practise English through real life situations;

5.5 Sharpen spoken English skills; and

5.6 Gain confidence in using English.

6 The Refugee teachers will then impart the skills to be used in their daily teaching of English to the refugee children.

## IMPLEMENTATION



The Rotarians, the Chief Operating Officer of the Erican Education Group Datuk Eric Chong and Human Rights Commissioner Mr James Nayagam representing the recipients- the 5 Refugee teachers.

## The Sponsor - The Erican Education Group

7 Erican has been a premier brand in language education and training for the last two

decades. Erican believes in providing “second - to - none” learning strategies and systems unique to Erican to all learners of the English Language who aspire to achieve a decent level of proficiency within the shortest possible time frame.

8 “Over the years, Erican has involved itself in Corporate Social Responsibility and being an educational organisation it is justifiable for us to sponsor the refugees the English Programme by sharing the teaching resources to be put to good use more than just contributing cash...” said Datuk Eric Chong, the Chief Executive Officer of Erican Education Group.

9 The Erican Language Centre has 24 branches nationwide and there are 12 centres in the Klang Valley.

10 The Rotary Club of Pudu chose the Puchong Centre for the convenience of the five (5) Refugee teachers. The five (5) teachers are two (2) gentleman teachers and three (3) lady teachers.

10.1 FROM SCHOOL 2 - located at Batu 14, Bandar Puchong Utama

- 90 students

10.1.1 Elijah (M)

10.1.2 No Thluai Chin (F)

10.1.3 Eleanor Hniang Zi (F)

10.2 FROM SCHOOL 3 - located at Pusat Bandar Pudu

- 60 students

10.2.1 Baggio (M)

10.2.2 Mary (F)

11 The sponsorship amounted to RM7,550.00

11.1 One (1) level course fee RM1,350.00

11.2 Registration RM 30.00

11.3 Books and materials RM 130.00

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RM1,510.00 per sponsorship

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11.4 5 sponsorship amounting to RM7,550.00

### The Programme details

12 Puchong Centre: 16B Jalan Kenari 5, Bandar Puchong Jaya

Duration: 3 months

2 classes per week

Tuesday and Thursday

Time: 7.30 - 10.00pm

## The Presentation Ceremony



- 13 Datuk Eric Chong presenting a Memento to the Human Rights Commissioner, Mr James Nayagam.
- 14 The Presentation Ceremony took place at the Erican College Kuala Lumpur on April 24, 2014.
  - 14.1 The Guest of Honour was the Human Rights Commissioner, Mr James Nayagam;
  - 14.2 The Erican Group Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Eric Chong;
  - 14.3 President Alex Chang, Rotary Club of Pudu;
  - 14.4 Past President, Mike Tung; and
  - 14.5 Sergeant at Arms, Tenny Lee, Rotary Club of Pudu.

## C MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT



Datuk Eric's speech with presence of fellow Rotarians and others as mentioned.

15 Organising Chairman: Past President Mike Tung

15.1 Ex Officio: President Alex Chang

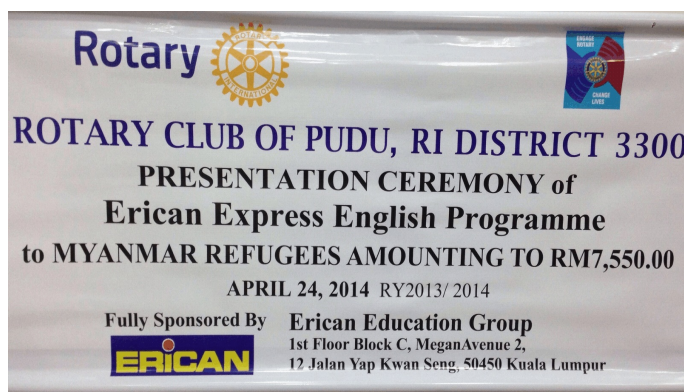
15.2 Community Service Director: Mok Sin

Members

15.3 Sergeant at Arms: Tenny Lee

15.4 Club Service Director: Edward Lee

## D PROMOTION OF ROTARY PUBLIC IMAGE





- 16 The Banner and the launch held in Erican College gave exposure of the Rotary image among the Erican College community and the Refugee community from both the schools base in Puchong.
- 17 The Human Right Commissioner, Mr James Nayagam had expressed his gratitude to the Rotary Club of Pudu as well as the sponsor, Erican Education Group for their roles of being part of the caring society.
- 18 This said project was also published in our e bulletin and at our wed page which has worldwide readership as it is published in our website too.
- 19 The hard copies of the bulletin are placed at the luncheon tables on every Mondays at our lunch meetings at Shangri-la Hotel Kuala Lumpur, to be read by the guests and guest speaker.

## **E ORIGINALITY**



Datuk Eric Chong conducting one class personally in the programme.

20 Over the years, the Rotary Club of Pudu has worked on numerous projects in relations to community service however this is the first time ever that a project of this nature has taken place. This project took different approach from merely just offering the said beneficiaries cash but linked the educators to the beneficiaries. This project has enabled the Rotary team to take a different perspective and look into the lives of the refugees. What we initially had in mind was merely helping some teachers to improve their proficiency and skills in teaching English.

21 During our visit to the schools to identify for the eligible candidates, we were granted much privileges by getting to talk to the volunteers as well as their places of abode. We witnessed the simplicity in life. We learnt about the small thing in life that we have taken for granted. There is a special request to protect the confidentiality of these refugees. The home requested that no media publicity on their identity.

*Since refugees and asylum seekers are not distinguished from undocumented migrants under the Malaysian Law, they are vulnerable to the same penalties, including arrest, detention and deportation.*

22 A casual conversation with the five (5) eligible refugee teachers during the visit to the schools;

22.1 One of the main question posted was “How do you feel about the sponsorship of this programme to learn English?”

22.1.1 Baggio, 20 a refugee who has been in an orphanage since the age of 6, said, "...I feel great because I want to learn English. In another country, English is our future".

22.1.2 No Thluai Chin, 18 expressed that she is very happy to be admitted to the programme which will allow her to strengthen her oral skills.

22.1.3 Elizah, 23 is a graduate in Physics who arrived just 5 months ago in Malaysia has identified the "good beginning" and could not wait to get it started.

22.1.4 Eleanor, 19 admitted that she is very weak in the language and the opportunity is timely.

22.1.5 Mary, 40 has been in Malaysia for the last two years with her husband and three (3) children. She has a diploma in bible studies. She said the programme will enhance her teaching in school and indirectly benefit her three (3) children as well.

## **F RELEVANCE TO PRESIDENTIAL EMPHASES**

23 This project has clearly reflected the relevance to Presidential Emphasis to Enhance Humanitarian Service Through Rotary in the area **Basic Education and Literacy**.

## G CONCLUSION

24 The value of this project is that, it will catalytic to draw other language centres to duplicate the programme and help more people. We are making a difference in the lives of the refugees. We discovered that the programme has benefited the five (5) refugees in five different aspects with different values. The central focus remains the importance of learning English which the privileged residents and citizen in Malaysia have taken for granted.

25 Our main aim is achieved;

*“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime - Red Indian Proverb”.*



Luncheon with the Refugee Teachers.