

STREETS **YOUR NEWS**

Celebrity helps needy students

DRIVING CHANGE: Henry Golding helps to raise more than RM300,000 for MyKasih Foundation

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HENRY Golding raised RM309,725 for the MyKasih Foundation by harnessing the influence of social media and the generosity of local celebrities, the public and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

Golding, a local TV personality, had embarked on "Driving Change with Caltex", a community project which was publicised through social media. The project aimed to help the underprivileged in Malaysia, Hong Kong, Thailand, the Philippines and Singapore within 15 days.

The project started in the country and Golding raised more than 10 times the amount that he had targeted within 48 hours.

The proceeds collected in the country will be channeled to the MyKasih Foundation — Love My School bursary programme.

Golding said he was informed of the challenge on a Friday by the organisers. He had put up the in-

formation on Twitter, Facebook and other social medium, and had followers on his mission to raise funds by Sunday.

"The best moment was when Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak gave two of his suits for the auction, with the proceeds going to the foundation. I thank him for his generosity.

"The prime minister was contacted via his Twitter account and I was shocked and overwhelmed with his quick response and his kind gesture," said Golding.

The Prime Minister's suits were sold for RM20,000 through a silent auction.

On Sunday, Golding with the help from his celebrity friends, staged a fundraising event at Publika.

Several beauty queens and models such as Andrea Fonseka, Tanuja Ananthan, Deborah Priya Henry, Nadine Ann Thomas, Stephanie Chai and Amber Chia showed up to extend their support for the cause.

The fellow MyKasih Foundation beneficiaries sold their handicrafts at the event.



Henry Golding (bottom left) raised more than 10 times the amount that he had targeted within 48 hours. Pic by Zulfadhli Zulkifli

Funds were also generated through the sale of items such as clothes, cakes and drinks. Other fundraising activities included photo opportunities with a Mercedes McLaren.

The My Kasih Foundation — Love My School bursary programme aims to alleviate the burden underprivileged families while providing education to their children.

Assistance in the form of annual bursaries to students from poor households will be restricted to pur-

chases of school books and stationery items from the school bookstore, and food from the school canteen. No cash is paid under this scheme.

The selected schools will identify the poor and needy students and refer them to the MyKasih Foundation. The students are screened for eligibility.

The scheme is open to students from primary and secondary schools. Only students with a total household income of less than RM1,500 are entitled to this scheme.

The students will get to purchase food and stationery items at approved outlets using their MyKasih Student Smart Card.

The allowance of RM30 to RM40 will be provided each month.

Each student can expect a total bursary of not more than RM800 for one schooling year.

No funds will be provided during school holidays.

For details, visit www.drivingchangewithcaltex.com and www.mykasih.com.my.