MyKasih aid for the needy

Programme allows the poor to buy basic necessities

By WONG PEK MEI
pekmei@thestar.com.my

BENTONG: Sole breadwinner Ku Choy Sun used to worry where the next meal for him and his wife would come from, and depended on the generosity of family and friends at one time.

The 60-year-old retired plumber can now breathe a sigh of relief after being put under the MyKasih Love My Neighbourhood Programme, where he can get free food items at stores near his home every month.

"I'm happy because I can now 'buy' basic necessities up to RM80 a month.

"Before I received this aid, I sometimes had to rely on friends and family for rice to survive," said Ku, who also gets RM300 a month from the Welfare Department.

Ku was one of the 850 recipients who received their MyKasih cards at SJK(C) Khai Mun Repas.

Ku, who takes care of his disabled wife, said his children send him money but sometimes it was not enough.

Another recipient, Azmi Derasid, 41, said the aid gave him peace of mind as he constantly worried if he and his family would have enough food.

"It has helped lift my burden of putting food on the table for my three children," said Azmi, who does odd jobs while his wife earns only RM1,000 as a worker at a hospital here.

Single mother Mahaletchumi Sandou, 49, said the aid was only for a year but hoped to be a recipient again next year.

The programme allows the poor to buy basic necessities, such as rice, bread and cooking oil.

Every month, RM80 will be channelled to the recipient's MyKad or MyKasih smart card.

Bentong MP Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai hoped the recipients of the aid will help others in future.