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Old folk given the VIP treatment

SOME 20 VIPs put aside protocol to serve food to the elderly during the 'Serve with Love' charity dinner by Adventist Food Bank at Georgetown City Hotel in Penang.

The event was supported by the MyKasih Foundation. Other organisations taking part in the event were Penang Adventist Hospital, Musica Sinfonietta, Lions Clubs International District 308 B2 Malaysia and the state government.

Vegetarian food was served during the recent dinner to remind everybody of the importance of healthy food.

In her opening speech, Adventist Food Bank chairman Tan Cheng Chee acknowledged the great support to the noble cause.

"We're honoured to have 30 elderly folk joining us this evening.

"Although we started small, we have a big vision to build a community where no one goes hungry and each person is given the opportunity to live with dignity and hope for the future," she added.

State Welfare, Caring Society and Environment Chairman Phee Boon Poh said the state government had been paying RM790 in total to each family whose monthly income is RM500 and below since 2009.

"Now, Penang is focusing on reducing relative poverty by implementing the Conditional Cash Transfer programme targeting education and health-care," said Poh.

Also present was MyKasih Foundation managing director Jeffrey Perara.

Performances included the Chung Ling Private Secondary School Chinese orchestra, the Lion Dance troupe from Union Primary School and American-based Hinsdale Men's Chorus.

The MyKasih Foundation is a non-profit organisation established by Tan Sri Dr Ngau Boon Keat and his wife Puan Sri Jean Ngau.

Since its inception in 2009, the foundation has provided aid to more than 211,000 low-income households in over 250 locations nationwide including Sabah and Sarawak.



Showing we care: Phee (right) and Perara leading the VIPs to serve the guests during the Adventist Food Bank charity dinner in Georgetown City Hotel in Pulau Tikus, Penang.