
NEWS RELEASE

UOB employees and customers from across Asia raise more than S\$1.3 million for children's charities at annual UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk

Singapore, 7 June 2015 – This morning, more than 7,000 United Overseas Bank (UOB) employees, their families and customers participated in the annual UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk events held across Asia. Together, they raised S\$1.36 million which will be used to improve the lives of children who are underprivileged or have special needs.

In Singapore, a 4,000-strong group congregated in Pasir Ris Park. Some participants chose to walk the three kilometre route while others opted to run the five kilometre or 10 kilometre route. After the run and walk, participants enjoyed familiar games such as chatek, five stones, hopscotch and pick-up sticks.

The funds raised will go to various children's charities throughout Asia. In Singapore, the donation will help children with special needs to develop their social and creative skills through art education and early intervention programmes run by the Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) Katong School, Movement for the Intellectually Disabled in Singapore (MINDS) Towner Gardens School and the Pathlight School.

Mr Wee Ee Cheong, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, UOB Group, who ran the 10 kilometre route during the Singapore event said, "Every year, I look forward to joining my colleagues, their families and our customers at the UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk. It is heartening to see a team united in a common goal – to help provide a brighter future for children who are less fortunate or have special needs."

About the UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk

In 2007, UOB launched the UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk in Singapore to raise funds for local charities in support of art, children and education. Building on the success of the event in Singapore, UOB expanded this activity across Asia with Malaysia in 2008, Indonesia in 2010, Thailand in 2011, China in 2012 and Hong Kong in 2014. Since the start of the annual Heartbeat Run/Walk, UOB has raised more than S\$5 million to help improve the lives of underprivileged children and children with special needs.

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– Ends –

Appendix: Heartbeat Run/Walk 2015 beneficiaries

Funds raised will benefit the following organisations:

China

YesKids charity to support the education of underprivileged children in rural areas and to improve their school facilities in Dongtai prefecture of Yancheng, Jiangsu province.

Hong Kong

Children's Cancer Foundation to support its education and creative arts therapy programmes such as 'Medical Art Work Manual' and 'Dance Movement Therapy' for young cancer patients.

Indonesia

Kick Andy Foundation, Municipality of Bandung, and the Yayasan Penyantun Wyata Guna Foundation, to provide educational materials and improve classroom facilities for underprivileged children living in West Java, and to improve a playground in Bandung city.

Malaysia

Angel's Children Home, Shelter Home for Children, Dignity for Children Foundation and the Penang Cheshire Home, to run education, life skills and art programmes for underprivileged children.

Singapore

Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) Katong School, Movement for the Intellectually Disabled in Singapore (MINDS) Towner Gardens School and Pathlight School, to support their art education and development programmes.

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Thailand

Three cancer institutions under the ART.for.CANCER by comeonireal programme – the Siriraj Foundation for cancer patients of Siriraj Hospital, the Ramathibodi Hospital Foundation and the National Cancer Institute.

About United Overseas Bank

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia with a global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. UOB is rated among the world's top banks: AA1 by Moody's and AA- by Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings respectively.

In Asia, UOB operates through its head office in Singapore and banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines, as well as branches and representative offices.

UOB plays an active role in the community, focusing on the arts, education and children. It has, over more than three decades, held the longest-running competition in Singapore, the UOB Painting of the Year, which has since been extended across Southeast Asia. In recognition of its contributions to the arts, UOB was conferred the Singapore National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the tenth consecutive year in 2014. UOB also encourages its employees across the region to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run which is held in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

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