



Ireka Cares management and volunteers treat the children of the Lighthouse welfare home to a farewell party. —
Picture by Nurul Shafina Jemenon

Beacon of hope for kids at Lighthouse home

KUALA LUMPUR: It was a gathering filled with mixed emotions for the management and volunteers of Ireka Cares and 33 children from Lighthouse Children's Welfare Home.

Ireka Cares is Ireka Corporation Bhd's flagship corporate social responsibility (CSR) programme which "adopted" Lighthouse in July last year.

In the farewell event, children, up to 12 years old, had an adrenalin charged session at the Young Explorer Kids' Gymnasium in 1Mont' Kiara, here.

The children were also treated to a scrumptious meal at Tony Roma's.

Joseph Anthony, 16, representative of Lighthouse Children's Welfare Home said the programme helped them to socialise outside the home and created a special bond between the volunteers and children.

It was a touching moment when the children presented a handmade model of a lighthouse as a memento

to the volunteers.

Committee chairman and Ireka's deputy managing director Datuk F. K. Lai said he was glad that the programme had come a long way since it was initiated.

"We have achieved the target and I appreciate the time, care and expertise contributed by everyone.

"I wish to thank Lighthouse for giving us the opportunity to get to know and help them the past one year."

Ireka Cares outreach activities have three categories — life skills, creative arts, and games and sports.

Some of the sessions conducted have included a fitness workout and workshops.

The Lighthouse Children's Home has 33 underprivileged children, ranging from three to 17 years old. It was founded by Steven Silvaraju and his family members who aspire to bring the children up in a loving, family oriented environment. — *By Farhana Ab Rahman*