

Event to feature activities for children, medical checks and a lucky draw

by [kelly tey](#)



Raising awareness on autism: Mah Sing Foundation committee members visiting the Inisiatif Sokongan Autisme Nouri, one of the beneficiaries of the Mah Sing Foundation Charity Fun Run 2015.

RUN, have fun, and do good along the way.

This is what the Mah Sing Foundation Charity Fun Run 2015 wants participants to experience when they take part in the event on Nov 7 at Perdana Botanical Garden, Kuala Lumpur.

The foundation is dedicating its inaugural charity run to underprivileged children with autism and hopes to raise public awareness on the condition.

"After speaking to parents and coaches of children with autism, we found that many people were still unaware of autism, its symptoms and effects.

"As such, they lack understanding of those who suffer from it," said Mah Sing Group Berhad Business Development and Investment senior general manager Jane Leong.

As a foundation that focuses on education programmes, Leong said this was what spawned the idea for an educational fun run.

The 4.7km run is a non-competitive event with three key highlights including a bubble zone, a colour palm arena as well as a giant jigsaw puzzle board.

Each activity holds particular significance.

Leong said it would be informative, relevant yet entertaining for the public as well as those who have experience with autism.

“Activities in the run are designed to make sense to the public while enlightening people about the ways in which children with autism communicate and learn at the same time,” she added.

Bubble zone helps runners understand how children with Autism Spectrum Disorder cannot blow bubbles without someone’s help; the activity encourages interaction through play.

The colour palm arena invites runners to ink their T-shirts with palm prints, signifying the “high five” action which children with autism understand to be a symbol of a task well done.

A giant jigsaw puzzle board in vibrant colours will also be completed by runners who will be holding a piece each at the start of the run.

The colours are said to help children with autism easily pick up each distinct shade, which functions as a learning tool.

During the run, participants can also take the chance to do free medical check-ups such as a glucose and blood pressure test, which will be conducted by the iHeal Medical Centre.

Adding excitement to the event will be a lucky draw with attractive prizes such as smart devices, air boards and cash vouchers.

Participation fee is RM45 per runner and includes a race pack, while children aged below 12 years run for free.

Parents or guardians of children with autism who are interested in the run can join at a reduced rate of RM20 per person.

All proceeds will go towards supporting six welfare organisations in aid of autistic as well as underprivileged children, two of which have been confirmed, namely Inisiatif Sokongan Autisme Nouri and Little Yellow Flower Education Foundation.

Registration ends on Oct 11.

Collection of race packs will be on Oct 31 and Nov 1 at the Icon City Sales Gallery, Petaling Jaya from 10.30am to 6pm.

Interested parties can log on to www.facebook.com/mahsingfoundationrun and bit.ly/Run4Children for details and registration.