

## LATIN AMERICAN FESTIVAL RAISES FUND IN AID FOR KIRTARSH

**KUALA LUMPUR - June 28, 2016** – The Embassies of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela in collaboration with the Latin Ladies Association of Malaysia, Plaza Low Yat, bbpark, the Federal Hotels International, and supported by Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL), donated RM 77,484.60 to the KIRTARSH; a non-profitable home established to shelter and care for special and underprivileged children and old folks.



The recent 8<sup>th</sup> Latin American Festival held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2016 at bbpark, Bukit Bintang, attracted more than 6,000 people, who enjoyed typical food and beverages as well as original handicrafts and tourism information. Other activities included live Latin music and dance performances; a lucky draw with attractive prizes such as flight ticket to Amsterdam donated by Air France-KLM, as well as tablets and smartphones.

Each year, funds raised during the festival are donated to local charities and the chosen one for this year was Pusat Jagaan Kanak-kanak Kurang Upaya KIRTARSH, a non-profitable home established to shelter and care for special and underprivileged people from all racial and religious background. The residents of the Home ranges from children as young as 4 years old with disabilities such as down syndrome, autism, slow learners, spastic, audio impairment to a 84 years old lady suffering from dementia. The donation will help to provide vocational training, special education, shelter, medication, food and most important of all, love to its dependents.

KIRTARSH representative, Ms. Manivannan Kanan said “The donation will surely help us, especially in terms of reconstruction of our facility which was damaged during a fire earlier this year”. There are ongoing fund raising projects to enable them to re-build the house with proper facilities to accommodate the residents, with a total cost estimation of RM400,000. The Latin American Festival donation would allow Kirtarsh Home to start this project.

His Excellency Manuel Guzman, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corp and also the Dean of the Latin American and Caribbean embassies presented the cheque to Ms. Manivannan, “We are pleased to be contributing some help to the children to improve their living environment. We would also like to thank our partners and volunteers for their generosity and continuous support to the Latin American Festival.”

For more information please visit [www.facebook.com/lafmalaysia](http://www.facebook.com/lafmalaysia)  
[www.kirtarshhome.org](http://www.kirtarshhome.org)

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Caption: Cheque Presentation Ceremony with the proceeds of the 8<sup>th</sup> Latin American Festival in Malaysia. Picture taken on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Federal Hotel with representatives of The Latin American and Caribbean Group, the Latin Ladies Association of Malaysia, Plaza Low Yat, bbpark, the Federal Hotels International and Pusat Jagaan Kanak-kanak Kurang Upaya KIRTARSH.-