

UOB employees and customers across Asia raised more than RMB5.4 million for children's charities at the annual UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk

Donations in China will go to support the education of underprivileged children in Sichuan

China, 25 July 2016 - More than 11,000 United Overseas Bank (UOB) employees, their families and customers, participated in the annual UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk events held recently in six markets in Asia, namely China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. Together, they raised S\$1.1 million (equivalent to RMB5.4 million) which will go towards improving the lives of children in Asia who are underprivileged or have special needs.

In Shanghai, the annual event saw around 500 participants at Century Park. A mainstay in the Bank's calendar, the UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk embodies its key corporate social responsibility focus on children, education and art.

Funds raised in China will go to the YesKids Charity to support educational programmes for two primary schools in rural Sichuan province, namely Central Primary School in Pian Ma Yi Minority Village and Ge Mu Primary School in Litang Village. The proceeds will be used to provide financial aid to underprivileged children, to upgrade the schools' facilities, and as part of a grant for top-performing students.

Funds raised will also contribute to the UOB Traditional Art Scholarship, which was launched earlier this year to cultivate artistic talent in children, specifically in traditional arts. By preserving this art form for the future generations, it can help improve their lives as they develop their skills to pursue a career in this area.

Ms Amy Hong, Head of Human Resources, UOB (China), noted that education is still not a priority for many minority families due to cultural differences and a lack of educational resources in the rural villages where they stay.

“Through improving school facilities and enhancing educational programmes in these remote areas, we hope to emphasise the importance of education as a means of self-improvement, and introduce a culture of learning among the next generation,” said Ms Hong.

– Ends –

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 and 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. The Bank was awarded the Community Chest Outstanding Special Events Award in 2015.

Appendix: Heartbeat Run/Walk 2016 beneficiaries

Funds raised will benefit the following organisations:

China

YesKids Charity, where funds will go to support the education of underprivileged children and to improve their school facilities in remote villages located in Sichuan province. Donations this year will also be used to set up the “Traditional Art Scholarship” to promote traditional arts and craft.

Hong Kong

The Children's Cancer Foundation, an established organisation that aims to improve healthcare and quality of life for young cancer patients and their families. Initiatives include assisting major public hospitals in Hong Kong to enhance medical facilities and services in paediatric oncology

Indonesia

Yayasan Daya Pelita Kasih, which equips special needs children, young adults and adults, with social and work skills through educational programmes, and Yogyakarta Biennale Foundation, a platform where artists and experts from various disciplines of art and culture can come together to exchange ideas and inspire creativity

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

Movement for the Intellectually Disabled in Singapore (MINDS) Towner Gardens School, Pathlight School and Rainbow Centre – Yishun Park School, to support initiatives, including early intervention programmes, aimed at equipping over 1,600 children with special needs from the ages of five to 21 with social and work skills

Thailand

Phra Dabos School, to enhance programmes that equip underprivileged children with education and work skills

About United Overseas Bank (China)

United Overseas Bank (China) Limited (UOB (China)) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB), a leading bank in Asia. Headquartered in Shanghai, UOB (China) was incorporated in the People's Republic of China on 18 December 2007 and commenced operations on 2 January 2008.

With a stable and far-sighted approach, UOB (China) has grown its network to over 10 branches and sub-branches in the major cities across China. UOB (China) is rated 'A+' with stable outlook by Fitch Ratings.

As UOB (China) continues to grow its business, it is also committed to its people and the community. Since 2012, UOB (China) has participated in the annual UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk to raise funds for underprivileged children and various education initiatives in China.

For more information about UOB (China), please visit www.UOBChina.com.cn

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