

# New complex for home

RM1.8mil project expected to be completed by this year

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**A**FTER occupying two bungalow lots for 21 years, the Rumah Keluarga Kami (RKK) in Jalan Bukit, Kajang, would soon be moving to their own building.

The three-storey building costing RM1.8mil would be built in two phases and is expected to be completed by this year.

RKK was first established in June 1990 as a home for underprivileged, abused and abandoned children who were in dire need of food, shelter and education.

Bryan Perera, the national vice-president of the St. Vincent De Paul (SVPD) Society of Malaysia, said with one child in the beginning, the number grew over the years.

"With the growing number of children, a bigger place was needed. The management acquired the land needed and the building will have a built-up area of 18,000 sq ft," said Perera.

He added the current buildings — a boys' and a girls' wing — are crowded.

Phase 1 would see a three-storey building built on vacant land and Phase 2 would see a new building on the land presently occupied by one of the two bungalows.

"Presently we can accommodate 40 children but with the new building, we can house 60 children," said Perera.

He added RKK is a non-profit welfare organisation and one of the 10 homes under Yayasan Ozanam so they had embarked on a fundraising campaign to provide the children a better living environment.

He said the Ozanam homes were run based on public and corporate donations and managed by volunteers to keep administrative costs at a minimum.

President and council member A. Vegabalan said since its inception, RKK has seen more than 250 children of all races and religions pass through



**Arduous task:** Perera (right) explaining the two-phase project to Vegabalan (centre) and home administrator John Santana.

its doors.

"Education has been our priority. We took children out of poverty, gave them education and prepared them for the outside world. We are proud to note all our children have at least completed secondary education and a number of them have gone to college," added Vegabalan.

RKK is now appealing for donations, either in cash, in kind or in expertise towards the completion of the new building complex.

"We are starting the ground-breaking ceremony in a few months. We have RM300,000 to start with, a long way from our target of RM1.8mil," said Vegabalan.

To donate, call 03-8736 7877 (John Santana) or e-mail rumahhkk@gmail.com

All contributions in cash is tax exempted.



**Volunteers needed:** Students from Universiti Putra Malaysia conducting games and other activities for the children.

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