

# News Release

For immediate release  
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## **Manulife Malaysia provides in-kind grants worth RM100,000 to assist communities in need**

**KUALA LUMPUR** – Manulife Malaysia has launched its inaugural MY Community Grant, an initiative that provides in-kind grants worth up to **RM100,000 to organisations who strive to make every day better for communities in Malaysia**. The MY Community Grant applications were received throughout the months of April to May 2021 that saw over 100 applicants.

Organisations providing social services and their beneficiaries, especially vulnerable communities, have been impacted by a reduction in funding due to the evolving nature of the pandemic. This, in turn, has impacted the level of support these organisations can give to assist and empower communities in need.

Manulife Malaysia has since given grants of up to RM100,000 to the following ten shortlisted organisations:

- Pertubuhan Alam Sekitar EcoKnights Kuala Lumpur dan Selangor (EcoKnights);
- Association of Science, Technology and Innovation (ASTI);
- PanJam Food Rescue;
- KRT Petaling Street;
- Hopes Malaysia;
- Fly Technology Agriculture Sdn. Bhd.;
- Green Growth Asia Foundation;
- The MareCet Research Organisation;
- Persatuan Restu Amal Jasa Malaysia; and,
- Kelab Kebajikan Pendidikan Explore.

These organisations were chosen based on their strategic alignment with Manulife’s sustainability strategy focus areas: health and wellbeing, inclusive economic opportunities, and environmental sustainability.

Aaron Bosuang, Public Relations Executive, Hopes Malaysia, a Sabah-based welfare association, noted that the pandemic resurgence this past year has made lives challenging for rural families and care homes that experienced a lack of food aid.

“This grant has not only supported our local rural farming families, but also provided essential fresh food aid to over five care centres that were in need, touching countless lives of all ages. Before receiving this assistance, our local care centres lived in constant worry about their next meal due to decreased donations. Thank you Manulife Malaysia for believing in our team and supporting us in serving the underprivileged,” said Bosuang.

Dr. Louisa Ponnampalam, Executive Director and Co-Founder of The MareCet Research Organisation, an NGO dedicated to research and conservation of marine mammals in the country, noted the grant will enable MareCet to build a solar-powered Nature Gazebo to inculcate and foster eco-learning activities for children.

“We are grateful this grant will support the Nature Gazebo project that helps boost MareCet’s commitment to local community development for environmental conservation,” said Dr. Ponnampalam.

“Providing a helping hand to our communities, especially in challenging times like this, is part of Manulife Malaysia’s commitment as an active and caring corporate citizen in Malaysia. The MY Community Grant came about to enable a targeted yet wide reach to the communities in which we operate, enabling the organisations that support them to fulfil their objectives of helping and empowering those in need throughout the country,” said Vibha Coburn, Group Chief Executive Officer, Manulife Malaysia. “It has been heartening to witness the impact and reach that this project has translated into as we give back to our community by supporting them to live every day better.”



*Recipients of fresh food aid that were distributed by Hopes Malaysia in Sabah with the in-kind fund received from The MY Community Grant.*



*The MY Community Grant enables The MareCet Research Organisation to continue its research and conservation of marine mammals in the country. Seen here is one of the organisation’s outreach programme to educate the society through ‘Whales-on-the-Wheels’.*

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### **About Manulife Malaysia**

Manulife Holdings Berhad is part of Canada-based Manulife Financial Corporation. Through its subsidiary companies, Manulife Malaysia offers an innovative range of financial protection, health and wealth



management products and services to meet different customer needs. Manulife Malaysia currently serves the needs of over 280,000 policyholders and wealth management customers. Manulife Holdings Berhad has been listed on the Main Board of Bursa Malaysia since 1984. As at 30 June 2021, its assets under management were over RM13 billion. To learn more about Manulife Malaysia, visit: [www.manulife.com.my](http://www.manulife.com.my).

### **About Manulife**

Manulife Financial Corporation is a leading international financial services provider that helps people make their decisions easier and lives better. With our global headquarters in Toronto, Canada, we operate as Manulife across our offices in Canada, Asia, and Europe, and primarily as John Hancock in the United States. We provide financial advice, insurance, and our global wealth and asset management segment, Manulife Investment Management, serves individuals, institutions and retirement plan members worldwide. At the end of 2020, we had more than 37,000 employees, over 118,000 agents, and thousands of distribution partners, serving over 30 million customers. As of June 30, 2021, we had CAD\$1.3 trillion (US\$1.1 trillion) in assets under management and administration, and in the previous 12 months we made \$31.3 billion in payments to our customers. Our principal operations are in Asia, Canada and the United States where we have served customers for more than 155 years. We trade as 'MFC' on the Toronto, New York, and the Philippine stock exchanges and under '945' in Hong Kong.

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