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**KP House - Centre of Attraction among Kuala Pahar**

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Kuala Pahang House (KP House) was an old house, abandoned and left to rot. However, it is now turned into a one-stop-centre for all kinds of activities that brings benefits to the community in Kampung Kuala Pahang.

Things have changed in the area. At daytime, the place is utilised by adults comprising parents who take their children for medical check-ups, carried out together with Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Health Centre. This is conducted by the Health Department (JHEPA) involving volunteers who are UMP students.

At night time, the place is used by children who do revisions and attend extra classes. These activities are conducted by the Health Department (JHEPA) involving volunteers who are UMP students.

During weekends, the interactive group programme is held and it is an initiative under the Bridge of Love, UMP Student Club and UMP Advanced Education.

On efforts to instil interest in the subjects of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, UMP has implemented the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Programme implemented under the Faculty of Electrical & Electronics Engineering (FKEE) Innovation Development and Entrepreneurship Network Department (ICoN).

According to Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dato' Dr. Yuserrie Zainuddin, the youngsters and community in the area.

“The conducive setting made it comfortable and fun for the children to study in a venue that was different from their usual learning environment.”

“We are excited to see 120 students who turned up to attend the extra classes that are held for free. They are also from nearby villages such as Kampung Marhum.”

“We also want to promote healthy living among the locals and to address the matter, University Health Centre has implemented a health awareness programme called, ‘*Jom Sihat Wehh*’. The objective is to enhance health awareness among the community.”

Dato' Dr. Yuserrie also said the university and the Islamic Centre and Human Development (PIMPIN) plan to offer religious classes especially for the womenfolk.

University Health Centre Director, Dr. Norhila Abdul Karim said response to the health awareness programme, many people turned up for the event.

She added that the strategic location of KP House made it easier for the people, young and old, to participate. The event was supported by the Pekan Health Office, Village Community Management Council, Pekan Hospital Blood Bank Unit, Kuala Pahang Health Centre and UMP.

One of the participants, Noraziah Nordin, 42, said the programme provided the opportunity for her to learn how to prepare healthy menu that she could cook for her family.

The activities carried out are part of the efforts implemented under the Facelift D’Kuala Programme that aims to revitalize the identity of Kuala Pahang which is a fishing village, as well as to bring more meaning to UMP presence in the area.

Other than the physical aspects of the programme such as giving new coats of paints and doing repair work, the programme also infuses modern technology into their daily lives such as conducting the fertigation farming project, installing modern landscape of the people.

The next phase will involve an awareness programme on education and hygiene, aimed at helping them to improve their living standards.

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