

# Temple gives Wesak Day funds to 10 charities



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Sian Chye Tong Temple chief Eddie Khoo (third left, in front) and Loh (red T-shirt) with the recipients at the temple in Ayer Itam.

IN a bid to help charitable organisations cushion the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, Sian Chye Tong Temple in Ayer Itam, Penang, donated RM8,000 to 10 charitable organisations.

The temple's youth section initiated the donation drive called the 'Wesak Day 2021 Charity Donations'.

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“Due to the many kind devotees and well-wishers who supported our efforts, we were able to raise a good amount of funds,” Loh said.

He added that as most charitable organisations were facing a difficult time, the temple’s youth section wanted to help them.

“We believe most are unable to cover their operating expenses, especially with less support from the public in view of the pandemic,” he said.

He added that they donated RM1,000 each to five organisations and RM600 each to five others.

“We hope this will be helpful so that they can in turn support the community continuously,” said Loh.

The organisations receiving RM1,000 each were Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital, Peace and Harmony Home, Penang Pure Lotus Hospice of Compassion, Penang Fo Yi Haemodialysis Society and Persatuan Kebajikan Anak-Anak OKU Taman Island.

The organisations receiving RM600 each were Eden Handicap Service Centre Sdn Bhd, The Salvation Army, Penang Cheshire Home, Persatuan Rumah Cahaya Harapan Pulau Pinang and Pertubuhan Kebajikan Insan Penyayang Pulau Pinang.

Peace and Harmony Home founder Tan Swee Ban, who received the RM1,000 donation at the ceremony, said the funds would help them manage some of their expenses.

“We currently have 28 residents and we have lost some 80% of public donations since the start of the pandemic.

“We are being very thrifty these days.

“Our monthly expenses come to an average of RM22,000.

“We had to reduce the number of our workers from seven to four,” he said.

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