KOTA SAMARAHAN: More than 200 needy people in this district received a total of RM24,000 in Raya goodies from the Women’s Organisation of UNIMAS (MASNITA).

The event held in conjunction with its annual breaking-offast at the Universiti of Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) campus here was attended by the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Higher Education Datuk Abdul Rahim Mohd Noor and UNIMAS’ Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Datuk Khairuddin Abdul Hamid.

Datuk Khairuddin in his speech disclosed that response to the event this year was encouraging with sponsorship received from corporate bodies and well wishers exceeding last year’s collection of RM14,000.

“The encouraging response augurs well for the needy as they can look forward to a merrier Hari Raya celebration,” he said and commended MASNITA for a job well done.

Datuk Abdul Rahim also lauded UNIMAS for encouraging its staff members to undertake community activities which reflect the university’s corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Meanwhile, MASNITA President, Datin Dayang Mariani Abang Zain in her welcoming speech said the event was aimed at fostering cordial relations among the members as well as to forge closer ties with the needy in the community.

“We have been organising this event since 2004 and had given away similar assistance to the less fortunate during Gawai, Chinese New Year and Christmas,” she said of the association’s annual charity activities.

Among this year’s recipients were 27 needy villagers who received Zakat Asnaf, two children from Yayasan Salam Malaysia, 23 trainees from Samarahan Rehabilitation Centre, 42 Maahad Tahfiz students from Madrasah Darul Ulum Islamiah, athletes from the state contingent of the Special Olympics, 65 needy students and six staff members of UNIMAS.

Three families of the university staff who died while on duty were also given financial aid during the event.

Source: Sarawak Tribune