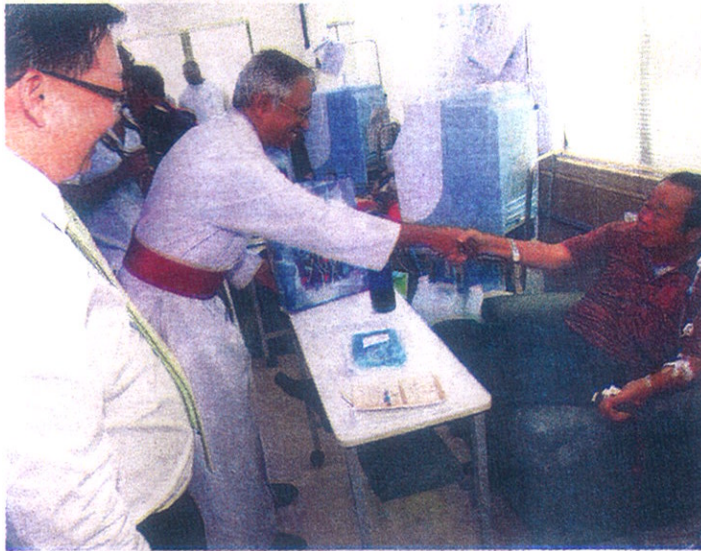


The STAR 9/9/2010

Society continues raising funds for dialysis centre

For your benefit:

Lee (left) and Pakiam greeting dialysis patient Chan Yong Kuay, 63, who was undergoing treatment at the new centre.



MORE fundraising efforts are under way for the Good Health Dialysis Centre of the National Kidney Foundation (NKF).

Organised by the Society of St Vincent De Paul of the Conference of Sacred Heart (SSVPCSH), the funds will be used to buy additional machines for the new centre.

"Now we have 10 dialysis machines, each costing about RM40,000.

"It was bought using money raised through various activities as well as public and corporate donations," the society's president Adeline Joseph said.

She added that the centre was able to support up to 18 machines and the total cost so far including the construction of the building came up to about RM2mil.

"We have been organising fundraising projects since last year for the centre, which we consider as our pet project.

"Among the activities we have conducted

on the parish level are jumble sales and coffee mornings where parishioners bring food and drinks to sell," Adeline said.

NKF board of managers member Dr Lee Wan Tin said the centre was the 25th one run by them.

"There are about 20,000 dialysis patients in the country and the number is increasing.

"Diabetes is one of the causes of kidney failure therefore it is important to treat it," Lee said.

At the centre's opening ceremony, Kuala Lumpur Archbishop Tan Sri Reverend Murphy Pakiam said reaching out to the sick and poor was a way of enriching one's life.

The centre located in Lorong Satu of Kampung Pandan, Kuala Lumpur, provides government-subsidised dialysis treatment for the poor.