



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

#### **BUILDING HOMES, SHAPING LIVES**

#### **Pfizer Malaysia, together with Habitat for Humanity, complete a building project for a plantation worker and his family**

**TANJUNG SEPAT, 14 August 2014** – Over 11 employees of Pfizer Malaysia came together today with Habitat for Humanity to complete a home for a plantation worker and his family. Dubbed the Pfizer Sweat Equity, volunteers from Pfizer Malaysia repainted the house of En. Anuar bin Asip, who lives in the two-bedroom, made of zinc and wood home with his wife and son.

Prior to this, En. Anuar, who works as a palm oil lorry driver with a seasonal monthly income of RM1,500, and his family were living in a termite-infested shack with no doors. With this in mind, Pfizer Malaysia kicked off the Pfizer Sweat Equity Project earlier this year by rebuilding En. Anuar's dilapidated home. The first phase of the house building project took place in conjunction with International Women's Day on 8<sup>th</sup> March where 15 women volunteered to be on the rebuilding team. This is the second phase where Pfizer volunteers took part in painting the house. In total 26 employee volunteered for this program.

"This project has been an enriching experience for the Pfizer colleagues involved. It's a labor of love to complete this home and provide better living conditions for En. Anuar and his family. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> Pfizer Family Build project in collaboration with Habitat with Humanity" said Ms. Noor Yang Azwar Kamarudin, Director, Corporate Affairs, Health & Value, Pfizer Malaysia. "What is truly special at Pfizer Malaysia is that employees take the lead in identifying and driving the initiatives they want to do under the umbrella of SWAT. The management empowers them to take a hands-on approach in the Corporate Social Responsibility programmes by contributing their time and talent for a greater cause that is: Working Together for a Healthier World."

Habitat's Urban Home Build and Restore program is an effort of Habitat for Humanity Malaysia to quickly address the needs of those Malaysians whose housing is inadequate and requires urgent attention. These are families facing tremendous financial difficulties that are unable to upgrade or in some instances, rebuild their home due to economic restrictions. As part of this program, Habitat hopes to build and restore houses around Klang Valley that are currently in very deplorable conditions such as leaking roofs, poor sanitation, and unsafe conditions or when necessary partitions and extensions are required.

"Habitat for Humanity aims to transform lives by creating safe, secure and affordable homes," said Ms Susan Wong, National Programme Manager, Habitat for Humanity Malaysia. "To ensure that such goals become a reality, we partner with like-minded organisations to ensure the sustainability and

success of each project. We are happy to be able to partner with Pfizer Malaysia, who have invested not just money, but their time, skills and spirit of volunteerism.”

The Pfizer Sweat Equity Project falls under Pfizer Malaysia’s Sharing with a Touch (SWAT) programme. Conceptualised over five years ago, SWAT aims to encourage employees of Pfizer Malaysia to develop and implement sustainable programmes to assist disadvantaged communities. To date, SWAT has initiated several skills-transfer & capacity building programmes with similar NGOs such as United Voice and Malaysia Association of Deaf by conducting lessons in baking, photography, information technology and even jewellery making.

“Pfizer Malaysia is committed to recognising, retaining and developing talent by providing an avenue for employees to engage and give back to the community through projects such as this,” Ms Azwar explained. “Pfizer understands the importance of such programmes in contributing to the company’s success, as it plays a role in employee fulfilment and satisfaction.”

Administration Executive, Joanna Patrick who has been a regular volunteer with SWAT expressed her excitement in being a part of another SWAT initiative. “I’ve been involved in various SWAT projects- from celebrating Chinese New Year at old folks home to empowering the learning disabled simple income garnering skills. It is always a different experience with each programme that I participate in. I’m glad that Pfizer encourages its employees to be a part of such programmes. It evokes the feel-good factor in us”.

“Being a part of the SWAT programme has enriched my career with Pfizer Malaysia, making my journey here more meaningful” said Damaris Kiat, Manager, Corporate Affairs and Communications. “Pfizer has provided opportunities for my colleagues and I to go out there and positively impact society, communities and individuals – and all this during our usual weekday working hours too! At Pfizer, it’s not solely about going to work and making a living – it’s also about touching people’s lives in the process. I love the fact that we are literally making a difference. ”

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### **About Pfizer Malaysia**

Pfizer Malaysia is committed towards Working Together for a Healthier World™. At Pfizer, we apply science and our global resources to improve health and well-being at every stage of life. We strive to set the standard for quality, safety and value in the discovery, development and manufacturing of medicines for people and animals. Our diversified global health care portfolio includes human and animal biologic and small molecule medicines and vaccines, and many of the world's best-known consumer products. Every day, Pfizer colleagues work across developed and emerging markets to advance wellness, prevention, treatments and cures that challenge the most feared diseases of our time. Consistent with our responsibility as the world's leading biopharmaceutical company, we also collaborate with health care providers, governments and local communities to support and expand access to reliable, affordable health care around the world. For more than 150 years, Pfizer has worked to make a difference for all who rely on us. To learn more about our commitments, please visit us at [www.pfizer.com](http://www.pfizer.com).

## **About Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat for Humanity Malaysia is part of the global non-profit housing organization Habitat for Humanity International. Habitat's vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Anchored by the conviction that safe and affordable housing provides a critical foundation for breaking the cycle of poverty, Habitat for Humanity Malaysia works with partners, volunteers and families to build and repair homes in semi-urban and rural areas. It also conducts a financial education program and organizes community development activities.

Since 1998, Habitat Malaysia has served more than 200 families through its resource center in Kuala Lumpur and Kuching and Kota Kinabalu affiliates, and engaged more than 300 international and local volunteers. For more information, to donate or volunteer, please visit [hfhmalaysia.org](http://hfhmalaysia.org) or follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/HabitatforHumanityMalaysia](https://facebook.com/HabitatforHumanityMalaysia) and Twitter [@HFHMALAYSIA](https://twitter.com/HFHMALAYSIA).

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