

29 August 2020 (Saturday)

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PLANS by a non-governmental organisation (NGO) to build a better shelter to house strays in Seremban received a boost when it was given RM50,000 by property developer Matrix Concepts Holdings Bhd.

Furrykids Safehaven, set up in 2017 by a group of volunteers, plans to move to a 2.8ha area near Kuala Sawah from its current location in Mambau, to house a growing number of strays.

Its president A. Surevin Nair said the NGO needed some RM350,000 for the project and had already managed to raise RM190,000 through public donations.

"We hope to move to the new site within the next three months because the current one in Mambau is small and no longer conducive as it is now home to 1,865 dogs and puppies.

"This contribution from Matrix Concepts will surely motivate us to continue with the project," he said.

Surevin said the donation was also timely as the NGO's funds had almost dried up with fewer donations coming in due to the effects of Covid-19.

He explained that Furrykids Safehaven was also forced to relocate as residents living near the current shelter often complained of stench and incessant barking.

He highlighted that the NGO currently needed RM40,000 a

Animal rescue shelter gets RM50,000 boost

Donation from property developer helps sustain strays



Ho (second from left) handing over a mock cheque to Surevin (third from right) as Teo looks on. Also present is NGO advisor Siti Junaina Kasio (left).

month to run the shelter which included cost to vaccinate and neuter the animals, medication and workers' salaries.

He also expressed gratitude to the landowner where the current shelter was located, for charging a minimal rent.

Earlier, Surevin received a

cheque from Matrix Concepts group managing director Ho Kong Soon who was given a tour of the shelter.

The cheque presentation ceremony was witnessed by Negri Sembilan urban wellbeing, housing and local government and new village committee chairman

Teo Kok Seong.

Surevin said anyone who wished to donate to Furrykids Safehaven could find details on its Facebook and Instagram accounts.

"We desperately need funds and are hoping the public will help us so that we can do our best

for these strays," he added.

Ho said, "It is a noble effort by Furrykids Safehaven to ensure strays are protected and are able to live in a more conducive environment.

"We hope the public will also support the NGO by donating cash or adopting dogs brought to the shelter," he said.

He noted that the dogs at the shelter were healthy and well looked after.

He appealed to dog owners to be more responsible and not abandon their pets.

Teo said the state government had also identified a 0.4ha plot in a secluded area which would be used as a shelter-cum-trap-neuter-release centre.

"We have been collaborating with Furrykids for sometime now and have agreed to work on ways to resolve the problem of strays.

"I will also help the NGO to raise funds to build the new centre, which should be ready in the next few months," he added.