

Charity race reaches target early

8,000 embark on fitness journeys for cancer fundraiser



Ching says the contest enabled him to support a cause while keeping fit in a fun way.

OVER 8,000 runners across Malaysia rallied together to pledge their support for National Cancer Society Malaysia (NCSM) through District Race Malaysia by AIA Vitality.

Under this initiative, participants embarked on their personal fitness journey for a common cause.

The "Get Fit For Charity" contest, which took place from April 12 to May 16, saw a generous and selfless side of Malaysians as they ran, jogged and walked to help raise funds for NCSM.

Using the District app, they collected nearby virtual checkpoints or clocked in their distance by linking a GPS-supported wearable device to automatically receive points for every kilometre travelled.

With AIA Malaysia pledging RM1 for every 100 points scored, the public responded quickly to the challenge and hit five million points by May 4.

Participants reached the target well ahead of time, making the mission an overwhelming success.

This paved the way for AIA, who is the presenting sponsor for District Race Malaysia, to donate a cumulative total of

RM50,000 to NCSM to support its work of providing education, care and support services to people affected by cancer, as well as on raising public awareness.

Accountant Caason Ching, 41, said the contest gave him an opportunity to support a good cause and also get fit in a fun and engaging way.

"Getting outdoors and working out is good for mental health, at a time when this is a genuine concern as many are stuck at home most of the time now.

"I live in Subang Jaya and it's easier that we have checkpoints around my area, so I don't have to drive out to run," he said.

Ching has already amassed 240,000 points and is determined to get more.

"I hit 100,000 points back in March.

"My colleagues and I feel it is great fun," he said.

Lai Vinc Yuee's motivation to sign up was to work out while contributing towards a healthy cause.

"It's a unique run. Besides that, I get to see plenty of new places when I venture out.

"I try and run 20km to 29km each time I go out, so I have seen many new places

around my neighbourhood in Sri Petaling," said the 30-year-old, who has collected 84,000 points to date.

For takaful advisor and manager Fauzul Nizam, 40, the race gave him a good chance to sweat it out at his own convenience.

"I usually work out near my housing area in Wangsa Maju.

"It is great because I can do it with my wife and we can amass points collectively," he said.

The opportunity for Malaysians to participate in District Race Malaysia by AIA Vitality is still open as the digital event ends on June 30.

Download the app from <https://rebrand.ly/DistrictRaceMY>, the App Store or Google Play Store to join and start collecting points.

Any activity that garners 2,000+ points will receive one lucky draw entry and the grand prize lucky draw winner will drive away with a brand new Proton X50.

There are also over 40 contest prizes to be won, including Garmin watches and Adidas gear.

For details, visit www.exploredistrict.com/en/events/district-race-my-2021