

## News Release

### **UOB keeps the good going by raising record \$1.86 million for charities through the 2021 UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk**

*Colleagues and their families clock almost 80,000 active hours, raising funds to forge a sustainable future with the disadvantaged*



*Mr Wee Ee Cheong, UOB's Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (centre), and UOB senior leaders rally colleagues, their families and customers globally to support the community through the UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk*

**Vietnam, 12 October 2021** – UOB colleagues, their families and customers across 17 markets<sup>1</sup>, including Vietnam, united to raise a record \$1.86 million for charities through the Bank's flagship annual fund-raising event, the UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk. The funds raised will be donated to 25 charities<sup>2</sup> around the world to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and vulnerable communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

<sup>1</sup> The 17 markets are Australia, Brunei, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mainland China, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Vietnam

<sup>2</sup> Refer to Appendix for details of charities

In Vietnam, the money raised through the UOB Heartbeat Fund were used to donate canned food to Red Cross Ho Chi Minh City for 1,500 vulnerable families in 15 districts across the city that were hit hard by the fourth wave of COVID-19 outbreak. The funds also provided frontline medical staff working in the COVID-19 treatment unit at the University Medical Center Ho Chi Minh City with essential daily protection gear such as protection suits, surgical masks and gloves.

Mr Wee Ee Cheong, UOB's Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, said, "The giving nature of UOB colleagues, their families and customers has been the constant driving force behind our efforts to help those in need within our communities. In this time of exceptional challenges, I am heartened by and grateful to the UOB family and our customers for going the extra mile in this year's UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk. The record amount that we raised collectively will hopefully make a meaningful difference to the lives of those impacted by COVID-19, especially disadvantaged children and vulnerable members of our communities."

This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of UOB's annual flagship volunteerism and fundraising event and the second time it is being held virtually for participants globally to take part safely amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Building on last year's successful event, UOB expanded the participation criteria for this year's two-month virtual event to encourage colleagues and their families to accumulate active hours through various fitness activities including running, ball games, yoga and more. By enabling participants to choose their favourite physical activity, the UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk inspired colleagues to stay active for a good cause while taking care of their mental well-being amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The collective spirit of UOB colleagues saw participants clocking almost 80,000 active hours, surpassing the Bank's target by more than 50 per cent.

As part of UOB's commitment to forge a sustainable future, the Bank also launched the UOB Heartbeat Pledge to encourage colleagues to do good and to go green through thoughtful personal actions at home or at work. UOB colleagues contributed more than 3,700 pledges in July and August with the aim of conserving resources, reducing waste and uplifting communities which are aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. For example, some UOB employees have pledged to reduce their shower time by two minutes, potentially saving 1,785 litres of water each time, while others are committed towards

choosing energy efficient devices and household appliances, reducing unnecessary printing and acting with kindness and compassion.



*Mr Harry Loh, CEO of UOB Vietnam (right), and Mr Tran Truong Son, Chairperson of Red Cross Ho Chi Minh City (left) with the canned food and medical supplies ready for distribution*

Mr Tran Truong Son, Chairperson of Red Cross Ho Chi Minh City, said, “Although the city has gradually opened up and the current outbreak is coming under control, this fourth wave of infections has left many low-income families struggling to pay for necessities. The support from UOB Vietnam not only provides for the families in need, but also takes care of the healthcare workers on the battlefield. We are thankful to have UOB Vietnam’s continuous support to our communities.”

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– Ends –

**Appendix: 2021 UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk beneficiaries**

<b>Market</b>	<b>In Support Of</b>	<b>Impact</b>
UOB China	<b>Huji Foundation and Amity Foundation</b>	Funds raised will provide education for 52 disadvantaged children and their families as well as daily supplies and support for individuals affected by the floods in Henan province
	<b>Shanghai Helin Art Promotion Institution and Shanghai United Foundation</b>	Funds raised will provide art education for 300-450 children and six teachers in several schools
UOB Hong Kong	<b>Children's Cancer Foundation</b>	Funds raised will provide support to 45 children cancer patients and survivors
UOB Indonesia	<b>Mari Berbagi Seni Foundation</b>	Funds raised will provide art therapy and art education to 100 children from orphanages for six months
UOB Malaysia	<b>Food Aid Foundation</b>	Funds raised will provide essential groceries and toiletries to 800 children from 20 children homes for 6 months
	<b>Yayasan Generasi Gemilang</b>	Funds raised will support 100 students from low income families with cash aid for one year only if they continue their education and attendance in school
	<b>SOLS 24/7</b>	Funds raised will provide 40 youths a second chance to complete a one-year long education at Solar Academy by SOLS 24/7, designed to prepare students for a technical career in the solar industry
UOB Singapore	<b>Rare Disease Fund</b>	Funds raised will provide long-term financial support to Singapore Citizens suffering from rare genetic diseases, where medication is often very costly and required for life
	<b>Children's Wishing Well</b>	Funds raised will enable children and youths from more than 100 families who are on the Ministry of Education's Financial Assistance Scheme to request for something they need either for themselves or for their families,

		from which assistance is not available from government funding schemes
	<b>The Red Pencil</b>	Funds raised will provide art therapy for at least 100 children from low-income families who are facing overwhelming life circumstances which they have difficulty expressing in words. The funds will also enable The Red Pencil to set up their first standalone centre at a Housing and Development Board site to provide better services to children through schools, foster homes, family service centres and community agencies
	<b>President's Challenge</b>	Funds raised will provide parents and children from at least 120 disadvantaged families with training in digital skills, parent mediation skills and preventative cyber wellness over eight runs of a six-week workshop series
UOB Thailand	<b>Thai Red Cross Society</b>	Funds raised will provide 7,700 sets of relief kits and daily necessities, including rice, canned food, instant noodles, garbage bags, soap, shampoo and detergent, to disadvantaged individuals
	<b>Emergency Medical Foundation of Thailand (EMFT)</b>	Funds raised will help to offset the cost of gasoline for the transportation of around 250 COVID-19 patients who need treatment
	<b>Bangrak Vaccination and Health Center</b>	Funds raised will support the centre in assisting the government to accelerate the nation's COVID-19 immunisation programme.
UOB Vietnam	<b>Red Cross – Ho Chi Minh City</b>	Funds raised will provide 13,680 food cans to vulnerable families with children and medical supplies for frontline medical staff
UOB Brunei	<b>YASKA (Yayasan Kanser Kanak-Kanak)</b>	Funds raised will help 10 disadvantaged children to meet their basic needs such as clothes, food, books and toys

UOB Korea	<b>Good Neighbors</b>	Funds raised will support around 60 vulnerable children and families who face economic and psychological difficulties due to the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic
UOB United Kingdom (London)	<b>Great Ormond Street Hospital Children Charity</b>	Funds raised will provide play items and parent accommodation for families of children with critical illness
UOB India (Mumbai)	<b>Kashtakari Panchayat</b>	Funds raised will support the education for the children of 50 waste pickers who have been affected by COVID-19 for one year, including the cost of school fees, books, travel, uniform and others
UOB Japan (Tokyo)	<b>Chance For Children</b>	Funds raised will support the children from 12 families through a month-long learning programme on digital literacy
UOB Canada (Vancouver)	<b>Covenant House Vancouver</b>	Funds raised will provide a safe house with food and shelter to homeless youth affected by the COVID-19 pandemic
UOB USA (New York and Los Angeles)	<b>Art Start</b>	Funds raised will go towards organising workshops for approximately 60 youths
UOB Philippines (Manila)	<b>World Vision Philippines</b>	Funds raised will provide Back-to-School kits to 202 students
UOB Australia (Sydney)	<b>Barnados Australia</b>	Funds raised will support 40 disadvantaged children with tutorial lessons and the purchase of essentials books
UOB Taiwan (Taipei)	<b>World Vision Taiwan</b>	Funds raised will go towards purchasing tablets and laptops for 14 disadvantaged children in elementary school and junior high school for their digital learning

**About United Overseas Bank Vietnam**

United Overseas Bank (Vietnam) Limited (UOB Vietnam) commenced operations officially on 6 August 2018. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB), a leading bank in Asia with a global network of around 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America.

UOB established its presence in Vietnam with the opening of a representative office in 1993 and was the first Singapore bank to launch a branch in the country in 1995. Today, UOB Vietnam offers a range of personal and institutional financial services to both Vietnamese and overseas customers across the country backed by the seamless connectivity offered through UOB's regional network. In 2019, UOB Vietnam expanded into northern Vietnam in 2019 with a branch in Hanoi.

Over more than eight decades, generations of UOB employees have carried through the entrepreneurial spirit, the focus on long-term value creation and an unwavering commitment to do what is right for our customers and our colleagues.

We believe in being a responsible financial services provider and we are committed to making a difference in the lives of our stakeholders and in the communities in which we operate. Just as we are dedicated to helping our customers manage their finances wisely and to grow their businesses, UOB is steadfast in our support of social development, particularly in the areas of art, children and education.

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