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**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **Empowering Malaysia's Future: The Transformative CSR Impact of American Businesses**

**Kuala Lumpur, November 26, 2024** – American businesses in Malaysia exemplify leadership through their impactful Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, making a significant and lasting difference in local communities. These companies prioritize more than just profits or margins; they are committed to enhancing Malaysia's communities, advancing sustainable development, and fostering inclusivity. Their efforts are vital to driving the country's long-term prosperity.

At AMCHAM's Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 26, 2024, graced by the presence of the U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia, His Excellency Edgard D. Kagan, 67 member companies, including 48 American firms, were recognized for their outstanding CSR contributions through the MY AMCHAM CARES program. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is deeply embedded in the DNA of American companies, and their contributions continue to shape a more sustainable and inclusive future for Malaysia. This recognition highlights the unwavering commitment of AMCHAM members to driving positive change and underscores their vital role in Malaysia's long-term development.

"It is impressive to see the commitment of American businesses in Malaysia, which demonstrate integrity through their corporate social responsibility efforts. Their work reflects their values and helps transform local communities, promote sustainability, and advance inclusivity. This impact will shape Malaysia's future and contribute to the progress of the ASEAN region," stated U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia, His Excellency Edgard D. Kagan.

"The evolution of MY AMCHAM CARES is nothing short of remarkable," stated Dato' Siobhan Das, CEO of AMCHAM. "What began with recognizing the approach to CSR by a small group of companies in 2017 has grown into a dynamic platform where businesses from diverse sectors actively showcase how these programs impact local communities. Our framework enables companies to reflect on how CSR is delivered, not just what activities are undertaken. All of which goes toward creating sustainable, measurable change, positioning them as front-runners in crafting the future of Malaysia."

In 2020, during the peak of Malaysia's COVID-19 crisis, 49 companies—including 46 American firms—stepped forward through the MY AMCHAM CARES COVID-19 Initiative, raising an impressive USD 1.65 million to support healthcare workers, hospitals, clinics, and



essential services, alongside vulnerable communities such as refugees and indigenous groups. Their rapid response and significant contributions were pivotal in preserving the resilience of Malaysia's healthcare system, showcasing the profound commitment and impact of American businesses during one of the most challenging periods in recent history. Their efforts, often behind the scenes, played a crucial role in providing essential support to those in need.

Next year, Malaysia will take on a leadership role in ASEAN. In adopting the ASEAN Community Vision 2045, businesses are urged to align their CSR efforts with the region's long-term objectives. This Vision emphasizes sustainability, inclusivity, and shared economic growth, enabling American companies to support Malaysia's development and shape ASEAN's collective future.

"The ASEAN Community Vision 2045 represents a significant milestone for our region," affirmed Antony Lee, Chairman of AMCHAM. "By prioritizing sustainability and social impact today, AMCHAM members, including American businesses in Malaysia, are able to strategically position ESG principles to influence the direction of the region. Their contributions are essential to achieving the inclusive and sustainable growth envisioned by ASEAN."

In 2025 and beyond, businesses are well-positioned to succeed by seamlessly integrating environmental sustainability, social equity, and community development into their CSR strategies. This alignment with evolving regional priorities will enhance their competitive edge in the global marketplace.

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**ABOUT AMCHAM MALAYSIA**

The American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) was founded in 1978 as an international, non-profit, private-sector business association. It comprises more than 1600 members representing about 300 American, Malaysian and other international companies with strong ties to American business. The Chamber is a member of the AmChams of Asia Pacific.



### **ABOUT MY AMCHAM CARES**

MY AMCHAM CARES is a core program at the American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) that celebrates and promotes best practices within the corporate citizenship and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs implemented by our members. It is a forum through which members can share achievements and experiences that are meaningful to them and support one another on more technical aspects of implementing and governing CSR programs in order to achieve the highest standards and greatest impact through their environmental, social, and governance initiatives. Through MY AMCHAM CARES, the Chamber encourages members to reflect upon their existing programs and to consider how projects implemented at the local level can be strengthened and best contribute to national and global development goals.

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