A TRADER at a European asset management firm here who has quit his job is using the occasion to raise money for the Singapore Children’s Society.

Mr Darren Tay, 36, shot off a farewell e-mail to 250 of his colleagues and friends, pledging to donate 11 euros (S$22.90) to the charity for every response he got back.

He decided on 11 euros based on the number of years he had worked at the firm.

About 100 e-mail replies have flooded his in-box so far.

Ten of his colleagues have even pledged 22 euros each, over and above his donations.

Mr Tay, who hopes to donate close to S$10,000, explained why he picked the society: “I would like to invest in the future of our children and help provide opportunities for them to succeed.”

This is not his only act of generosity.

He has pledged 15 per cent of his monthly take-home pay to the charity for several years now.

During that time, he earned more than S$120,000 a year.

Charity is a way of life for his family; His mother takes care of elderly folk in Bukit Merah on weekends while his air-stewardess wife, 36, often offers free food and drinks to construction workers.

Mr Tay is also thrifty.

He and his wife live in a 650 sq ft, one-room apartment and use public transport to get to and from work.

He has received several job offers, but has decided to pursue charity work – perhaps teaching school children in Cambodia – for the next three months.