To Daniel, change is ever a constant in his life. When his mother sits him down for yet another breaking news on why they can no longer stay in this place, it does not shock him one bit. It is time for another round of packing – and by now he has learnt to travel light. Another round of worrying if he is able to finish his homework in time, and whether by then there will be a roof over their heads.

Ian, a student from Raffles Institution (Junior College), often ponders on the bigger things he can do given his academic potential. Knowledge is power, and to share it is a greater form of love and care. During one of the school assembly periods, Heartware Network took the stage to introduce a flagship project: the Tuition Programme 2015. First inaugurated in 2009, the programme reaches out to children of incarcerated parents and / or from low-income families. Coming from a rather privileged background, Ian believes that this programme will help open up his heart towards the underserved. It is a timely opportunity for him.

The story of Wan Mohd Daniel, 12, and Ian Cheng, 17, is real and it rings true in the hearts of the tutors and tutees Heartware Network's Tuition Programme engages.

Under the assistance of Heartware Network's Tuition Programme, Daniel was fortunate to receive weekly one-to-one tuition sessions from March to September 2015. As tuition was perceived as an unaffordable privilege given his family's financial woes, this opportunity was truly a dream come true for Daniel. He was paired up with Ian - a volunteer tutor from Raffles Institution who had patiently guided him with his homework.

When Ian first met Daniel, he saw a boy with a keen attitude to learn despite carrying heavy emotional baggage from home. Though Daniel would get restless at times, Ian was patient in re-directing his tutee’s focus back on to the day’s lesson. Like a big brother, he imparted not only academic knowledge to Daniel, but also important values such as confidence and perseverance. Through his dedication, Ian pushed Daniel to greater heights.

Daniel and Ian's story finished on a high note at the end of the year when Daniel receive an award for ‘Best in Foundation English’ in the Primary Six level during Anderson Primary School's Annual Speech Day. Loud cheers from his peers and teachers erupted in the school hall as he strode up the stage with pride and confidence. It was great witnessing the transformation of a boy wrought with worry into a greater individual.

Collaborating since 2013 with Heartware Network, Mrs Tan Wie Pin, principal of Anderson Primary School is greatly supportive of the Tuition Programme. “The pupils received tuition from the volunteer tutors and we have seen improvement in their studies. We also saw remarkable growth in the students as they learnt values such as respect and how to work with others.”

Heartware Network Tuition Programme hopes to reach out to more less privileged students through partnerships with schools and organizations. This, in the efforts of young people rising up to the challenge in being community champions, dedicated to a cause.