

Empowered Lives

from d'Klub Mentoring Programme



COUNTING THE DAYS TO D'KLUB

Nurul, ten-years-old

I love d'Klub so much that I count down the days to Saturday. My *ibu* said she noticed a change in my behavior and attitude after a few months in Macpherson d'Klub. She shared with Aunty Michelle, the staff at d'Klub, that she sees me as a much happier girl now. I am happier because the mentors have taught me to manage my emotions during our character development lessons. As my family can ill afford private tuition for me, *ibu* is very grateful for the free tuition at d'Klub that helps me cope with my schoolwork.

BUILDING COURAGE

Devan, ten-years-old

When I first entered d'Klub last year, I was very quiet. When my friends asked me to join in their games and activities, I would say no and simply stand aside to watch them play. I was too shy to make conversation with anyone, but I would keep coming back to d'Klub every Saturday, because I liked the friendly atmosphere there. The volunteers would still come up to me and talk to me, even though I remained so reserved. I felt welcome in d'Klub, and started to grow comfortable with the people there. Now, I say yes to my friends when they invite me to play with them, and I no longer avoid interacting with people. In fact, I have even found the courage to represent my group during activities and speak in front of others!



GIVING A HAND

Jian Wei, 11-years-old

Life for my mom is especially challenging now. With dad recently hospitalized for an operation, she is the sole bread winner of our family. My older brother is unable to help with the household finances, as he has not been able to get a job since being released from prison for drug-related offences. So my family is very grateful for the food rations that CCSS has given us to tide over this difficult period. Mom also worries less for me, now that I am receiving tuition and guidance from d'Klub volunteer mentors every Saturday.

LEARNING AND IMPROVING

Xiu Fen, ten-years-old

I am a Primary Four student in Stamford d'Klub with a learning disability. I can only manage Primary One level work. In my first few weeks in d'Klub, I remember coming to the centre with messy and greasy hair. I did not know how to take care of my own personal hygiene then. With an absent *ma* and a *pa* who is always busy working, I had no one to teach me. Once, my hair was so badly tangled that it took a volunteer and Aunty Michelle almost an hour to give my hair a good wash and brush through. After that incident, Aunty Michelle suggested to my *pa* that I keep short hair for easy maintenance. I like my new short hairstyle! I have also improved in my schoolwork after receiving guidance from the volunteers. I am proud to say that I can now read short sentences and solve simple mathematical problems by myself!



CCSS's d'Klub Mentoring Programme provides free tuition and character development for children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Two d'Klub programmes are run every Saturday at Stamford Primary School (Stamford d'Klub) and Blk 35 Circuit Road (Macpherson d'Klub). There are currently 55 children and 45 volunteers in the programme.

Note: To protect the identity of the children, their names have been changed.



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