

Teo Sie Lee Bursary Changes Student's Life, Twice Over

Gifts from private donors like the Nehemiah Foundation help establish bursaries which provide relief for SIT students in need

Ms Jasmine Low, from the Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Food & Human Nutrition degree programme (Newcastle University), is a recipient of the Teo Sie Lee Bursary two years in a row.

The financial support she receives from this bursary means that the 21-year-old no longer has to take a loan from relatives to pay for her school fees. It also means that her family is now able to afford the long-term medication that her brother needs to manage his epilepsy.

Private bursaries like the Teo Sie Lee Bursary are instrumental in helping financially disadvantaged students at the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT). Established earlier this year, it was made possible with a gift from the Nehemiah Foundation which recognises education as playing a vital role in the social development of any country, although it focuses mainly on religious and health-related causes.

Ms Low has always dreamt of being a researcher and hopes to save enough to further her education. She said, "I am able to stand on equal grounds with my peers because of the donor of the Teo Sie Lee Bursary. I am unable to aptly describe my gratitude but all I can say is, I am still able to pursue my studies because of the donor. Thank you very much."

"The immense amount of potential I saw in Jasmine and her incredible zest for life, despite her family's circumstances, moved me vastly," said Ms Sharon Chua, a Philanthropy Advisor and Executive for the Nehemiah Foundation who met Ms Low during the financial aid interviews. "To be able to lend our support to such a strong and bright individual – it is an honour and privilege for us."