“Before I started volunteering, I saw society in a more generalized and surface-level way. I was aware of social issues, but I mostly understood them through news, books, or indoor discussions. Volunteering gave me firsthand experience and a deeper, more personal perspective on these issues. Now, I see society as more interconnected; every action, privilege, or disadvantage affects someone else. I’ve realized that structural inequalities run deeper than they seem, and change requires consistent effort, not just one-time aid. Meeting people from different backgrounds showed me the resilience and strength of these communities, but also the systemic barriers they face.” ~ Nadiya Sarwar

“Young children, especially girls, are forced to drop out of schools after the age of 10-14 and are forced to work as maids or help with the house work. We could blame the families for not providing education to their children because of which they don't have good jobs & suffer financially, but if we dig deeper we realise why the family couldn't provide education.”
~Riddhi Aggarwal

“Initially when we started there was a dilemma of understanding the community because we have always been isolated from such places as they are supposed to be 'dirty' and 'uncivilised'.” ~Aaliya Gulati

“At times, when we have just a limited supply of stuff (food, clothes, books), how do we decide who gets it and conduct a fair distribution amongst all? Most importantly, even though we might do it out of empathy and our societal duty to give back to the community, could they think that we are exploiting, manipulating, and using their hardships and situations for selfish purposes (institutional goals, college resumes, etc)?”, ~ Jia Juneja.

“Personally, I love going for community service as it gives us the time to engage with people who might be suffering from some issues that we get to know about while interviewing or surveying them. The library is loved by all the children, they go there, draw, read, study etc. The events are organized for every occasion which sets a very good impact on the kids and their family members. The surveys have helped us understand family conditions and we've helped them as much as we could by donation drives of clothes, toys and wheelchairs. It was a great experience with the COHAS members! I would love to visit them more often, the kids over there have become my friends too as we played and engaged together every time we met them,” ~ Saiba Chugh.

“Something new which everyone should be exposed to. You get to work with people from different backgrounds and know their perspective. You start taking ownership and responsibility for things happening around you. You get to work with children whom it's not easy to explain things but we eventually did and that's also one skill I enhanced during community service. Also, I learnt that don't give false hopes by saying or promising something to the people there if you can't really make it happen.” ~Aditi