



# Mayo College Girls School Community Service

## “Sahyog”

Uniting hearts, transforming lives.





Standing (from left to right):

Prisha Singhal  
(Prayas)

Simran Aneja  
(Jagriti)

Yashasvi Jhunjhunwala  
(Jagriti)

Ananya Beriwal  
(Asha)

Suditi Mehta  
(Asha)

Surabhi Aivalli  
(Sparsh)

Mumal Kanwar  
(Prayas)

Mansha Narang  
(Khushi)

Ashvi Natha  
(Khushi)

Sitting (left to right) :

Mrs. Mugdha Mukhopadhyia  
(Asha)

Mrs. Raina Sharma  
(Prayas)

Mrs. Meenu Parasar  
(Jagriti)

Mrs. Lata Gupta  
(Sparsh)

Mrs. Supreet Bakshi  
(Officiating Principal)

Mrs. Rakhee Mishra  
(Co-Ordinator)

Mrs. Deepti Verma  
(Khushi)

Mrs. Nisha Choudhary  
(Asha)

Mrs. Ambika Rajbongshi  
(Khushi)

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# Co-ordinator's note

In a world that often emphasizes individual success, it is heartening to see the power of collective action and community engagement come to life. Community service, a cornerstone of our school's values, not only fosters personal growth and empathy but also strengthens the bonds that tie us together as a community. This journal is a testament to the countless hours, unwavering dedication, and the profound impact that community service has on our lives, our school, and the broader society.

Community service isn't merely an extracurricular activity; it's a manifestation of our commitment to making a difference. It's an opportunity to reach beyond the classroom walls, into the hearts of those in need, and create ripples of change that extend far beyond our campus. This journal serves as a chronicle of our experiences, an exploration of the challenges we've faced, and the triumphs we've celebrated along this journey.

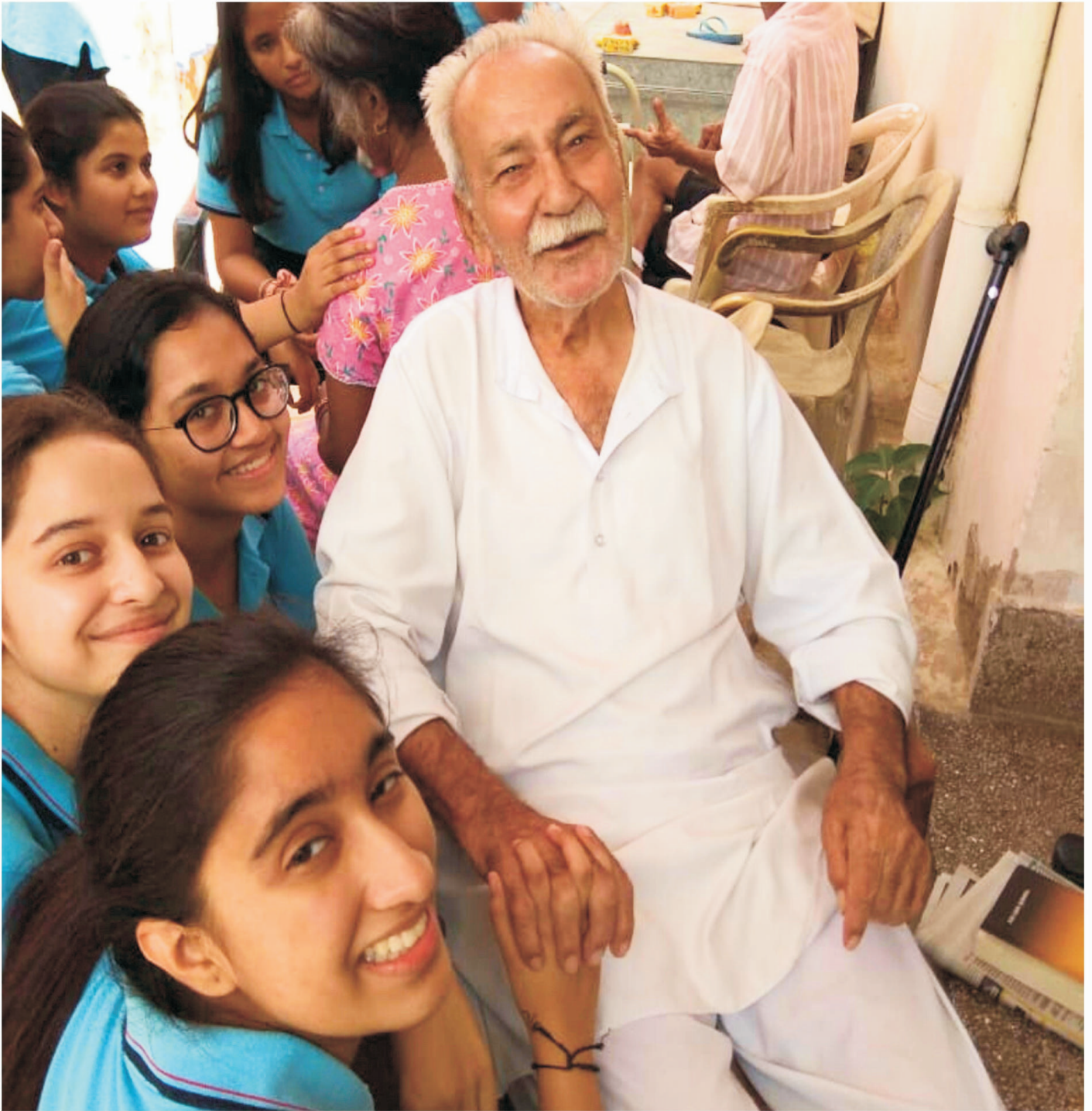
Throughout the following pages, you will find stories of service, leadership, and compassion. You will read about the diverse projects and initiatives our school has undertaken, from supporting local charities and environmental conservation to mentoring, tutoring, and so much more. As we delve into these narratives, we hope to inspire not only our fellow students but also educators, parents, and our broader community. Together, we aim to highlight the profound impact of community service, not only on the recipients but on ourselves as volunteers.



Our journal is a testament to the belief that every small act of service counts, and that, collectively, we can create a better world. It is an invitation to join us on this transformative journey, to celebrate the power of unity, and to discover how community service has shaped the very essence of our school.

In the following pages, we invite you to explore the stories, experiences, and reflections of students who have embarked on this remarkable adventure of service. We hope you find inspiration, purpose, and a renewed sense of commitment to the community that surrounds you.

Together, let us uncover the profound impact of community service in our school and recognize the incredible potential we all possess to make the world a better place.



# **HISTORY OF SERVITUDE AT M.C.G.S**

As we immerse ourselves in the stories of our own community service experiences, it is equally essential to explore the historical backdrop that has paved the way for the values and actions we uphold today. In this section, we embark on a journey through time, tracing the origins of community service in MCGS and its evolution into the fundamental force it represents in our society today. Through the annals of history, we find the inspirations, catalysts, and milestones that have contributed to the development of a culture of service.

The roots of community service at MCGS trace back to the year 1989 when our students first embarked on a transformative association with the people of Chahiyawas village.

Next year, in 1990, our dedication to service expanded its horizons as we initiated a literacy program designed for the benefit of our class 4 employees. This program not only marked the diversification of our service efforts but also exemplified our unwavering commitment to fostering education and empowerment.

In 1991, we witnessed the expansion of our community service efforts as we initiated a partnership with Badhir Vidyalaya, a school dedicated to the education and well-being of the hearing impaired. This collaboration marked not only a new phase in our community service journey but also highlighted our dedication to inclusivity and diversity.

The year 2006 marks yet another momentous chapter in our journey, as we initiated an association with Meenu Mano Vikas Kendra, an NGO dedicated to addressing the needs of differently abled members of society. This collaboration marked a new era in our community service efforts, emphasizing our dedication to empathy and the belief that service knows no boundaries.

From 2012 onwards, a significant development reshaped the landscape of our community service efforts. We introduced student Presidents for our various societies, a move that not only empowered our students but also exemplified our commitment to student leadership in community service.

# Evolving legacy of Service



In January of 2019, all these efforts to give back to our community started to come together under the guidance of our first Community Service coordinator, Mrs Rakhee Mishra, under whose guidance our commitment to service reached yet another pinnacle as we forged an association with Bal Prakash Ashram, a residential school dedicated to providing shelter, education, and support to abandoned, destitute, and underprivileged children in society.

On 1st August, 2019, another transformative development unfolded as all our community services were consolidated under one umbrella. This consolidation represented a significant step toward efficiency, collaboration, and maximizing the impact of our service initiatives.

This consolidation also marked the birth of a significant new entity - our community service society, aptly named "Sahyog." This name reflects our dedication to collaboration, mutual support, and the spirit of working together toward common goals for the betterment of society, both inside of our campus and outside it.

# Pictorial Recollections



# An Introduction to the domains

Each member of Class IX has to compulsorily choose to be a member of one of the five domains of Community Service at MCGS which are as follows:

1. Prayas
2. Khushi
3. Jagriti
4. Sparsh
5. Asha

Traditionally, each of these groups had specific goals in different areas of Social Service. Members of Prayas endeavored to form bonds of empathy and understanding with the rural population in and around Ajmer. With this aim, members of Prayas adopted Village Sarana near Ajmer.

Members of Khushi interact with Hearing and Speech impaired students of Badhir Vidyalaya.

Members of Jagriti worked towards improving the literacy levels and vocational skills of the support staff at MCGS.

Sparsh made efforts to bring happiness and inclusivity in the lives of the differently abled students at Meenu Mano Vikas Kendra, Chachiyawas.

Our youngest team, Asha strived to extend friendship and support to the underprivileged children who live, work and study at The Bal Prakash Ashram, Badgaon.





# PRAYAS

MCGS had maintained a partnership with Village Danta for more than two decades. Throughout this extensive period, we actively participated in various philanthropic endeavors, which included projects like well construction, government school wall renovations, and the promotion of locally handmade products such as glass covers, bedcovers, bracelets, anklets, and more. In 2017, MCGS made the decision to extend a similar partnership to Village Sarana.

The core of our initiatives revolves around establishing sincere connections based on empathy and mutual understanding with the rural communities in and around Ajmer. Our primary objective is to sensitize our students to the urban-rural divide, the myriad challenges confronted by our rural counterparts, and to facilitate access to contemporary education and skill development opportunities. Our approach goes beyond mere assistance; it involves deeply immersing ourselves in the daily lives and hardships of the individuals we aim to support. It's about comprehending their struggles and working collaboratively to identify solutions.



# JAGRITI

Education, often regarded as the most powerful tool, is our guiding principle. Jagriti's main goal is to provide a nurturing learning environment, encompassing not only traditional education but also various skill development activities that enrich the lives of our support staff.

Jagriti has had a heartwarming impact on our support staff. Weekly meetings with the baijis include engaging activities like creating lamps and needlework. Hygiene awareness workshops are held, enhancing their knowledge for a healthier life. The products crafted by our baijis are showcased during the Annual Prize Giving Ceremony, filling them with pride. These sessions go beyond conventional subjects, serving as opportunities for our support staff to discover their hidden talents, be it singing, dancing, or showcasing artistic prowess. Jagriti provides a platform for them to explore their gifts.

Jagriti isn't just about imparting knowledge; it's a mutual learning experience for our students and support staff. This student-led society empowers our students to work alongside the baijis, teaching alphabets, numbers, and assisting with daily chores. Jagriti is a shining example of the transformative impact of education and empathy in our community. It goes beyond traditional roles, fostering a culture of learning, understanding, and collaboration. This initiative reminds us that education is a universal right, and together, we can brighten the lives of those around us, strengthening our community.



# KHUSHI



In a world marked by diversity, embracing differences and fostering connections is paramount. At Mayo College Girls School, our community service initiative, Khushi, exemplifies this ethos. For years, members of Khushi Community Service have been actively engaging with two extraordinary groups: the Hearing and Speech impaired students of Badhir Vidyalaya, a school that caters to their unique needs, and the students of 'Mission Girls School,' a sanctuary for girls who have been rescued from hunger, destitution, and child abuse.

These interactions have spanned over two years and continue to illuminate the lives of all involved. Khushi serves as a bridge between our students and these remarkable individuals, to share moments of pure joy and learning. It's an experience that goes beyond conventional education, enriching the lives of both the giver and the receiver. Our girls have taken on the role of mentors, imparting various activities such as dance, music, art and craft, sports, cooking, and essential life skills. These sessions are not just about skill development; they're about fostering bonds of understanding and showing compassion.

# SPARSH

Sparsh, with its unwavering commitment, has tirelessly strived to infuse happiness and inclusivity into the lives of differently-abled students at Meenu Mano Vikas Kendra, Chachiyawas. Sparsh diligently collaborates with the children of 'Meenu Mano Vikas Kendra,' who grapple with unique physical or mental disabilities. Their ongoing journey with the school has provided invaluable insights into the daily challenges these children face, fostering a profound understanding of their lives.

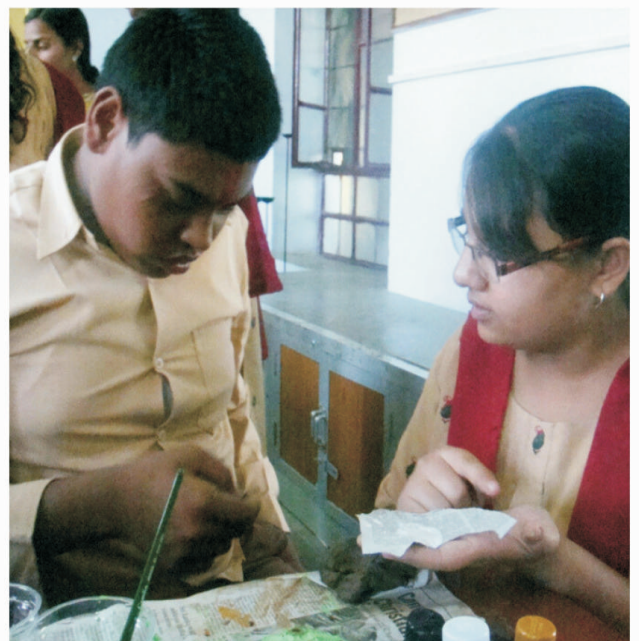
When students at Mayo College Girls School choose to be part of Sparsh, they embark on a challenging path of delving deep into the world of students with disabilities. This journey allows them to uncover the genuine potential and capabilities of these individuals, enabling more effective support tailored to their needs.

Sparsh students prioritise making the differently-abled feel at ease and confident while respecting their personal space, offering unwavering support at every turn.



Within Sparsh, our students curate a rich tapestry of events and competitions, a dazzling mosaic that spans from benevolent fundraisers to the verdant embrace of tree plantation campaigns and the illumination of awareness programs throughout the year. These endeavors materialize as a shared odyssey, a collective exploration of imaginative and ingenious notions that actively transmute into a tapestry of positive change, interwoven with threads of compassion.

In their interactions with the students at Chachiyawas, Sparsh students partake in a symphony of activities, an artful dance of art and craft sessions, the spirited choreography of outdoor games, and the poetic journey of field trips. These encounters serve as a portal to an exquisitely detailed understanding of the intricacies, the chiaroscuro of strengths and vulnerabilities, that define these extraordinary individuals. They are a beacon, casting light upon the extraordinary abilities that often remain hidden from the hurried gaze of the world. Furthermore, these experiences, like petals in the garden of our students' hearts, have sown the seeds of wisdom and imparted the indomitable significance of virtues such as empathy and courage in today's whirlwind-paced world.



# ASHA



At Mayo College Girls School, we take immense pride in our youngest community service team, Asha, which means "hope." Their mission is simple yet profound: to offer friendship and support to underprivileged children at Bal Prakash Ashram in Badgaon. Founded in 1996, Bal Prakash Ashram stands as a testament to hope and resilience. It has provided shelter and education to numerous children from diverse backgrounds, without any biases based on religion, caste, or creed. Asha's essence lies in the exchange of knowledge, skills, and heartfelt connections. Students from Mayo College Girls' School, through Asha, become mentors and guides, imparting their expertise in art, craft, music, dance, yoga, and English poetry and reading to the children at Bal Prakash. These educational pursuits empower young minds, enabling them to dream bigger.

Asha's impact extends beyond the classroom. Mayo College Girls' School students and teachers regularly visit Bal Prakash, forming bonds that go beyond academics. During these visits, Asha's volunteers provide support in studies and guidance in other aspects of school life, becoming not only teachers but friends, sharing laughter, stories, and dreams. When the children of Bal Prakash visit Mayo College Girls' School, they partake in a world of learning and exploration through outdoor and indoor activities.

Asha emphasizes that education can be enlightening and enjoyable, reinforcing that joy can be found in the world if one seeks it. The bond between Asha and Bal Prakash is strengthened by Mayo College Girls' School's generous donations, enriching the children's lives and reminding us that the world can be better when we come together. Asha is not just a student-led effort; it's a profound journey that resonates with everyone involved. It embodies the idea that compassion knows no limits and illustrates how education transcends traditional boundaries, shaping individuals who leave a lasting impact on the world through human connection, spreading joy to every life they touch.

# SHRAMJIVI DIWAS

At Mayo College Girls' School, the spirit of community and service runs deep. Every 2nd of October, Gandhi Jayanti, has been a day of giving back. The junior students diligently clean their classrooms, while the seniors take their efforts outdoors. This year marked a special occasion as the school officially named this day "Shramjivi Diwas," dedicating it to the unsung heroes of the school, the committed support staff. The morning was filled with enthusiastic performances by the Baijis and Bhaiyajis, who maintain the school's daily operations.

In a beautiful display of gratitude, teachers and students came together to serve them warm meals and ensure their well-being, mirroring the care they provide daily.

Moreover, the school recognised and honored those staff members who have been an integral part of the Mayo family for over 25 years. This tradition embodies the essence of unity and appreciation within the MCGS community.



# LADAKH SERVICE PROJECT

Four of our students, accompanied by Mrs Rakhee Mishra, participated in the Ladakh Social Service Project organised by Scindhia School, Gwalior from 26th June - 12th July, 2023. The students' journey through Ladakh seamlessly blended their mission of service with historical exploration. The ascent to Shanti Stupa left them mesmerized, their hearts filled with joy. Leh Palace, despite its imperfections, exuded captivating charm, offering a liberating panoramic view. Shey Palace provided equally enchanting vistas, soothing their spirits during the sunset. Tsemo Monastery bore a resemblance to Leh Palace, underlining the importance of patience, resilience, and an appreciation for the present. The walk along the Indus River felt like a personal achievement, a vivid painting brought to life. Climbing 400 steps at Thiksey Monastery symbolized their triumph over fear and brought a sense of peace and vibrancy. The highlight of the event was the camping in Rumbak valley followed by three treks, the highest of which was 15000 feet, Stok-la pass and two of our girls, Mumal Kanwar and Simran Aneja, successfully accomplished this feat.

The heart of the trip revolved around building a library, where every brick laid symbolised the dedication to education and the empowerment of underprivileged children. The students recall, as they constructed this vital space, witnessing the excitement in the children's eyes and seeing the library come to life day by day was profoundly rewarding. Their commitment to education extended to the classroom, where they imparted valuable lessons on personality development and interacted with the curious minds in kindergarten.





# PARTICIPATION IN “PARMARTHAN” - IPSC SOCIAL SERVICE PROJECT HOSTED BY MGD, JAIPUR

Six students from Mayo College Girls School travelled to Jaipur to participate in the IPSC MGD service project from the 2nd - 5th of November, 2023. “Parmarthan” focused on four primary pillars of development: Leadership, Skill Sharing, Sustainable development and Service. Our girls had an invaluable experience that will stay with them throughout their lives.



# PARTICIPATION IN MAYO INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE PROJECT, HOSTED BY MAYO COLLEGE, AJMER.

MCGS students participated in Mayo International Social Service Project, a project aiming to give back to the society by helping individuals with special needs, to live normal lives by creating opportunities and teaching them skill sets. This program seeks to help UNICEF's plan for a brighter tomorrow, making sure every child learns and acquires skills for the future.

This program was in partnership with Minu Manovikas Mandir, the parent organisation of which is Rajasthan Mahila Kalyan Mandal. RMKM works to improve lives of those who are underprivileged or disabled by enabling ownership over environment institutions and communication and is inspired by the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and their late founder, Shri Sagar Mal Kaushik.



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