



**2024 Recipient ~ Faria Ahmed  
Harrison High School**

I spent the last summer teaching English to five to ten-year-olds in Lahore, Pakistan, as part of my community service and volunteer work. This initiative, Aslam Tuition, promoted communication and understanding across cultural boundaries in addition to improving students' English proficiency. I tried to build the young students' confidence and wanted to inspire them to learn and apply the differences of conversational English and academic English. This project is a reflection of Saint Vincent Hospital's goal, which is to serve communities compassionately and to promote holistic well-being. In line with the hospital's objective of fostering education and community empowerment, I helped these kids grow personally and gave them the tools they needed for future academic and social success by improving their English. During the duration of my trip to Pakistan, I completed 10 hours of volunteer work. In my community of Harrison, NY I have immersed myself in community service opportunities such as tutoring, volunteering at my local Mosque, being a member of the Youth Volunteers of Harrison, participating in food drives, organizing events at the Harrison Public Library and many more acts of kindness in my community. In total through these services in NY I have completed over 75 hours of community service. Due to my impact on the community in which I live, I really wanted to give back to my Motherland. I was inspired by Malala Yousafzai, a courageous Pakistani girl who has always put education first for so many underprivileged children, especially young girls. I wanted to create a long lasting and necessary impact not only in the town that I have lived in my entire life, but also in the town where my roots are located. It was important to me to make sure that I left Lahore, Pakistan knowing that I helped give back to my people. My purpose of completing these acts of community service is to enrich and uplift all those around me, in New York and in Pakistan. While I was volunteering in Lahore, tutoring children, one of the students who was greatly touched by the program was Ibrahim Mouzam, a bright seven-year-old boy. The influence of my teaching efforts is best captured in Ibrahim's testimony. "Learning English was so much fun thanks to Miss Faria," said Ibrahim. "I can now speak Urdu and English with ease since she taught me terms in an easy way. I enjoyed activities and interesting stories that helped me learn. Speaking casual English was weird at first, but now it's easier." Ibrahim's transformation highlights the effectiveness of the program in not just imparting language skills, but also nurturing confidence and enthusiasm among young learners, aligning seamlessly with the mission of Saint Vincent Hospital, to encourage young adults in developing lifelong patterns of volunteerism.