



Between Friends

Maitri Quarterly Newsletter

October - 2020

#Take A Stand Against Domestic Violence

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (**DVAM**). This month we amplify our call to action to all community members to engage in prevention of domestic violence and abuse. Each of us can create change in our own communities, either through direct advocacy to end domestic violence or by addressing its root causes in our day to day lives. We commemorated DVAM through various activities. We engaged young minds with an our annual online **Art Fest campaign** to uphold values of love, compassion and peace through art and poetry. We produced a **PSA** where teen leaders pledged to end gender-based violence. We published podcasts and attended community talks to renew our vows to support survivors and hold perpetrators accountable. Throughout this month, through various ways we sent out a message to our community members, that together we can foster social justice, reframe masculinity, eliminate oppressive patriarchy, and engage in activism and policy advocacy to change harmful social and cultural conditions that enable domestic violence.



[Donate & Empower Survivors](#)

Quarterly Updates

Policy Based Prevention

The shelter-in-place orders in California and around the world have increased the existing danger for individuals living in abusive relationships. Increased requests for intervention and legal remedies over the past few months have shed light on the ongoing need for resources. The intersections of homelessness, poverty, gender inequality and



immigration with domestic violence have become even more apparent. At Maitri, we saw immigrants with limited English proficiency experiencing additional suffering brought on by system-based barriers. The need for a comprehensive plan to address domestic violence in our communities is urgent. Read more [HERE](#).



Talks Around Prevention

In the last quarter, Maitri representatives participated in and delivered a few educational sessions and trainings for community members and service providers. Maitri board President Sonya Pelia attended a panel on Radio Zindagi in raising awareness against domestic violence. Maitri staff, Zakia Afrin presented 2 training sessions at the Superior Court of Santa Clara County on the impact of COVID-19 on survivors and another training to the trainee advocates at [AACI](#) on the importance of providing cultural responsive services. Maitri staff, Nandini Ray, led a community discussion with a group of Airbnb Inc. employees focusing on community involvement in IPV prevention. She also presented to a large group of students of Quarry Lane High School, educating teens about red flags in toxic relationships, and on the importance of building healthy relationships. Maitri was also invited by the [Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention](#), Santa Clara County to share our prevention program highlights for FY2019-20 at their quarterly session with service providers.



Prevention Campaigns

In our work we have realized that we cannot make progress in establishing gender equity and ending domestic violence unless we engage men and youth in raising

awareness. Last quarter 6 men joined our [#Engaging Men and Boys campaign](#) and shared their valuable insights in preventing gender violence and partner violence, and 7 teens took part in our [#BuildingHealthyRelationships campaign](#) to mobilize their communities in building healthy relationships. These are ongoing campaigns, if you are interested to join, please [email](#) us for campaigns guidelines.



Prevention Podcasts

In July, Maitri launched their 2nd season of Podcast aiming at Prevention of Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence. Survivors, field experts and community members come to our show to discuss harmful cultural conditions and social norms that create the toxic culture where domestic violence and gender violence thrive. Through our podcast we are shaping community outlook toward ending gender based violence. Find all the episodes of *Between Friends, Conversations with Maitri* on [SoundCloud](#), [Apple](#), [Spotify](#) and other podcast apps. Please like, share and comment.

Upcoming Maitri Event



Maitri will soon host a special virtual event featuring a screening of the movie “*Untying the Knot*” (see [TRAILER](#)) followed by a Q&A session with director Zana Shammi and survivor Rumana Monzur. We regret the inconvenience caused due to an unavoidable rescheduling of the event. Please watch the space on Facebook for updates on new dates for the event.

Maitri Boutique Update

Team Maitri announced with much regret and sadness earlier this quarter, that Maitri Boutique location will permanently close effective November 15, 2020 due to the uncertain timeframe of the COVID-19 pandemic and related safety concerns. We are deeply grateful

and appreciative of all our beloved customers, volunteers, and donors for their enormous support of the Boutique. We wish everyone safety and wellness as we navigate the pandemic together. **We are selling our exclusive inventory offering huge discounts so please email us for in-person or FaceTime appointments and additional information.**

Shop at AmazonSmile, Support Maitri!

Quarterly Program Statistics



Helpline

Crisis Calls: 96
Total Calls: 710



Legal Advocacy

Clients Served: 112
Advocacy Sessions: 307



Transitional Housing

Women Served: 8
Children Served: 5

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