# Between Friends Maitri Quarterly Newsletter July 2014





Dear Maitri Friends,

With the first half of 2014 over and the close of another fiscal year, Maitri is again poised at a juncture of looking back proudly at some of its accomplishments and looking ahead at the mountains yet to be climbed.

It has been a busy year and last quarter at Maitri. We saw four amazing benefit events all within the quarter and want to thank once again the benefit hosts Boom, Nupur Dance Academy, Team Shakti, and En Acte Arts for the wonderful shows they put out there for the community to enjoy, and for the generous donations of proceeds made to Maitri. The annual Sevathon event also saw the community get together to walk for their cause and once again we are grateful to our supporters who joined their voice to ours to saying NO to abuse and to ICC for bestowing on us the Spirit Award.

The support received from our community and our grants program enables and enhances our ability to provide the services that are so important to help those in need. Our Helpline and Legal programs have strengthened and we are assisting more numbers of callers and survivors. Maitri's Economic Empowerment Program (EEP) has also grown in the past year seeing several successes for the clients it has served. Our Transitional Housing (TH) program continues to be a safe haven providing care and assistance towards attaining self-sufficiency. We have introduced ESL and conversational English lessons for our TH residents. The end of the quarter also saw us implementing some added security measures and improvements at our TH that will benefit our residents tremendously.

We look forward to the second half of 2014 with the same unwavering commitment to serve, to grow, and to scale more heights. We have a number of projects underway that will see completion in this latter part of the year, more of which you will hear from us soon. We are excitedly gearing up to launch our Maitri Boutique, yet another bold but meaningful endeavor to support our empowerment programs. Stay tuned for updates.

I must yet again give another shout-out to all our volunteers who tirelessly and selflessly work with us on this journey and without whom we would be unable to do what we do.

On a final note, it is one year this month since we lost our beloved friend, philosopher, and guide, Maitri's co-founder Anjali Dujari. On behalf of the whole agency, I want to say that we love her and miss her, and with each passing day we march on forward, gathering strength, only made possible by the foundation she has laid for us at Maitri, a foundation of love, commitment, and resolve.

Sincerely,

Rama D. Jalan Program Director

## LOOKING BACK. MOVING FORWARD.

We want to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers, donors, and members of our community for supporting us for 23 wonderful years of service. We commemorated this milestone by hosting an Open House in May. Representatives from the government, service providers and members of many non-profit partners joined us. The venue was designed for thoughtful reflection, camaraderie across cultures and replenishment of spirit. We salute the survivors who have experienced domestic violence, cultural displacement, family conflict, and human trafficking. We hope to continue serving our community for another two decades and beyond. Check out photos from the event here!



#### **MAITRI BOUTIQUE**

Maitri is launching a boutique that will feature high end new and lightly used South Asian party wear. The net proceeds from all clothes and accessories purchased will fund our empowerment programs. Stay tuned for more updates! To volunteer for this project, contact Abha Singvhi.



#### SAVE THE DATE

Maitri will join Petals in the Dust for their 5th annual Global Walk for India's Missing Girls. Join us and Petals in the Dust at the Walkathon in San Francisco and help stop gender based violence. Join us on Oct 4 at 11am. Sign up here.

### MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBER

A very warm welcome to Shabana Ansari who joined us as a Legal Advocate in June. As an integral part of our legal program, Shabana will be responsible for direct client advocacy, the Maitri language bank, and outreach activities for the legal program. She brings in more than 13 years of experience working in India as an attorney and as a social campaigns coordinator. Shabana has a Bachelor of Social Work and a Bachelor of Laws from Mumbai University. She is fluent in English, Hindi, Marathi and Urdu. Welcome Shabana!

### **AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM**

Support Maitri through the Amazon Smile Program. An easy way to make a contribution when purchasing eligible products through Amazon. Just visit **smile.amazon.com**, search for "Maitri Charitable Trust", and select. Every time you shop, start at **smile.amazon.com** and you'll be supporting Maitri. Simple as that! You can also install this app on your Chrome browser and set an icon to link directly to the Amazon Smile Program page. Help us spread the word and happy shopping!

#### **WE ARE HIRING!**

If you or someone you know may be interested in the **Boutique Manager** or **Development Associate** role, **click here for details**.

#### QUARTERLY PROGRAM STATISTICS

April-May-June

Helpline Calls	Transitional Housing	Legal Advocacy	Outreach & Education
Crisis calls: 99	Women: 11	New clients: 62	Tables: 11
Total calls: 796	Children: 10	Advocacy sessions: 82	Presentations: 6
			FB Likes: 1432

#### **MAITRI.ORG**

Maitri, founded in 1991 is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, non-profit, confidential agency dedicated to primarily helping South Asian families facing domestic violence, cultural alienation and human trafficking.

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