

Between Friends

Maitri Quarterly Newsletter

January 2015



Looking Back, Moving Forward!

As we usher in the New Year, we feel immense gratitude for the trust that Maitri supporters and donors have placed in our work. 2014 was a successful year for Maitri. There was tremendous community support at our annual gala, the three benefit programs, Sevathon, Quadruple your Donation program, the Maitri art contest and at the Maitri boutique. We have significantly increased our community outreach efforts this year with Maitri representation at 32 tabling events and 18 presentations to a variety of audiences on the issues of domestic violence.



It is your support that enables us to provide Maitri clients and their children a path from crisis to safety and self-sufficiency. In 2014 Maitri's Helpline Program answered a total of 3291 calls, of which 371 were crisis calls. The Maitri Legal Program helped 251 clients and provided 850 advocacy sessions to help our clients make informed choices about their legal issues. 20 women and 15 children who were displaced by domestic violence found safety and warmth at our Anjali Transitional House. 11 empowered women left our TH with their self-esteem to a new life of peace, safety, and independence. Maitri's Economic Empowerment Program continues to help clients obtain jobs and education. The program has widened its horizon to include initiatives for Economic Security and Financial Capability. Working with [APIIDV](#), we have helped develop a Financial Capacity curriculum for South Asian DV survivors. Since its launch in September 2014, the Maitri Boutique has served about 1500 customers. Over 2000 volunteer hours have gone into the boutique thus making it possible to successfully support our Economic Empowerment programs.

As we grow, we need continued community support and involvement to run our programs and essential services. We hope you will come forward again this year, and show us your support by donating your money, resources, and volunteering efforts. Help us spread the word by liking and sharing our [Facebook](#) page.

All of us at Maitri wish you and your loved ones good health, happiness, safety, and peace in 2015.

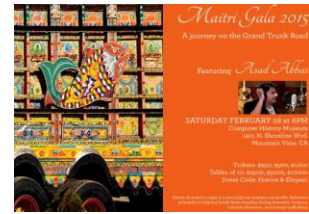
Maitri Gala 2015

A Journey on the Grand Trunk Road:

Maitri cordially invites you all to attend the Maitri Gala 2015 on February 28 at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View.

We are very excited to feature versatile singer [Asad Abbas](#) who will present latest Bollywood and Sufi songs. As always, we promise an elegant and colorful evening filled with fun, music, dancing, and good food, celebrating transformations and hope.

Register [here](#).



2014 Holiday Party at Maitri:

We hosted a Holiday Party at the Maitri office to celebrate the Holidays. The holiday party is designed to bring a little bit of cheer & joy into the lives of our clients who are far away from their families.



A lot of planning goes into making this event happen, and as always, Maitri volunteers stepped up and contributed their time and skills towards decorations, gift sorting & wrapping, and getting food for the party. A big Shout Out to our wonderful volunteers who helped with the Holiday party (you know who you are!). The office space was transformed into a party hall with balloons, streamers and wall decorations. A Mehndi station, art activity area, face painting, kid's play room and delicious food added to the festive atmosphere. The clients and their kids had a wonderful time at the party with Maitri staff and volunteers. All of our clients received a bag filled with gifts including a gift card from Maitri Boutique and all the children received toys.

"I thank you from the bottom of my heart for organizing this holiday event. It's always a wonderful feeling to go back to Mom's house... The untold peace warms the heart and the ever wavering mind rests for a while in the warmth of love... I felt exactly the same yesterday to be there with all the people I love most... My sincere thanks for inviting me. This memory will stay in mind for the rest of my life.".....feedback from a Maitri client

Meet Our New Staff Members:

Join us in welcoming our three new staff members: Shailaja Mahavadi, Sneha Ambekar, and Vinodhini Krishnan.

Shailaja joined us as Helpline Advocate, Sneha as Transitional Housing Advocate, and Vinodhini as Development Associate. We wish them the best of luck in their new positions.

A Big Shout Out To Our Community:

We are grateful to the following companies for putting up our Holiday Giving Trees: Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc, Stanford South Asian Center, Oracle Santa Clara, Oracle San Jose, Actian Corp, MetricStream, Inc and Coupa. Employees from these companies brightened up the 2014 Holiday Season for our clients and their children.

Thanks to our community for supporting our annual Quadruple Your Donation program so generously. You helped us raise \$23,880 through this program, a big boost towards helping our clients move to a safe and empowered future.

We are also thankful to our benefit hosts Boom, Nupur Dance Academy, Team Shakti, and En Acte Arts for the wonderful shows and for the generous donations of proceeds made to Maitri.

A shout out to The Shoe-box Project that donated 25 shoe boxes full of goodies bringing more warmth to the holiday season.

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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