

# Between Friends

## Maitri Quarterly Newsletter

### July 2015



The first six months of 2015 have been very productive for Maitri. A successful fundraiser in February, increased collaboration with other agencies, and enhanced services for our clients have paved the way for a very good beginning of a new fiscal year.

Community Support continues to help us do what we do, and provides survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking the courage to demonstrate resilience on their journey to self-sufficiency. Help us widen our supporter pool. Introduce Maitri to your friends. Make sure you LIKE our [Facebook](#) page.

### Community Support!

**Sevathon Spirit Award:** With tremendous backing from our community, Maitri has again won the Sevathon Spirit Award from the India Community Center for recruiting more than 100 registrants at the Sevathon 2015. Thank you all who believed in us and showed your support by registering for Maitri. [Photos](#).

**SVGives Donations:** We are happy to announce that we have received over \$25,000 at this year's [Silicon Valley Gives](#) online giving day. Heartfelt thanks to our donors!

**Maitri Open House:** We celebrated our Open House in June. Representatives from different non-profit organizations, and friends of Maitri stopped by. The office was bustling with different activities and social networking. Delicious food, the noise of friendly chatter and laughter added an extra layer of cheerfulness. [Photos](#).

### Maitri Presentations:

**Maitri at the TiECon Panel:** In May Maitri was invited to the prestigious TiECon panel to discuss innovative solutions to society's most pressing social problems and best practices we maintain to be a successful organization. Sonya Pelia, President of the Maitri Board of Governance joined the Panel named "Best Practices of Success for Nonprofits".

**Maitri at the [National South Asian Summit 2015](#):** Zakia Afrin represented Maitri at a session titled, "Building the Women's movement: approaches, responses and calls to action". Zakia shared Maitri's experiences with the intersections of reproductive justice and economic empowerment segments with domestic violence, and called on South Asian activists to engage in legislative advocacy to ensure women's holistic well-being.

**Presentation for Family court Mediators and Judges:** Maitri made a presentation on cultural competency in a gathering of Alameda County Family Court Mediators and Judges. This presentation touched upon the dangers of stereotyping of a community and relying on misinformed homogeneous expectations from its members. Zakia Afrin shared Maitri's years' of experience in dealing with various legal systems in South Asia as well as their differences with the US legal systems.

**Maitri Presentations for students and service providers:** Nandini Ray represented Maitri and shared our experience working with South Asian survivors at "Take Back The Night" event at De Anza college. She also conducted cultural competency trainings at the Foothill College and at SAVE's domestic violence advocacy training. As a guest speaker, Nandini also shared Maitri's expertise on South Asian culture at the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin, California.

### **Quarterly Program updates:**

**Legal Advocacy Program:** Legal Program served 97 clients and provided 166 advocacy sessions dealing with safety planning, restraining orders, divorce, custody and other family law issues, criminal case involvement facilitation, interpretation, attorney meetings facilitation, court accompaniments and immigration assistance among other issues.

**Anjali Transitional Housing:** This quarter, we served 12 women and 8 children at

the Anjali Transitional Housing Program. We had 5 women & 3 children exiting our program at the end of their 9 months stay & moving on to begin living on their own. We welcomed 3 women & 2 children into our program. The goal of the program is to help women transition into an empowered, self-sufficient, and independent life so that they are able to support themselves when they leave the program.

**Maitri Boutique:** In the last quarter we took the Maitri boutique on the road to three community events where we reached over a 1000 people. It was a great experience for us to showcase our boutique outside. In this quarter we also had a successful jewelry trunk show and a vibrant art show. In June, six Google employees volunteered their services to our boutique. Our semi-annual sale in July was a smashing hit! Visit [Maitri Boutique!](#)

### **Maitri & SAVE Working Together:**

**Maitri Support Groups:** Maitri in partnership with [SAVE](#) is offering free support groups to Hindi and Bengali speaking survivors. This joint project has been funded by Blue Shield California Foundation. [Learn More.](#)

**Maitri workshops:** Maitri is offering legal, immigration, and financial workshops in collaboration with SAVE at their venue in Fremont. Financial capability workshops are conducted to help South Asian survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking learn financial basics needed for self-sufficiency. For upcoming workshops contact us at [maitri@maitri.org](mailto:maitri@maitri.org).

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Save the Date:** You are invited to attend the first birthday celebration of the Maitri Boutique on September 19. Watch your inbox for our formal invite.

**Between the Lines:** Attend [Between the Lines](#) show presented by Mona Khan Company on Aug 9th. The show will present a piece based on domestic violence created in collaboration with Maitri. Visit Maitri booth at the show and know about our services.

## Quarterly Stats @ a glance

<i>Help Line</i>	<i>Transitional Housing</i>	<i>Legal Advocacy</i>
<i>Crisis calls: 136</i> <i>Total calls: 757</i>	<i>Women served: 12</i> <i>Children served: 8</i>	<i>Clients served: 97</i> <i>Advocacy sessions: 166</i>

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