



Between Friends

Maitri Quarterly Newsletter

October 2015

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) has been observed across the US during the month of October, since 1987. Maitri has engaged in various activities to commemorate DVAM.

We are grateful that our volunteers and supporters have been with us at every step of our journey. We believe that with a shared vision and a strong commitment to prevent domestic violence, we can transform lives and uplift our community. This October, together let us take a pledge to have a zero tolerance policy against domestic violence and gender based violence.



OCTOBER
NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH

Maitri Art Fest: Show Heart Through Art: Maitri invited children & teens to take part in the Maitri Art Fest to promote peace, happiness, respect, joy and compassion. A big Thanks to all budding artists who created beautiful drawings, and a shout out to their parents who sent us the artwork. All the drawings are up on our website and Facebook page throughout the month of October as a tribute to the survivors of domestic violence. Enjoy the lovely artwork [here](#).

Maitri Engaging Men to End Violence Against Women: Domestic Violence is a violation of human dignity and an issue that impacts not just women. Please check out our [Facebook Page](#) every Friday for our new section of posts from male members of our community for their views on this subject. If you want to share your views then for more information contact outreach@maitri.org

Maitri Presented at a Domestic Violence Forum: Maitri was invited to present at the Annual Domestic Violence Forum for Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. Maitri educated medical professionals on their role and professional boundaries when working with DV survivors, and on how to play a crucial role in identifying domestic violence.

Maitri co-presented 3rd i's Film Festival: Maitri co-presented 2 acclaimed films at 3rd i's 13th Annual San Francisco International Film Festival. *Petals in the Dust* by Nyna Pais Caputi and *Silence in the Courts* by Prasanna Vithanage. [Petals in the Dust](#) will be shown again on November 1, 2015, at CineArts, Palo Alto. Maitri supporters will get a 20% discount using this code: `cp_2015` (Online purchases only).

Quarterly Program Updates

Helpline: Maitri helpline attended a total of 994 calls of which 131 calls were crisis calls. Maitri participated in the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) [census survey](#). This Census takes into account the dangerous nature of domestic violence, by using a survey designed to protect the confidentiality and safety of victims. On the day of the survey, a caller told us, "*I feel so relieved after talking to you because you spoke to me in my mother tongue and I could express my thoughts very clearly and you understood everything, thank you Maitri*".

Legal Advocacy

We served a total of 109 clients of which 55 were new clients. We provided 168 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.

Together with providing much needed support to individuals, the legal program participated in the following trainings:

- Interpretation Best Practices for Advocates with Cannon Han of Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence.
- Webinar on BIA Recognition and Accreditation jointly organized with CLINIC and CPEDV.
- Presentation at the Santa Clara County Public Health Nursing Training panel.
- Presentation on Domestic violence and the Immigrant community at Golden Gate University.

We are making Policy Advocacy a priority at Maitri. Read a [note](#) from our Client Advocacy Manager on our activities in the past few months.

Anjali Transitional Housing

We served 10 women & 5 children through our Transitional Housing Program. Two clients exited our program and we wish them both success, peace & happiness in life! We salute the courage and resilience our clients show in leaving an abusive situation to embark on an independent, empowered life.

In August we hosted a social evening for our clients and their children at our TH. Everyone enjoyed creating art work, games, music & food. It was a pleasant respite from the constant daily struggle they go through.

Outreach

Maitri provided cultural competency training for the trainee advocates at [SAVE, YWCA of Silicon Valley](#), [Next Door solutions to domestic Violence](#) and [Freedom House](#). The training was focused on how to be culturally competent and culturally responsive while helping survivors from different cultures. At Freedom House we also provided training on conflict resolution between shelter residents.

Through 6 information booths at different community events, 3 educational workshops for community members, and through our online activities we have increased and deepened relationship with our community.

Maitri Boutique

Maitri boutique celebrated its first birthday on Sept. 19th with style. Read [media coverage](#) on the celebration. We had a fantastic turn out on the day of the celebration and these [Photos](#) can give you a glimpse of the fun.

Our boutique is a safe and fun place to shop and seek help if needed. We provide opportunity to buy high end South Asian outfits at competitive prices. Visit Maitri Boutique for outstanding Diwali outfits (till Nov 8). Don't miss an exclusive Jewelry Trunk Show by a Delhi based designer, Sirjana Singh on November 1st from 1-6 P.M.

To Shop, Donate and Volunteer at our boutique, contact [Here](#).

Thank You!

EnActe Arts: Our heartfelt thanks to EnActe Arts and Vinita Belani for performing a Maitri benefit play, Chaos Theory. The fun filled and intellectually stimulating play was staged on Oct 9 and net proceeds from this show was donated to Maitri. EnActe also donated \$5 from each ticket from other Chaos Theory shows staged on Oct 10 and 11.

Santa Clara County D.A's Office: Maitri is thankful to District Attorney's Office (SCC), for helping us run a Maitri information ad at various Bay Area locations. The Maitri Ad is displaying on a big TV screen at 40 grocery stores, restaurants etc. where mostly South Asians visit. This is our joint outreach effort to spread the word about Maitri's FREE & CONFIDENTIAL services.

Shoe Box Project: A big shout out to Sharon & Kerri at The Shoebox Project for donating 28 boxes to Maitri clients in this DVAM. "Small gestures make a big difference" - a shoebox filled with little goodies & packed with love to remind the women we help that they are special and not forgotten!

Quarterly Stats @ a glance

<i>Help Line</i>	<i>Transitional Housing</i>	<i>Legal Advocacy</i>
<i>Crisis calls: 131 Total calls: 994</i>	<i>Women served: 10 Children served: 5</i>	<i>New Clients served: 55 Advocacy sessions: 168</i>

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