



Between Friends

Maitri Quarterly Newsletter

January - 2017



An Enchanting Moghul Evening
Feb 25th, 5.30 pm
PC: Brooke Duthie

A community is only as strong as its most vulnerable members. MAITRI has been working tirelessly for 26 years, right here in the San Francisco Bay Area, to help those who are threatened in their very homes and their closest relationships.

This February, Maitri presents yet another exciting gala that will transport you to the exotic Moghul era with an enchanting dance performance by Farah Yasmeen Shaikh, an eclectic Meena Bazaar (silent auction), musical melodies by one of the best youth choirs in the Bay Area- the Harker Cantilena, and a rocking time with Salim, the coolest DJ in town.

The event is nearly **Sold Out**- Buy your table/ticket [here!](#)

Community Involvement

Community Education

Maitri President presented on "Domestic Violence in the South Asian Community" in a seminar organized by Bangladeshi Women's Empowerment Network (BWEN) in Fremont, CA.

Maitri staff presented "Legal Advocacy Best Practices: Maitri Experience in the South Asian Community" at A Safe Place National Conference 2016 in Oakland CA.

Outreach

Maitri provided tabling and informational booths at different community events throughout the Bay area including a Fiji community organized Diwali event, Farmer's Market at Facebook, Diwali Mela at Cupertino, and the Aga Khan Foundation Walkathon.

Show Art Through Heart

"Peace is a world where children have to look into the dictionary to understand meaning of words like 'poverty', 'violence', 'war', and 'discrimination'" wrote 12 year old Vishnu as part of his submission to Maitri's Art & Poetry Fest 2016 "Show Heart Through Art". In its third year, the Maitri Art Fest is one of our efforts to engage our community to promote peace, happiness, respect and compassion showcasing the thoughts and efforts of children. All artwork and submissions can be [found here](#).

Awards

Maitri was one of three community organizations recognized for their work and honored by the League of the San Francisco Consular Corps (LSFCC) this year. Maitri President Sonya Pelia received recognition as a community leader from Bangladeshi Women's Empowerment Network (BWEN) at their Seminar on Mental Health and Domestic Violence on October 8, 2016 in Fremont, CA.

Significant Maitri News



State Senator Jim Beall



Santa Clara Mayor Lisa Gillmore



Saratoga City Council Member Rishi Kumar



San Jose City Council Member Ash Kalra



We launched our local Policy Advocacy efforts this year that focused on policy priorities that serve immigrant survivors of domestic violence. We identified the following priorities: Funding for DV Programs, Justice Movement seeking to condemn sex selective abortion ban, comprehensive immigration reform, universal background check for firearms' purchase and affordable housing initiatives. A group of Maitri Board members, staff and volunteers visited State Senator Jim Beall, Saratoga City Council member Rishi Kumar, Santa Clara Mayor Lisa Gillmore and San Jose City Council member Ash Kalra (who is currently a State Assembly member) to discuss and seek support for these priorities.

Maitri Boutique

The Maitri Boutique was on the road more than ever before, in the last quarter of 2016, as we participated in 10 outreach events around the Bay Area, which included shows at the Facebook Farmers Market in Menlo Park, Nest in Palo Alto, and FestiveALL in San Jose.

We also had 2 very successful Jewelry trunk shows. The first jewelry trunk show was by designer Sirjana Singh, who brought a beautiful collection of gold, and silver jewelry. The 2nd jewelry show by the Treasure Chest showcased different upcoming designers from India.



In October, we partnered with Swati Couture and displayed the beautiful designer collection of Sarees, Lehengas, and Kurtis at the boutique. We were also invited to showcase and sell boutique items at the Saratoga Diwali party by Council Member Rishi Kumar.

To stay up-to-date with sales and events, please like the [Maitri Boutique page on Facebook](#); if you would like to donate your South-Asian party wear items or are interested in doing a trunk show at the Maitri Boutique, please email mbdonate@maitri.org for more information.

Quarterly Statistics at a glance

Helpline	Legal Advocacy	Transitional Housing
Crisis calls: 69	Total Clients served: 84	Women served: 13
Total Calls: 883	Advocacy Sessions: 196	Children Served: 7

Thank you!

Maitri Giving Tree 2016



This holiday season was immeasurably brightened for our clients, thanks to tremendous community support for the Maitri Giving Trees. Our heartfelt appreciation to the organizations that hosted Giving Trees this year: Cloudera, Coupa, Intero Real Estate, LinkedIn, MetricStream, Next Nav, Nokia, Nvidia, Oracle, Shutterfly, Tetra Tech EMI and Thermo Fisher Scientific.

A shout out to each and every community member who so generously donated a gift or a gift card through a Giving Tree. Every gift was needed, was much appreciated by the recipients and will support someone in challenging circumstances.

We also look back with gratitude towards all our donors, both individuals and foundations that provide generous support through their grants in 2016. Every dollar in donations or grants takes us a step closer to our vision of a violence free community and we cannot accomplish this without your continued support! For a complete list of institutional funders this fiscal year, click [here](#).

Maitri is a Bay Area based non-profit, dedicated primarily to helping South Asian families facing domestic violence, cultural alienation, and human trafficking.

Donate & Empower a Survivor!

STAY CONNECTED

