

MAI Family Services

News & Views

DECEMBER 2009

Primary Business Address

Your Address Line 2

Your Address Line 3

Your Address Line 4

Helpline: (888)664-8624

Phone: (248)477-4985

Email: info@maifs.org

Website: www.maifs.org

Message from the Chairperson

Dear Friends,

As 2009 nears an end, it might be a good idea to reflect before we plan for the next year. I realize that 2009 has been a tumultuous year for many of our families due to the financial meltdown and challenge to manage within a budget. For us at MAI Family Services, this was a double whammy.

Why? As a result of our awareness and community outreach programs for the past two years, call volume this year on our helpline substantially increased as did the demand for our

services and financial assistance to families in a crisis. However, our mantra to assist and help our clients was never compromised. This has placed tremendous hardship on our financial health. I sincerely hope and appeal that our community members will whole heartedly support us in 2010 by their generous TAX -DEDUCTIBLE contributions.

On the positive note, MAI Family Services in 2009 made significant progress in awareness and outreach activities by conducting monthly workshops, collaborating

with several prominent groups of our community including religious places, local area Indian businesses, Shanti Project of University of Michigan , ACAPAA and many sister organizations. In addition, we made significant changes internally for smooth organizational functioning as well as delivery of our services to our clients.

Please continue to support us. Wishing all of you a great holiday season and a prosperous New Year.



CONGRATULATIONS NEW EC

We recently elected our Executive Committee Members for the 2010 and 2011 terms. We'd like to welcome Mona Belsare as Vice-Chairperson, Asha Reddy as Treasurer, Fatema Boxwala as Secretary. We are pleased that Brij Mohta and Anjali Guntur will continue on as Chairperson and Clinical Services Coordinator, respectively.

Thank you to our outgoing EC Board members - Dipti Sharangpani (Vice-Chairperson), Mona Sashital (Secretary), and Ram Date (Treasurer) for all their hardwork and dedication!

We would also like to thank our outgoing volunteer coordinator Mona Belsare and welcome aboard Mona Sashital as our new volunteer coordinator. Last but not least, welcome to two new board members - Hari Agarwal and Mahesh Desai.

Member Spotlight on Dipti Sharangpani



What is your role in MAI Family Services?

I have been a board member of this organization since 2004, during which I served as Secretary for two years and Vice-Chair for a year-and-a-half.

How have you benefited from your involvement with MAI Family Services?

It gives me a great deal of satisfaction to help individuals & families from my own community. I have always been passionate about the cause that the organization represents. I feel fortunate to get this opportunity to serve.

How does MAI Family Services need to improve to

better service its clients?

Our dedicated case workers, members and volunteers will continue to provide help to whoever needs it. But we also need more community support and involvement that will help us in helping our clients.

What is the most important thing that you think community members should know about MAI Family Services?

I believe that the community should know that this organization is out here to serve its members in times of crisis. It is the only organization in entire Michigan that provides assistance to the South Asian Community. So community members should get involved and keep this organization alive.

Event Pictures Walkathon & Holiday Party





CALL SUMMARY

Since September 2009, our caseworkers helped 25 new clients who called our helpline. Caseworkers spent 165 hours providing direct assistance to clients. If you know anyone who needs assistance, please encourage them to call our confidential helpline at (888)664-8624.

Thank you MAPI Auxiliary



MAPI Auxiliary
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Executive Committee

President
Alka Kudesia
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President Elect
Shubha Kolachalam
(248) 538-0419

Secretary
Priti Hukku
(248) 760-7680

Treasurer
Rene Joseph
(248) 703-1897

Past President
Kaniha Patel
(248) 792-9303

Board of Directors

Asha Shah
(248) 626-4422

Noeta Prasad
(248) 451-1463

Nina Shah
(248) 706-1346

Dina Shah
(248) 952-1716

Priti Shah
(248) 855-3896

Dushpalatha Devireddy
(248) 745-8486

Raminder Bhasin
(248) 737-7078

Ravi Sohal
(248) 745-8380

Reeta Selty
(248) 681-5998

Shyamala Rajagopal
(248) 855-1397

Smita Darikh
(248) 322-5303

MAPI President
Rajesh C. Gulati
(248) 258-8888

MAPI
AUXILIARY

September 9, 2009

To
Michigan Asian Indian Family Services (MAIFS)

From
MAPI Auxiliary

Dear MAIFS,

It is with great pleasure and honor that MAPI Auxiliary contributes \$4000.00 to MAIFS for the year of 2009. You are a charity organization that has done and continues to do a great service to our community. Your dedication and devotion to the cause of domestic violence is a pillar of pride and admiration for all of us. Your humble effort to bring awareness to anyone in need is, without a doubt, a heart-felt gesture of generosity and kindness.

MAPI Auxiliary does one fund raising event a year, if possible. We work hard to raise funds and keep costs down so that we are able to generate maximum profit. Along with that effort, we pick our charities very carefully. In today's time of economic hardship, it is even more important as money is not readily available and all charities are hurting. Although most charities are worthy of a donation, we are proud to support MAIFS and your rigorous efforts.

Please continue to accomplish what you have done thus far and know that we support your efforts. We will do all that we can to help you at an individual as well as organizational level. In meeting with you today, we were all touched. Many ideas were exchanged and I feel that we all came out with a better understanding. Many times we look away from the ugly parts of our society, but you remind us that there are people who are counting on us.

On behalf of my entire committee, I thank you for your contribution to our community and hope that we can be a part of your success in whatever way is possible.

With Warm Regards,

Alka Kudesia
President, MAPI Auxiliary

Alka Kudesia, MAPI Auxiliary President, 5728 Bloomfield Clens Road, West Bloomfield, Michigan 48322

Past and Future Events

11/01 Along with New Vision, we joined the board on a project for the Bangladeshi community

11/12 We met with a representative of the University of Michigan's South Asian Medical School Association to plan for future collaboration

12/08 We attended "COMMIT*ACT*DEMAND: We CAN end violence against women!" hosted by New Vision

12/09 We received the 2009 Community Outreach Award from the Michigan International Chamber of Commerce because of our focus on domestic violence awareness and support services

We have workshops scheduled with Gurdwara Sahib-Hidden Falls, the University of Michigan's United Asian American Organization and the regional Asian and Pacific American Medical Students Association in January and February 2010. Look out for a save the date for our International Women's Day event hosted with other local organizations.

We want your input

Please send your suggestions and feedback about our events, the organization and this e-newsletter to info@maifs.org

We send out information about our monthly workshops, social events, fundraisers and events hosted by partner organizations to our email listserv. If you would like to receive emails from MAI Family Services, email info@maifs.org. Please type "Add to listserv" in the subject line.

MAI FAMILY SERVICES
IS NOW ON FACEBOOK!
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RSVP for events, view event
pictures, leave your
feedback and much more!!

