



MAI - FAMILY SERVICES **News and Views**

In This Issue...

Chairperson's Message

Did you know?

Year in Review

January Workshop

Upcoming Events

With gratitude

How to get involved with MAI Family Services

Chairperson's Message

To all our readers,

Let me wish you Happy Holidays and Joyous and Peaceful 2009.

As we close out 2008 and reflect on the year, I have mixed emotions. Whereas, our case workers have received a record number of calls and assisted many victims, I feel our work at MAI Family Services has just begun.

Our goal to be a "household" name remains a distant dream. When any crisis of case comes to light, it pains me to hear comments from our community folks, "wish there was an organization to handle this!"

All of you can contribute in your own way to fulfill this dream, only if you accept that such issues are needlessly causing this destruction and may be preventable if a family seeks timely assistance.

Our mantra-**MAI Family Services is always there for you when you need us most. You are not alone.**

As the year comes to an end and we who are fortunate ones, enjoy our holidays with our family, we should not forget those individuals whose struggle has just started, for no fault of their own.

On their behalf, it is my humble request to you to send your year-end Tax-Deductible donation check to:

MAI Family Services
Suburban Shared Center
32401 W. Eight Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48152.

With best wishes,

Brij Mohta

(Chairperson, MAI Family Services)

Did you know?

In the Year 2008, MAI Family Services received *more than 300 calls* on our helpline. Out of which *85% of calls were related to Family crisis & Domestic Violence*. The remaining 15% were calls requesting help with transportation, interpretation & general queries about our services.

Year in Review

1. **January:**
 - January 24: Michigan Community Round Table discussion on South Asian issues: MAI Family Services co-hosted this event along with Saalt (South Asian Americans Leading Together). Attendees included community leaders from number of area religious and social organizations
2. **February:**
 - February 2: MAI Family Services staged an information booth at the University of Michigan Health Fair
 - February 10: Election of Executive Committee for year 2008 – 2009
3. **March:**
 - March 1: Domestic Violence (DV) 101 training was conducted for our board members
 - March 8: MAI Family Services hosted International Women's Day (IWD) in collaboration with AIWA & Shanti Project
4. **April:**
 - April 20: Confidence Building Workshop by Vidhi Ghosalkar. This was the first of series of monthly educational seminars
 - April 27: Volunteer training at MAI Family Services office
5. **May:**
 - May 18: Workshop on Positive Parenting by Raj Chehl
6. **June:**
 - June 15: Workshop by Art of Living (AOL) foundation on Joy, Happiness & Peace
 - Presentation about MAI Family Services at Jain Temple

7. **July**
 - July 1: Office was moved from Farmington hills to a new location in Livonia
 - July 20: Picnic was held for MAI Family Services members & volunteers
8. **August:**
 - August 12: Participated in India Day celebration
 - August 17: Vedanta Workshop by Renu Malhotra
9. **September:** Members attended "Aarohan", a National Conference in New Jersey hosted by Manavi which is a South Asian Organization based in NJ
10. **October:**
 - October 11: Annual fund raising event: Musical Extravaganza by Narendra Sheth & troupe
11. **November:**
 - November 12: Members participated in MICC event
 - November 15: Functional Fitness Workshop by Seema Sridharan
 - November 18: Members attended a DV forum
 - November 22: Attended "Parivaar" event hosted by the Shanti Project

Free January Workshop

MAI Family Services presents a free, interactive and informal workshop

Topic: **Peaceful Parenting in Stressful Times**

Speaker: Usha Mangrulkar

Founder/Director of Bloomfield Maples & Lakes Area Montessori Schools

Date: Sunday, January 18th, 2009

Time: 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Place: Northville Public Library, 212 West Cady Street, Northville, MI 48167

Light refreshments will be served

To register, call 248-305-8718 or email: info@maifs.org

Upcoming Free Events:

Time: 3:00 to 4:30 PM

February 15th: "Get your Resume to Work for You" at Northville Public Library
Presented by Lloyd Williams, HR Manager of Ranal, Inc.

March 15th: "Health & Wellness" at Northville Public Library
Presented by Aditi Dave M.D, Clinical lecturer at University of Michigan

March 21st : "International Women's Day" Venue TBD
In collaboration with AIWA. Look out for more details in our forthcoming fliers

April 19th: “Challenges faced by elderly South Asians” at Northville Public Library
Presented by Chandana Sarkar, Geriatric Social Worker

May 17th: “Maintaining your Finances” Venue TBD
Presented by Brij Mohta, Financial Consultant

With Gratitude

Sincere thanks to those of you who took time out from your busy lives to extend a helping hand. We appreciate your services and hope you will continue to do so. An extra special thanks to all the local radio programs, to our Sister Organizations and MIINDIA.com who continue to support our cause! Look for more active volunteer opportunities coming in early 2009.

How to Get Involved

Are you interested in taking an active role in Mai Family Services? We are looking for passionate people from our community who are committed to helping others. Please join our team by serving as a board member. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact our Chairperson, Brij Mohta at bmohta@gmail.com.

You can make a difference!

About Us

MAI Family services is a non-profit, 501 (c)(3) Volunteer Organization.

Visit our website for more information: www.MAIFS.ORG or email us at Info@Maifs.Org