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SAVE THE DATE



2022 WALK-A-THON RECAP

MaiFS hosted its 13th annual **STOP THE VIOLENCE** walk last month and it was a huge success. The total attendance was about 120 including several youths and a group of medical students from MSU.

The agency had organized various activities to entertain and engage the attendees and we received a lot of positive feedback from them.

Thank you to our volunteers, well-wishers, and donors for making MaiFS 13th Annual Walkathon a big success.



POP DISPLAY IN GRAND RAPIDS BY SUKANYA MANI

Domestic Violence finds expression through Paper Design



Since its inception in 2009, millions of people have visited ArtPrize to see thousands of artworks displayed all over downtown Grand Rapids. ArtPrize is an open, independently organized international art competition that celebrates artists working in all mediums from anywhere in the world. ArtPrize 2022 kicked off Thursday, September 15th, drawing visitors from throughout Michigan to downtown Grand Rapids. The 18-day international art competition features roughly 750 entries, 150 venues, and \$250,000 in prize money awarded based on public input and jurors.

Mai Family Services represented by Vatsala Upadhyay and Anu Gopalakrishnan visited Grand Rapids and had an informational discussion with Sukanya Mani. Beside Between Beyond- artwork by Sukanya Mani was displayed at Fountain Street Church. This data-centric visual display used light, space, and gravity as Sukanya narrated stories of immigrant and refugee DV survivors using data collected by her over the years. Sukanya in a deep conversation mentioned that she translated information that she collected through interviews into art. As you step closer and read the text, there is so much more that goes into creating these visuals, mentioned Sukanya.” For example, the use of visa paper that was cut to depict a butterfly showed the metamorphosis. She further stated that visa papers were filled by DV survivors, and it could take up to 7 years to get situated in the United States. Butterflies signify independence (in this case financial independence, independence from trauma etc.) and hence actual visa papers were cut into butterflies. Another cool concept that was used were depiction of mobile phones with eyes indicating stalkers, a community that looks at you with their own perspective, abusers tracking your movement etc. Cell phones become more than just devices of information or a call for help.

Sukanya's brilliant vision and imagery was unparalleled, and the artwork depicted the journey of how power and control play out in a DV victim's life, including the role of the community that could both be harmful and beneficial. Sukanya mentioned that privacy is key toward building trust and that trauma involved often blinds you from making practical decisions. That becomes the sole reason to consolidate the data elements and create a powerful narrative using appropriate imagery through paper designs.

Learn more about Sukanya's work: <https://www.sukanyamani.com/the-beside-between-beyond-project>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- **Victim Advocate**
- **Case Worker**

How to apply:

Please e-mail a cover letter detailing your relevant experience and resume to Jobs@maifamilyservices.com indicating the position 'Caseworker' or 'Victim Advocacy' you are applying for in the subject line.

Please provide three references.

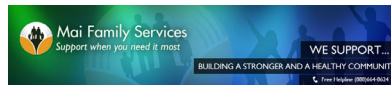
We will be accepting applications and interviewing candidates on a rolling basis till the positions are filled.

UPCOMING TRAINING & EVENT

Stay tuned for more details or email us at info@maifamilyservices.com to learn more.

- **Volunteer Training** - *Saturday, September 24th*
- **Annual Holiday Banquet** - *Saturday, December 3rd*

Thank you for supporting Mai Family Services!



Our mailing address is:
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