



- Breaking the Silence: Supporting South Asian Survivors of Domestic Violence
- Did You Know?
- Monthly Statistics
- Celebration Meets Purpose. Community Action Creates Impact.
- MaiFS Monthly Recurring Program
- New Partner: MAPAAC

Breaking the Silence: Supporting South Asian Survivors of Domestic Violence

A photograph of two hands, one larger and one smaller, gently holding a purple awareness ribbon. The background is a light purple grid pattern.

**END THE SILENCE,
BREAK THE
CHAINS**

**SPEAK UP, SUPPORT EACH
OTHER**

The logo features a stylized family silhouette within a circular frame, with a green and blue gradient background.

Mai Family Services
Support when you need it most
www.maifs.org

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Mai Family Services (MaiFS) is intensifying its efforts to reach survivors across Michigan through a comprehensive multilingual outreach campaign in partnership with MAPAAC (Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission).

Understanding Cultural Contexts

Domestic violence in South Asian communities often remains hidden due to unique cultural factors. Concepts like "izzat" (family honor) and "log kya kahenge" (what will people say) can prevent survivors from seeking help. Extended family dynamics, immigration status concerns, and financial dependence frequently complicate these situations.

Traditional expectations around marriage, gender roles, and family structure can create additional pressure on survivors to remain silent. Many face language barriers or fear losing connection with their cultural community if they speak out.

MaiFS Multilingual Outreach Initiative

To bridge these gaps, MaiFS in partnership with MAPAAC will be distributing informational materials in eight languages including Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Telugu, Tamil, Nepali, English, and Punjabi. These materials will be available at religious institutions, South Asian grocery stores, community centers, medical offices, cultural events, and educational institutions.

Why Community Referrals Matter

If you know someone experiencing domestic violence, referring them to MaiFS can be life changing.

Our culturally sensitive advocates understand:

- The complex dynamics of South Asian families
- Immigration-related concerns
- Religious and cultural considerations
- Language needs
- Community pressures

MaiFS provides:

1. Confidential support services
2. Safety planning
3. Language assistance
4. Cultural mediation
5. Connection to legal resources
6. Mental health support through Counseling

Take Action

Don't stay silent. If you know someone who needs help, direct them to MaiFS. Our trained advocates provide confidential support while respecting cultural sensitivities. Remember: reaching out isn't shameful – it's an act of courage that can save lives.

Contact MaiFS:

Helpline: (888) 664-8624

Email: info@maifs.org

Website: www.maifs.org

All communications are strictly confidential.

Your referral could be the first step toward someone's safety and healing. Together, we can build a stronger, safer, and healthier community. Thank you MAPAAC for this partnership

Did You Know?

DID YOU KNOW?

COMMON SIGNS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

Financial control: Restricting access to bank accounts, requiring permission for basic purchases, or withholding information about family finances

Immigration-based threats: Threatening to withdraw visa sponsorship or withholding important documents

Using children as leverage: Threatening to send children to their home country or denying access to them

Social isolation: Preventing contact with family/friends, monitoring phone calls and messages, or restricting attendance at community events

Cultural manipulation: Using "family honor," religious interpretation, or community standing as tools of control

Extended family abuse: Experiencing control or abuse from in-laws while spouse remains passive

www.maifs.org

Monthly Statistics



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Our world in October

TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED: **59**



43

Current active survivors

16

Referrals and Resources

2

NEW Partners!

MaiFS Free Helpline: 888-664-8624

Office Hours

(Mon-Fri: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM)

Monthly Statistics



Mai Family Services
Support when you need it most
www.maifs.org

Our world in September

TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED: **53**



39

Current active survivors

14

Referrals and Resources

3

Partners!

MaiFS Free Helpline: 888-664-8624

Office Hours

(Mon-Fri: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM)

Celebration Meets Purpose. Community Action Creates Impact.

As Michigan's oldest South Asian nonprofit of its kind, Mai Family Services (MaiFS) invites you to an unforgettable evening of thanksgiving and celebration. This exclusive holiday gala offers a unique opportunity to connect with your community while making a meaningful difference in the lives of survivors.



Experience the power of resilience firsthand as survivors share their inspiring journeys. Let their stories move you while enjoying an evening filled with vibrant music, cultural dance performances, and authentic cuisine. Your presence will help strengthen our community's commitment to supporting those in need.

Recently awarded the GuideStar Platinum Seal of Transparency again in 2024, MaiFS continues its legacy of accountability and unwavering dedication to its mission. This recognition reflects our years of responsible stewardship and commitment to creating positive change in our community.

Every ticket purchased directly supports our intervention and prevention programs, helping us maintain crucial services for several survivors. Don't miss this chance to be part of something larger than yourself – an evening where celebration meets purpose, and community action creates lasting impact.

Join us in this celebration of hope, resilience, and community spirit. Together, we can make a difference that resonates throughout Michigan's South Asian community and beyond.

Buy your tickets now at www.MAIFS.org

Table of 8: \$400

Individual: \$65

Early bird pricing ends on November 5th.

MaiFS Monthly Recurring Program



DONATION APPEAL

Dear Supporters,

Today, we're excited to launch our monthly recurring donation program. Your regular support, even in small amounts, can make a big difference.

Think of it this way: For less than the cost of a weekly lunch, you can fuel our mission year-round. A \$10 monthly donation adds up to \$120 annually - that's enough to provide basic services to our survivors.

By becoming a monthly donor, you're not just giving - you're joining a community of dedicated change-makers. Your steady support allows us to plan ahead and tackle long-term projects with confidence.

Ready to make a lasting impact?

Visit [Monthly Recurring Program](#) to set up your monthly gift today.

Thank you for your continued support.

MaiFS Fundraising Team



Your consistent support can make a lasting difference. By becoming a monthly donor to Mai Family Services, you help ensure we can provide ongoing, culturally sensitive support to families in need- the number which is growing every month.

For as little as the cost of a cup of coffee per month, you can:

- Sustain vital programs
- Empower families to break cycles of violence
- Support community education and outreach

Every month, your generosity creates ripples of positive change. Join our circle of committed supporters today!

Set up your monthly donation now and be a continuous force for good in our community.

[Become Monthly Hero](#)

New Partner: MAPAAC



The Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC) is a state-level bi partisan organization dedicated to addressing the needs and concerns of Asian Pacific American (APA) communities in Michigan. Established to enhance the social, cultural, and economic well-being of APA residents, the commission works to promote awareness and understanding of APA contributions and issues. It serves as a bridge between the APA community and government, advising on policies and initiatives that impact APA individuals across the state. MAPAAC engages in outreach, advocacy, and partnership-building to foster an inclusive and diverse environment throughout Michigan.

Thank you for supporting Mai Family Services!



Our mailing address is:
MAI FAMILY SERVICES
32401 W. Eight Mile Rd
Livonia, MI 48152

