



Mai Family Services

News and Views

December 2011

Support when you need it most

32401 W. 8 Mile Rd.

Livonia, MI 48152

(248)477-4985

Our help line number

888-664-8624

www.maifs.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dear Mai Family Services supporter,
Happy holidays to you and your family!

What are you **thankful** for this year?

- A. Peace of Mind
- B. Freedom to be Yourself
- C. Feeling Safe
- D. All of the Above

Some holiday lists are more essential than others.....
This holiday season, grant your fellow neighbors "All of the Above."

They are counting on YOUR generous donations!
Because of you, Mai Family Services was able to help over 100 callers in 2011! We would like to expand our services in 2012 by offering in-house counseling and financial assistance for continuing education. Please help us to achieve these goals. Current economic conditions have made it difficult for our clients to find work and have relied on us more than ever! Remember, your donation is tax deductible.

Thank you for being part of "Mai" Family!

Have a safe holiday season.



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1 in 4 women will experience abuse by their partner/spouse in their lifetime in the U.S.

Stand Up, Don't Stand By!

Mai Family Services (MAIFS) and New Visions have teamed up to launch a project to promote Healthy South Asian communities where Community members support those affected by abuse from their partners or spouses.*

Learn about domestic violence and how you can help educate and assist fellow community members in accessing assistance.

We are looking for South Asian men and women, 18 years old and above, and those who can commit to the following:

- 24+ hours of initial training to learn about domestic violence, facilitation, etc.
- 10-12 hours of work every month
- Minimum of 1 year commitment
- Conduct at least one community training
- Able to meet on weekends and evenings for meetings and trainings

A small stipend will be provided.

APPLY Today! Application form can be downloaded from our website, www.maifs.org or request a copy by emailing/calling us at 248-880-2369 or MAIFNVinfo@umich.edu. Applications are due by Wednesday, January 18, 2012.

Want more information?

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 22, 2012

3-5pm

Mai Family Services (32401 W. Eight Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48152)

Light Refreshments will be served. RSVP Required.

****MAIFS is a community-based organization dedicated to supporting South Asians in need in Michigan.***

***** New Visions, of the University of Michigan School of Social Work, is a community-based project committed to ending domestic violence in Asian/Asian American communities of Southeast Michigan.***

Mai Family Services is a tax-exempt 501(C) (3) non-profit Organization.



Mai Family Services

Ek suhana safar



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The 3rd Holiday Banquet was celebrated on Saturday, December 10th. This was the last event for the current year. We had planned a musical program “Ek suhana safar” presented by our local talented artists Shree Belsare, Mohini Savanur and Chitra Sridhar. These artists entertained our guests at no cost to the organization. In addition, DJ Nadeem of Bollywood DJ services donated his services to entertain the enthusiastic guests to foot-tapping dance music once the dance floor was opened after dinner.

First time in the history of Mai Family Services, the event was sold out and the organizers had to close accepting dinner reservations as early as December 7th because of lack of space in the banquet hall. We had more than 190 guests attend the event. We had doubled our guest list from last year. Most importantly, many first-timers to Mai Family Services’ events attended the event .

We sincerely apologize that we had to turn away many callers who were interested in attending the event. We promise that we will look into getting a bigger facility next year so that we can accommodate everyone .

The evening was enjoyed by one and all. There was great music, good food and delicious desserts donated by our volunteers. The evening started with social hour at 6:00 PM followed by a welcome speech by Mona Sashital. She introduced the Executive committee, board members and various functional committee members and thanked all the volunteers and donors who show their support through donations or their services throughout the year. Vote of thanks was followed by Musical program. The choice of songs was a perfect mix of new and old and was enjoyed by all. Dinner followed at 8:30 PM followed by opening the dance floor at 9:30 PM. Everyone, young and old, enjoyed the dancing. By 11:00 PM, we had to call it a night.

We received many positive comments from the community members and they are included here to be shared with all:

• Congratulations. Fantastic. What a great turn out and how many young people? Totally unbelievable evening. Singularly Successful event. All the feedback received was singularly positive and encouraging: Bharat Sanghvi



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- *My friends and I want to thank you for the wonderful MAIFS holiday banquet and for reserving a table for us yesterday. All of us had a terrific time savoring the culinary delights, lip syncing to the nostalgic tunes by the talented artists and of course dancing away to the Bollywood hits. You and your colleagues are to be commended for your tireless service and superb execution of a thoroughly entertaining evening. The presence of a full house is testament to your dedication to increasing awareness of MaiFS. My friends and I plan to do our part toward that quest and hope to get more actively involved with MaiFS: Kusum Rashid*
- *Program was very well done. LOT of good food, very nice team of volunteers: Madhuri Deshpande*



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Call Stats, client story/testimonial

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“Call Stats: Since September 2011, we have received 43 new calls on our helpline out of which 10 have been Domestic Violence related calls. The other calls were from clients seeking legal assistance, counseling for marital conflicts, issues with children and other mental health issues.”



Mai Family Services

*2012 Calendar:
MaiFS 2012 Events:*

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Following is a list of events scheduled for 2012:

Mai Open House – U of M event – Sunday, January 22nd -- 3 – 5 pm

Workshop – March – date and topic TBD

Walkathon – Sunday, June 10th

River Cruise – September – date TBD

Diwali Celebration – November – date TBD

Annual Banquet – Saturday, December 8th



Mai Family Services

Poem By Tilak Sharma

एक लडका और एक लडकी जब मिलते हैं
बहुत से मीठे मीठे सपने सजाने लगते हैं
फिर एक दिन जब उनकी शादी हो जाती है
तब जीवन की असलीयत सामने आती है

आटे दाल का भाव समझ में आता है
जाने अनजाने में मन मटाव हो जाता है
कभी थोड़ी बहुत तू तू मैं मैं हो जाती है
एक दूसरे की हर बुराई नजर आती है

जब मां बाप की आपस में लड़ाई होती है
कोई नहीं जानता बच्चों पर क्या गुजरती है
बेचारे अंदर ही अंदर सहमे सहमे रहते हैं
दोनों में किसी को कुछ भी नहीं कहते हैं

क्या कहें, किसे कहें अपने घर की कहानी
लड़ाई में लाभ नहीं केवल हानि ही हानि
क्यों हुआ, कैसे हुआ कुछ समझ नहीं आता
मां बाप को भी बच्चों का ध्यान नहीं आता

जब परिवार टूटने तक की नौबत आती है
न किसी का बस चलता है न राये काम आती है
कमजोर को कोई सहारा नजर नहीं आता
जीवन एक बोझ लगता है सहा नहीं जाता

काश ऐसे में किसी का सहारा मिल जाये
मशिकल की घडी किसी तरह से टल जाये
जौना है बच्चों के लिये, मरा भी न जाये
कौन है जो अंधेरे जीवन में दिया जलाये

शुक्र है खुदा का मिशिगन में एक संस्था है

जिस से हर दुखी को सहारा मिल सकता है
Mai फेमिली सर्विसेस है जो काम आती है
बिना किसी सवाल के अपने गले से लगाती है

यह संस्था अपनी ही है कोई पराई नहीं
इस के लिये कोई हिंदू, मुसलमान इसाई नहीं
कृपया अपना सहयोग दीजिये, मदद कीजिये
किसी पीडित इन्सान की लाज बचा लीजिये

गीता, कोरान, बाईबल हम को सिखाती हैं
नेक काम करने से जिन्दगी संवर जाती है
चिडी चोंच भर ले गई नदी न घटयो नीर
दान दिये धन न घटे कह गये भक्त कबीर

तिलक का निवेदन है कृपया आगे आइये
तन, मन और धन नेक काम में लगाइए
हमें उमीद है आप यह नेक काम जरूर करेंगे
आप की मनोकामना पूरी हो हम दुआ करेंगे
आप की मनोकामना पूरी हो हम दुआ करेंगे

तिलक शर्मा



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Community Charity Drive appeal

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Dear friends,

On behalf of the Michigan Indian Community, Mai Family Services is asking you to show your kindness this Holiday Season by donating to Gleaners Community Food Bank. As you are aware, the harsh economic conditions have made it difficult for thousands of families in the area. It is time for us to act. Please contribute generously. You can make your tax deductible contributions "Online" or at one of several Indian grocery stores and Restaurants. You can also donate canned food at select locations. For a current list and additional information visit www.miindia.com

Please encourage children to participate. A certificate of appreciation will be awarded to every child that collects \$100 or more.

For more information visit www.miindia.com

With sincere appreciation,

Mai Family Services