

## Welcome to 2020!

We hope you are staying warm and keeping healthy during the frigid winter months. The warmth of the community's well-wishes keeps MaiFS going strong and we look forward to another great year in 2020!

This year we are requesting your assistance in spreading the word about Mai Family Services. This can be done by hosting Chai With Mai events at your home, or by inviting us to an event hosted by another organization that you belong to. There are many other ways to spread the word about our services too and we would be happy to discuss those with you. Please call us at 248-477-4985.

As always, we are open to your suggestions and comments. We love to hear from you! Sincerely,

Swatee Kulkarni, President, Mai Family Services

### STOP EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

In October 2016, Mai Family Services received its first state-funded grant, the STOP Grant (under the Violence against Women Act) towards creating an empowerment program for women. The STOP Grant Empowerment Program provides minority women in Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties FREE Computer Skills, English as a second language, Financial Literacy, and Soft Skills classes. Additionally, the grant defrays child care and transportation costs on a case by case basis to help and encourage enrolled students to maintain class room attendance. The grant also helps run Support Groups for South Asian women experiencing domestic violence situations.

The STOP Empowerment goal for 2020 is to expand programs to other South Asian communities in the Metro Detroit area, and increase enrollment in the classes offered at current locations. Towards that, an aggressive outreach effort is being planned and implemented. While our efforts are ongoing, we also seek out and invite collaborations from other South Asian, minority, and mainstream organizations engaged in the efforts to empower our minority women.

#### SAVE THE DATE- MaiFS upcoming events:

- Annual Fundraiser- Sunday, June 7 at Ford Preforming Arts Auditorium, Dearborn.
- Annual Walkathon- Sunday, September 13 at Lakeshore Park, Novi.
- Annual Appreciation Banquet- *Saturday, December 5* at Farmington Hills Manor, Farmington Hills.

## STOP TEEN DATING VIOLENCE!!!

February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. Teen Dating Violence just not only impacts teens, it also impacts their parents, teachers, friends and communities as well. Let's come together to raise the nation's awareness about teen dating violence and promote safe and healthy relationships.

According to **DOSOMETHING.ORG**, 1 out of every 3 teenagers will be involved in an abusive relationship. Abuse can be physical, emotional, or even sexual. Dating abuse can have immediate and long-term consequences. According to **CDC.GOV**, teens are vulnerable to depression and are likely to turn to drugs or alcohol for relief. Many victims of teen dating violence develop low self-esteem and have trouble adjusting to life as an adult.

If you suspect that your teen is in an abusive relationship, get involved and stop the abuse. <u>SIGNS OF</u> <u>DATING VIOLENCE.</u>

# An opportunity to help Mai Family Services when you shop atsmile.amazon.com!!!

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Go to org.amazon.com

#### Job Opening!

Mai Family Services is inviting applicants for following Part-time PAID position: Caseworker: Part-time position (20 hrs/week). Please <u>click here</u> for details of the position. Please e-mail a cover letter detailing your relevant experience and resume

to Jobs@maifamilyservices.com.

who hope and dream of living violence free lives.



#### Thank you for supporting Mai Family Services!



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