



August 2017

Greetings!

We are excited to announce the opening of our new satellite office in the suburb of Skokie, co-located with [Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center](#). This space will allow us to serve more people affected by gender violence. We will provide legal advocacy, case management, counseling and supervised visitation and safe exchange services from this location. These services and more continue at our main office location in Uptown Chicago.



As you may know, we have expanded our housing program through a brand new purpose built safe home that has doubled our capacity to house and care for survivors of gender violence. In addition, we restarted our transitional housing program in partnership with [WINGS](#) and now have eight scattered site apartments where families are housed and services are provided. We are also working on a research based model for providing enhanced and therapeutic services to families in our supervised visitation and safe exchange program. This model is developed in partnership with [Inspire Action for Social Change](#). Stay tuned for more news on the implementation of this model!



Part of our expansion last year included a partnership with the domestic violence court via a court liaison position. Our court liaison Amrita Hanjrah has been involved in training and informing judges, court personnel and the legal system broadly about supervised visitation and safe exchange services, and connecting families in court to these services along with the Child Relief Expediter Stephanie Senuta. We were pleased to host Judge Rice and Judge Fernandez of the Domestic Violence Court along with Court Administrator Leslie Landis and Stephanie at our office and safe home to discuss our work, and to provide context to services

available for survivors of gender violence.

We are so proud that Radhika Sharma Gordon, Apna Ghar's manager of outreach and education received the Community Ambassador Award from Dr. Angela Sedeño, Executive Director of [The Kedzie Center](#), Chicago's only community-funded mental health center for her work in connecting the Kedzie Center to resources. The Kedzie Center offers culturally-informed clinical services and organizes community dialogues on immigrant rights, Latinx LGBTQ issues, community violence, and trauma.



Congratulations to our staff Fauzia Mohammed and Tegest Tesfaw for graduating from [Chicago Foundation for Women](#) (CFW)'s Advocacy Academy. We look forward to incorporating the learning and strengthening our advocacy work. We were glad to support the TRUST Act advocacy with [Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Chicago](#) (AAAJ-C) and other partners, rally in support of Neha Rastogi with [National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum](#) (NAPAWF), [AFIRE](#) and other

partners and continue to support the Illinois Domestic Workers Bill of Rights, budget advocacy, as well as the re-authorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).



Thank you again for your continued support of our fundraising events Taste for Life and since last year, our annual golf outing. We now hope you will join us at our 11th Annual Stride Against Violence 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, October 15 at Montrose Harbor! Registration is now open for participants and volunteers. For more information and to register, visit [www.apnaghar.org/stride-against-violence](http://www.apnaghar.org/stride-against-violence)

We very much look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Neha Gill  
Executive Director

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