SD Nari Newsletter - Dec 2022



Welcome!

I am Jyoti Bisarya and on behalf of the board, here is our final newsletter for 2022. Happy Holidays! This time of year always encourages reflection. As we look back, we are overcome with gratitude. Thank you for supporting the work that we do to help women in need. Just recently so many of you made donations for the international student we were helping. As some of you may know, this young lady's father lost his job in India during the pandemic so was unable to send her money. When she reached out to us, she was emotionally and physically worn down. She was under immense stress. Even though she was working odd jobs, she was unable to pay her rent and was scrambling to meet her basic expenses. Due to your contributions, SD Nari was able to help her with rent, groceries and medical insurance. We also got her a regular part-time job and a scholarship. In the meantime, her family is making other arrangements. We are so thankful to this community for their generosity. You have made a difference in this young woman's life!

On a lighter note, one of the highlights of the year was meeting so many of you in person at our picnic in September. See pics below. Amid the fun and games, we got a chance to hear your thoughts and ideas on how we as a community can come together to help each other. Your passion inspires our work. Let's stay connected!



Happy Holidays! Stay safe and healthy. During this season of giving, if you would like to donate to us, please visit <u>http://sdnari.org/</u>

SD Nari Shakti Committee (Lead - Sneh Agarwal)

SD Nari Holiday Celebration, Scholarship Winner and more...

We want to give a shout out to our supporters who are doing an amazing job putting the word out there about the work that we do. In fact recently India Currents published an article about one of the women who we had helped. See the full article at <u>https://indiacurrents.com/the-electricity-bill-that-set-fire-to-a-marriage-nishas-story/</u>. Below is an excerpt.

The first time he hit me was because an electricity bill went missing. I had stowed it in an upstairs drawer. My husband expected to find it in the kitchen. He didn't. He got mad. I heard my motherin-law pleading, "Don't do this. That first slap shocked me. My mother-in-law said, "He wants things his own perfect way." Whenever he got violent afterward, I began to think that maybe this was normal – what every Indian wife had to accept once she was in her husband's home.

We are currently working with many different women who have reached out to us. As always, if you know a woman in need, please email us at sdnariyan@gmail.com or call our hotline phone # (619) 800-8554.

SD Nari Seniors Committee (Lead - Asha Agarwal)

Our annual holiday party is back. Yay! We still have a handful of tickets left. It is going to be a good time. Both men and women are welcome. We look forward to seeing you there. See flyer below for details.



SD Nari Youth Committee (Lead - Kavita Shah)

We are delighted to welcome Nishi, Priyanka, and Raina to the team. So glad they have joined us.

We are also very excited to announce the 2022 SD Nari Youth Committee Scholarship winner. We

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thank all the applicants for sharing their excellent and inspiring projects. Congratulations to **Shravani Chiddarwar.** She is a senior at Rancho Bernardo High School and her project, **That's on Period**, is solving for the lack of menstrual products in her school district. Great job Shravani for making a strong impact in our community and we wish you the very best for the future!



Thank you for your support at the SD Nari picnic with your purchases at our gently used sari booth. In addition to raising funds, we had fun performing an upbeat dance choreographed by one of our very own members. It was wonderful spending time together, playing fun games, and listening to inspiring speeches.



Lastly, we conducted the "Journey to College" panel on Nov 16th. The session was attended by many middle-schoolers, high-schoolers, and parents, who greatly benefited from the experiences and advice shared by the panelists. Shout out to Cecil Portrey, Ketki Chakradeo, Sabella Ibinyopakaka, and Bhavya Bellannagari for sharing your high school journey and giving advice to students about the college application process.

Please spread the word about our committee to any interested high school girls. They can reach out to us by emailing us at sdnariyouth@gmail.com. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year in advance!

To learn more about SD Nari or to volunteer with us, please visit <u>http://sdnari.org/</u> and follow us on Facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/SDNari/</u>

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