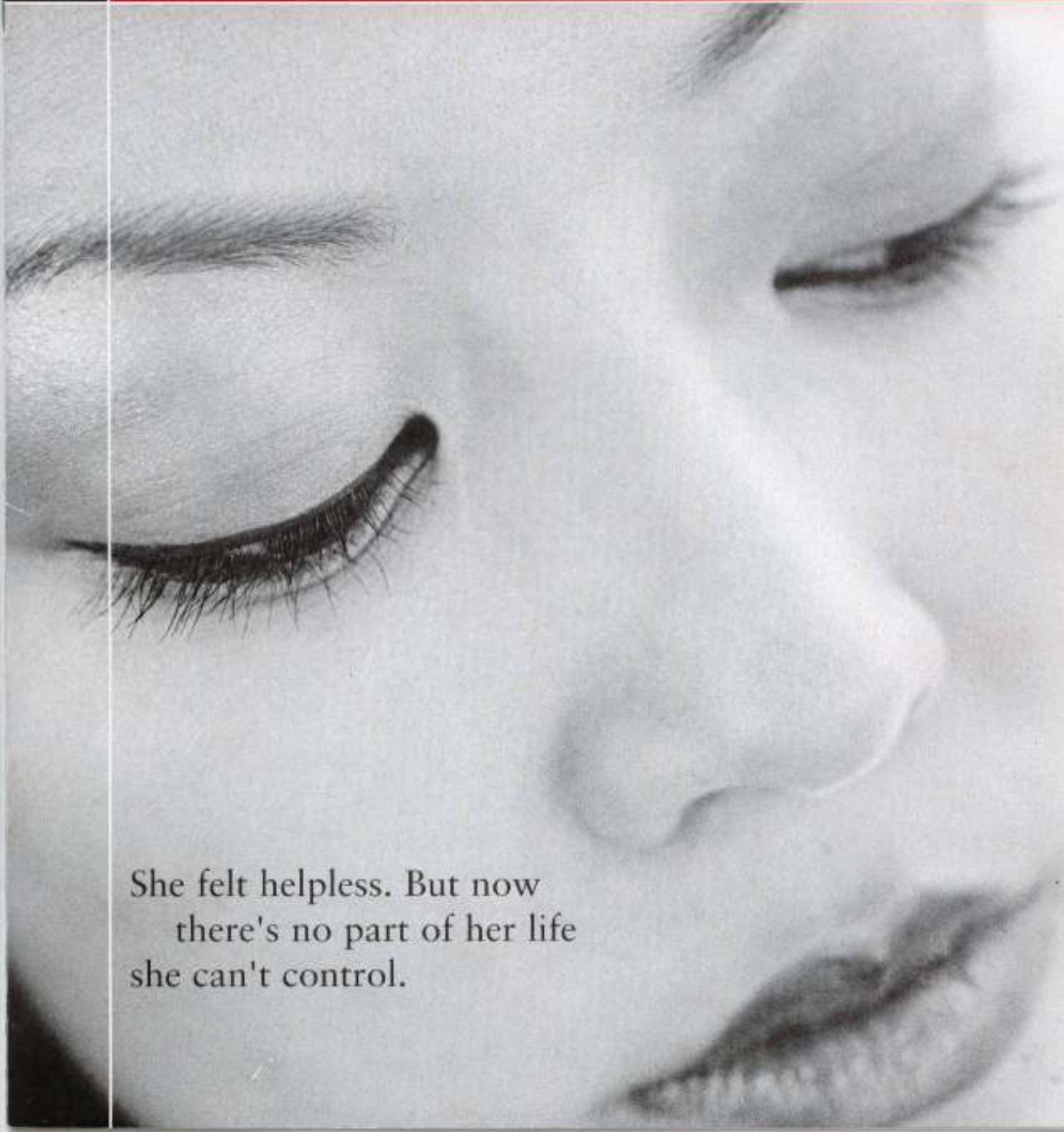




ASIAN TASK FORCE AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Annual Report 2005

A large, close-up, black and white photograph of a woman's face. Her eyes are closed, and her expression is one of sadness or despair. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of her skin and the details of her eyelashes and lips.

She felt helpless. But now
there's no part of her life
she can't control.

Only 3% of Massachusetts residents are Asian—
but 18% of women killed as a result of domestic
violence were Asian.



Since 1992, the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence has been working to eliminate family violence and strengthen Asian families and communities.

Sadly, domestic violence knows no boundaries, but Asian women face additional cultural and linguistic barriers to confronting their situations and accessing services. Asian women are the least likely to formally report any kind of physical abuse. Asian families living with violence require specialized outreach, advocacy in their own languages, guidance with immigration issues and solutions that are relevant to their own cultures.

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence is a leader in bridging the gap across cultures, languages and generations. We provide customized services to battered Asian women and children and help provide them with opportunities to become self-sufficient members of society.



Shirley Fan, Executive Director



Atsuko Toko Fish, Board Chair

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the board, staff, volunteers and, most importantly, our clients at the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence, thank you for your interest in and support of our mission to help end domestic violence and strengthen Asian families and communities.

Over the last year, the Asian Task Force worked with Community Action Partners (CAP), a pro-bono service of the Harvard Business School Alumni Association. These experienced consultants concluded that the Asian Task Force is well-poised to bring its knowledge and expertise to domestic violence agencies and other legal and medical providers across the country and around the world based upon the following core strengths and unique value propositions:

- Only the Asian Task Force addresses the breadth of diversity within the Asian population.
- The Asian Task Force provides a full-spectrum of services—from emergency housing to basic life-skills training to work placement.
- The Asian Task Force focuses on the entire family, including victims, perpetrators, extended family and at-risk youth.

Together, we have created our long-term vision, Global Connect, which is to act as a cultural broker on behalf of Asian immigrants and to become a thought leader on Asian domestic violence. Our hope is that by sharing best practices among healthcare providers, law enforcements agencies, social service organizations and more, we will be able to stop family violence at its root.

We hope that you will continue your interest and support of the Asian Task Force and join us on our journey to eradicate domestic violence among families worldwide.

If you would like additional copies of our annual report or have comments, please contact Ki Perry, *Director of Development*, at 617.338.2350 x222 or ki@atask.org.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shirley Fan, Executive Director

Atsuko Toko Fish, Board Chair

One third of all women murdered in this country are killed by men who were supposed to love them. On average, this is more than three women every day.



When Penh left her homeland for America in 1983, she had every reason to be optimistic. Cambodia was a country devastated and terrorized by a murderous regime, and America offered a vision of peace and opportunity. What she found, however, was bleak. Her arranged marriage quickly turned abusive and violent, and Penh was left to wonder hopelessly at her failure to find security and success. "When I was little, I watched my mother and father having a loving marriage. I don't know why I can't find that," she says.

Penh's oldest child, Tony, recalls the harshness of his father's treatment: "When my mom was giving birth to my youngest sister, I heard my dad praying for my mom to die."

By the time her husband left the family, Penh had three children to raise and little idea how to proceed. Like many Asian women who immigrate to America, she was lacking both basic language skills and a familial network of support. Culturally conditioned to regard domestic abuse as a private matter, Penh was hesitant to reach out for help. Fortunately, she was directed to the Asian Task Force by a district attorney prosecuting the case against her husband. She and her family quickly developed close and productive relationships with their Asian Task Force advocates, and in that context of trust and support began making their first serious strides toward self-sufficiency.

Though Penh still faces challenges, the Asian Task Force has helped her find a new home where her children, for the first time in their lives, have rooms of their own. Penh is currently searching for a job and working toward gaining American citizenship. In the Asian Task Force, Penh has found a version of the loving and supportive family she recalls from her Cambodian childhood: "Asian Task Force is like my adopted mother, they helped me a lot." Penh's youngest daughter, Paula, agrees: "You guys are heroes."

ASIAN TASK FORCE PROGRAMS

The Asian Shelter and Advocacy Project

- 24-hour multilingual crisis hotline
- 90-day emergency shelter
- 14-day temporary safe home
- Community outreach and education
- Multilingual advocacy
- Housing and legal advocacy
- Mental health assessment
- Children's services: assessment & referral
- Life Skills and English for Speakers of Other Languages

Project Safe —

Community Organizing, Education & Prevention

- Annual Domestic Violence Regional Forum
- Asian Clothesline Project
- WAVE: teen dating violence prevention curriculum
- Toolbox: Domestic Violence 201 curriculum

Lowell Asian Project Against Domestic Violence

- Community-based advocacy, outreach & education among the second-largest Cambodian population in the country

In 2005, we served Massachusetts families from cultures as diverse as:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| • African American | • Indonesian |
| • Brazilian | • Korean |
| • Cambodian | • Latina |
| • Caucasian | • Lebanese |
| • Chinese | • Pakistani |
| • Filipino | • Somali |
| • Gambian | • Thai |
| • Indian | • Vietnamese |

NEW PROGRAMS

Life Skills and English for Speakers of Other Languages

The Asian Task Force's Life Skills/ESOL program is intended not only to improve clients' English-language fluency, but to improve their chances of fulfilling their larger ambitions. Clients work with instructors to develop both short- and long-term goals, such as obtaining employment or American citizenship. The women are provided information on such topics as childcare, professional-training opportunities and housing issues; they are familiarized with such documents as Section 8 housing forms, resumés and cover letters. They leave with increased confidence and competence, and better prepared for real-world problem solving.

Seeds of Hope Scholarship

The Seeds of Hope scholarship may be applied in different ways, but the purpose is always the same: to grant low-income women the opportunity for the increased self-sufficiency and self-determination that education provides. Leng, from Cambodia, plans to earn her GED and pursue a certificate in electronic telecommunications; Rada, already a licensed cosmetologist, also plans to get her GED, and hopes to take over the salon where she is currently a manicurist; and Norfely plans to use the scholarship to attend advanced culinary courses. Different paths to the same ends: the mobility of education and the pride of independence.

WAVE—Teen Dating Violence Prevention Curriculum

WAVE: Wave of Asian Voices Emerging is a program designed to reduce one of the most deadly contributing factors to domestic and dating violence: silence. It is estimated that one in three teens has been or will be involved in an abusive relationship. In the Asian community, particularly, there are long-standing and stringent cultural prohibitions against speaking up and seeking help. By targeting Boston-area Asian youth between the ages of 13 and 19, WAVE seeks to dispel the stigma for a vulnerable population. By educating teens to both seek and to offer help, it strives to end the silence and to forever disrupt the cycle of violence.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets

Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$470,542
Contracts Receivable	\$216,130
Other Receivables	\$22,704
Prepaid Expenses	\$29,746
Property and Equipment Net	\$603,545
Deposits	\$6,692
Total Assets	\$1,349,359

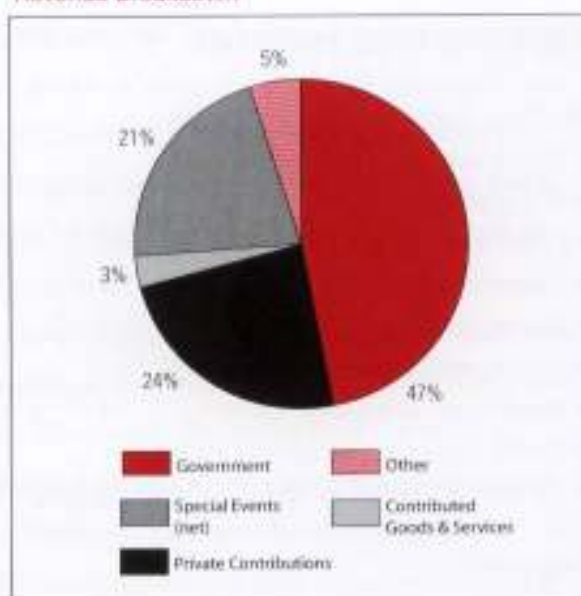
Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$72,887
Accrued Expenses	\$30,863
Mortgage Notes Payable	\$360,401
Total Liabilities	\$464,151

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$622,012
Board Designated	\$187,748
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	\$809,760
Total Temporarily Restricted	\$75,448
Total Net Assets	\$885,208
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$1,349,359

Revenue Breakdown

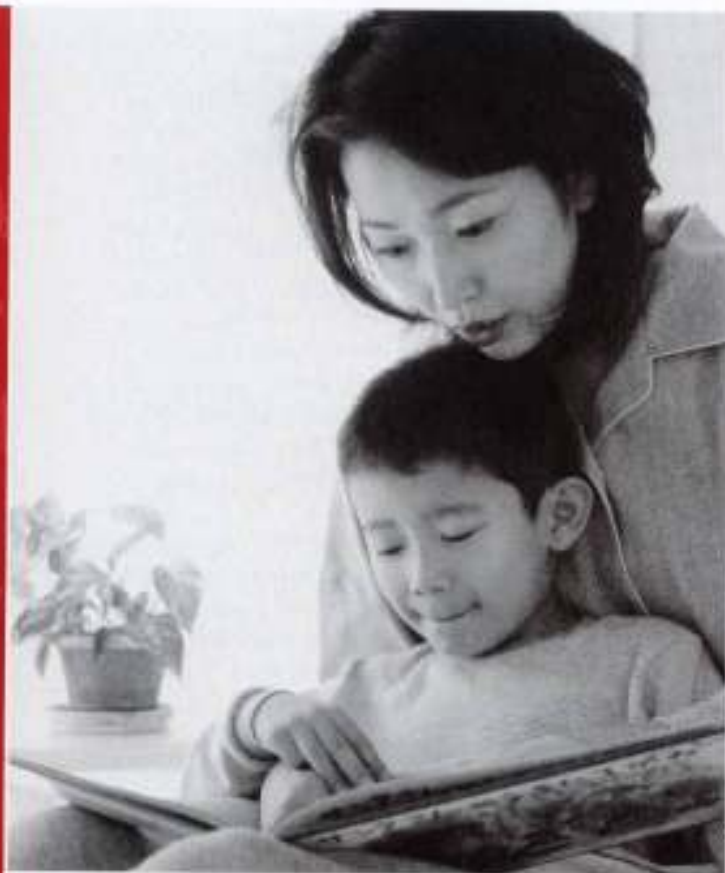


STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Support and Revenue	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Contract Revenue	\$776,710	–	\$776,710
Contribution and Grants	\$331,799	\$75,448	\$407,247
Contributed Goods and Services	\$42,800	–	\$42,800
Special Events (Net)	\$352,313	–	\$352,313
Interest	\$11,147	–	\$11,147
Gain on Debt Forgiveness	\$77,812	–	\$77,812
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$60,000	(\$60,000)	–
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,652,581	\$15,448	\$1,668,029
Program Expenses	\$1,347,677	–	\$1,347,677
General Administrative	\$160,813	–	\$160,813
Fundraising	\$212,212	–	\$212,212
Total Expenses	\$1,720,702	–	\$1,720,702
Change in Net Assets	(\$68,121)	\$15,448	(\$52,673)
Net Assets—Beginning of Year	\$877,881	\$60,000	\$937,881
Net Assets—End of Year	\$809,760	\$75,448	\$885,208

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005

66% of business leaders believe their company's financial performance would benefit from addressing the issue of domestic violence.



Sui Mei takes pride in her young son's joy. "He is a very happy little boy," she says. "He's never shy. Everywhere he goes he loves to play with people." That capacity for happiness is a quality all parents hope to instill in their children; and it's a quality that requires an environment of safety, security and trust. **Providing that environment for her son was a hard-fought battle for Sui Mei**, who recalls that she received little help from her husband: "Maybe because my husband didn't know how to be a parent or how to care for a child, all the baby's needs were provided by me alone."

That Sui Mei met that challenge is all the more remarkable given that she herself had no safety, no security and was married to a man whom she could not trust. "Maybe because I had to spend all my time taking care of our son we began to have conflicts. The arguments made him violent and not long after was the first time he beat me up."

On her own, Sui Mei despaired. She was without financial resources and spoke almost no English. Without the assistance of the Asian Task Force, she feels she might have gone under. "I felt like I was hopeless but the Asian Task Force provided me with shelter, legal assistance. They helped me get financial assistance and find an apartment, a home of my own."

Without the Asian Task Force's help, says Sui Mei, she would not have these basic necessities nor the life skills to thrive in her new home. But with the Asian Task Force's aid, she has gained these things and an increasing sense of safety, security and trust. Sui Mei has gained hope and a greater capacity for happiness.

The cost of intimate violence exceeds \$5.8 billion each year.

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence thanks the following donors for their generous financial support:

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 Violence Against Women's Act
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Fifty percent of men who frequently assaulted their wives also frequently abused their children.

2005 RESULTS

- 5,635 Number of Hotline Calls
 - 262 Total Clients Served
 - 162 Number of Women Served
 - 120 Number of Children Served
-
- 42% of clients used our emergency housing services.
 - 90% of clients have obtained safe, independent housing
 - 100% of clients used the Asian Task Force's Community-Based services (individualized advocacy, training and support)
 - 100% of clients developed an individualized safety plan—they know how to call 911 and know whom to contact when they need help
 - Clients in our ESOL classes improved their English skills by an average of almost 30%
 - 74% of clients know how to manage money—they can open a bank account, write checks, develop a savings plan and more

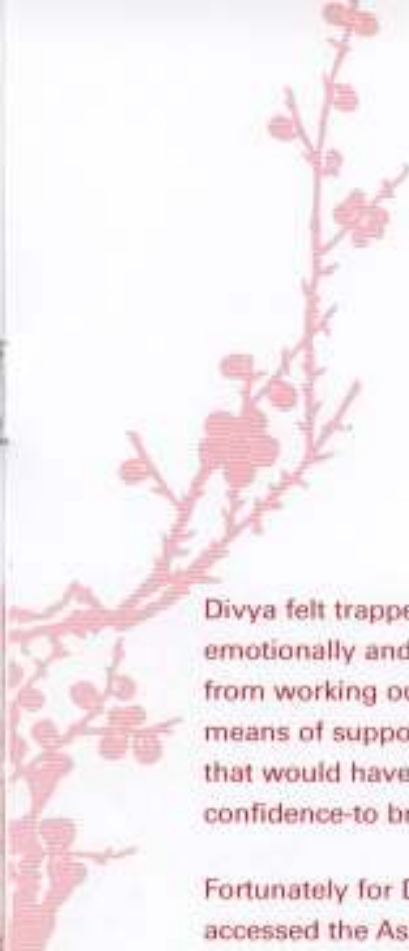
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Divya felt trapped in a marriage that was both emotionally and physically abusive. Forbidden from working outside the home, she had little means of supporting herself and few contacts that would have afforded her the means-or the confidence-to break free.

Fortunately for Divya, her brother in India accessed the Asian Task Force's Web site and put the agency in touch with his sister. With the emotional assistance of the Asian Task Force's South Asian advocate, Divya escaped her abuser to find a new and supportive family among the other clients whom the group was already helping. The women celebrated birthdays and holidays together, shared their lives and skills, and rebuilt strengths that had been eroded by abuse.

Divya moved on from the Asian Task Force's residential program, finding a roommate with whom she has continued the habits and patterns of mutual support. She has found full-time employment and, and hopes to earn her certification to teach in America. Those hopes were bolstered last year when she was awarded the program's Seeds of Hope scholarship. **Previously, Divya's energies went to deciding how-or even if-she could escape a life of abuse; today, she focuses on the decision between Kaplan College or the University of Massachusetts.** With renewed self-confidence and improved self-esteem, Divya now can experience freedom, and in that freedom find optimism.



From now on, the most shame she'll endure will be when she forgets to bring her homework to class.

The women come from China, Cambodia, Korea and the Philippines. They come alone or with their children. They are from India, Vietnam and Nepal. They are fleeing political instability, cultural oppression, poverty. They speak Urdu, Punjabi, Mandarin, Hindi. They are teachers, wives, doctors. They are educated, they are unschooled. **They are victims of domestic abuse, and they feel alone.**

Since 1992 the Asian Task Force has worked to provide safety, security and opportunity for Asian women and families traumatized by abuse. By offering direct services such as a 24-hour multilingual hotline, an emergency shelter, and an extensive advocacy program, the Asian Task Force provides short-term benefits for women in crisis; by organizing and educating in the Asian and non-Asian communities, the Asian Task Force looks to forever end the cycle of violence. **And they rely on your generous assistance to ensure that these women never again feel that they are without help or without hope.**

To get involved, contact one of us at:

617.338.2350

Agnes Chang, Outreach Director
Shirley Fan, Executive Director
Koko Oyama, Volunteer Coordinator
Ki Perry, Development Director



**ASIAN TASK FORCE AGAINST
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

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