



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

September 30, 2009

Ms. Kumu Gupta
Saheli
P.O. Box 52063
Boston, MA 02205

Dear Ms. Gupta,

On behalf of the Patrick-Murray Administration, I would like to congratulate Saheli for the organization's work across the Commonwealth, particularly as a leader in the South Asian community for women in crisis.

As chair of the Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, I have had the distinct opportunity of learning and understanding issues relevant to the sexual assault and domestic violence community. Thanks to the Governor's Executive Order in 2007, the Council was re-organized and now regularly meets to discuss a number of topics specific to this community. Support from advocacy groups from across the Commonwealth helps the Council not only understand the challenges this community faces, but also discuss and address ways to overcome those challenges.

Established 13 years ago, Saheli has grown into a strong support network for women in crisis. Operated solely as a volunteer-based organization, Saheli still manages to touch the lives of so many individuals in Massachusetts. Saheli's dedication to providing countless resources ranges from English and computer training classes to achieving five years of service in the Donate a Cell Phone Program should be applauded. In October, as we honor National Domestic Violence Month, I commend Saheli for the organization's continued effort, commitment, and dedication.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy P. Murray".

Timothy P. Murray
Lieutenant Governor