Interview with Long-Time Nia Project Donor, Santa Nia*

Nia Staff (NS): How did you hear about the Grady Nia Project?

Anonymous Donor (AD): I attended the Emory University Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds where Dr. Kaslow presented on the Grady Nia Project.

NS: What inspired you to make the donation?

AD: Dr. Kaslow’s presentation was an eye opener and I was impressed by the goals of the Nia Project. The issue of abuse and violence against women made me think about my friends who have experienced domestic violence. I was touched by the woman in the video and was glad that Dr. Kaslow did not only share scientific data, but also highlighted the reality of this important issue. I was inspired to hear that the Nia Project was so involved in this woman’s life and making inroads into the lives of many others who are abused. I wanted to do what I could to help out.

NS: What would you like to say to the women in the project?

AD: Everything is possible. There are no barriers to what you want to accomplish.

NS: What message would you like to convey to the Nia staff?

AD: Obviously women do not speak about domestic violence enough. It is good to provide them the platform to open up. I am very impressed by the hard work and effort put in by the staff. Kudos to the Nia team!

NS: What hopes or expectations do you have for the Nia Project?

AD: Understandably, the project is for the underserved African American women. I hope Nia can inspire others to take up charge to work with other ethnic minority women where the issue of abuse is still very muted.

NS: Thank you very much for your donation and your time.

*Because of this donor’s contributions, the Nia Project is able to give clients retail gift cards or other gifts for the holidays each year. The women are always very appreciative, often saying things like, “This is the only gift I’m getting for Christmas,” or, “This is the only gift I’ve gotten this year.” The retail gift cards are especially helpful for the women with children, who have stated, “Now I can get something for my kids for Christmas.” These donations allow the Nia clients to have a more meaningful Christmas each year.*