

Resource Round-Up

December 2019

An e-newsletter of news, training, and resources in support of anti-trafficking in Maine.

Happy Holidays!

We are making some changes to this newsletter and will be sending it out quarterly in 2020. If there are time sensitive resources or events to share, we recommend connecting directly with your local multi-disciplinary team listservs. For everything else, feel free to continue sending things to me! Thank you all for your commitment to ending human trafficking and supporting survivors in Maine.

In solidarity,
[Jess Bedard](#)
[MECASA](#)

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Home for Maine women who have survived sex trafficking, battling addiction opens](#)

WMTW - December 13, 2019

"Sophia's House, a residential community for women who have survived sex trafficking or are battling addiction, opened in Lewiston on Friday. It provides two years of housing, support services and training for women. 'What we're here to do is show them there is another way. There's a community of people who care about you, who want to support you in whatever your goals might be,' program coordinator Tricia Grant said."



[Maine foster children linger in state care longer than most states](#)

Portland Press Herald - November 17, 2019

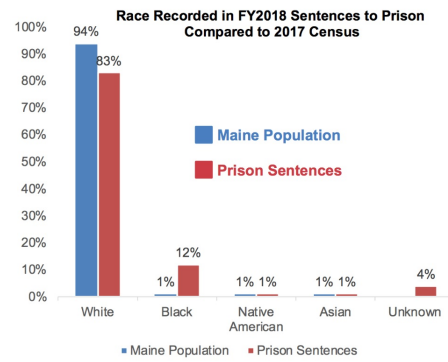
"Maine foster children linger in state care longer than most states. Extended stays – the state's 21-month-long median duration is the nation's third-highest – contribute to worse outcomes for children, research suggests."

RESOURCES

Report: Maine has large racial and gender disparities in drug-related incarceration

Maine Beacon - December 11, 2019

"It plays into the history of women and alcohol, women and crack. Women will always receive harsher penalties, because they're expected to be better. They're expected to be a mom, more pure.' Warren explained that women are more often forced into carrying drugs for men because of the power imbalance inherent in abusive relationships. She said that Penobscot County Sheriff Troy Morton told the Criminal Justice Committee that he rarely sees women arrested for trafficking who aren't also dealing with substance use disorder." Read the Council of State Government's Justice Center [full report here](#).



The Downside of Criminalizing Prostitution

Emancipation Nation
Recorded Podcast

"Put yourself in their shoes. If the last 25 encounters you had with police resulted in your arrest, at the 26th encounter, how willing are you to share that you had been raped, robbed, or trafficked by someone? Would you still believe police are there to protect you? What happens when you experience a violent crime, but fear the police? What are the psychological effects and the real life consequences? What happens when the rapists, felony abusers, and traffickers aren't taken off the streets because victims are too afraid to make a report?"

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS EVENTS

Human Trafficking Awareness Day Event

Portland City Hall - January 6th
8am-8pm - Tabling
4:30pm - Council Chambers Event

Survivors Speak USA is hosting a Human Trafficking Awareness Day Event at Portland City Hall. During the first part of the City Council meeting, at 4:30 Portland's new mayor will read a proclamation, proclaiming January 6th Trafficking Awareness Day in the city of Portland. Mayor Kate Snyder will present the proclamation to Survivor Speak USA. A press conference will immediately follow the event.



Portland Human Trafficking Awareness Day January 7th, 12pm-4pm - Portland Public Library

Join Portland Public Health and Preble Street Anti-trafficking services for an awareness event at the Portland Public Library. The event will focus on strength, resiliency, and healing. For more information about the event, contact [Zoe Brokos](#).

Sex Trafficking in America: Documentary Film Screening

Lewiston Public Library
January 7th - 5pm-6:30pm

The Androscoggin Human Trafficking Collaborative will

be showing the new PBS documentary, "Sex Trafficking in America" at the Lewiston Public Library. To read about the documentary click [here](#). For more information about the event, contact Jaime Ricker at 784-5272 or Beth Earle at 795-6744.



Gridshock: Documentary Film Screening

January 16th - 6pm - [Center Theatre, Dover-Foxcroft](#)

January 24th - 5pm - [University of Maine Orono, Student Union](#)

The PENQUIS Sex Trafficking and Response Team (START) is hosting a series of screenings of the documentary Gridshock. Gridshock is a film about human trafficking in Iowa. Screenings will be followed by a panel discussion. Watch the [trailer](#) here. For more information about these events, reach out to [Kristie Decker](#).

TRAININGS



Increasing Community Awareness of Labor Trafficking

Office of Victims of Crime
January 15, 2020 - 2:00-3:15

Presenters will discuss trauma-informed approaches to increasing community awareness of labor trafficking, as well as explore how to help community partners provide potential victims with appropriate resources for support. Register for this webinar [here](#).

For referrals to Maine services or to report a tip:
The National Human Trafficking Resource Center
1-888-373-7888

The Maine Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Network provides training, technical assistance, and resources to direct service providers engaged in anti-trafficking efforts in Maine, as well as community awareness and public policy support.

Maine STEN is a program of the [Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#).

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