Resource Round-Up
August 2019

A monthly e-newsletter of news, training, and resources in support of anti-trafficking efforts in Maine.

PERSPECTIVES

Can Marriott Employees Combat Sex Trafficking? Why Sex Workers Don’t Think So
Refinery 29 - August 14, 2019

“Telling the public, including hotel employees who don’t have expertise in trafficking, that they can help fight trafficking by being aware and reporting anything that seems off is essentially an open invitation for people to give voice to their paranoia and discomfort, and causes them to express racism that they would otherwise keep to themselves.”

NEWS

Immigrant students learn hard lessons about racism at historically white school in Maine
Boston Globe - August 14, 2019

"Brandon Baldwin, who directs a civil rights team project at the Maine attorney general’s office, has received more reports of racism in Maine schools this past academic year than during any of his 12 years in the position. 'The reports are from all parts of the state, at all age levels,' he says. In most cases, Baldwin adds, ‘the targeted youth have been black.’"

New federal program could help youths aging out of foster care in Maine
The Times Record - Augut 2, 2019

"Leah McDonald, teen services director at
Preble Street, said she sees many youths who have aged out of foster care in the shelter. 'We see firsthand that the trauma of homelessness intensifies the challenges of connecting to stable housing. For young people experiencing homelessness, there are so many risks. Homeless teens are more likely to attempt suicide; 70 percent of homeless youth report experiencing some kind of violence including sexual assault; and the likelihood of being coerced into sex or labor trafficking increases.'

"A convicted sex trafficker whose victim told hospital personnel in late 2015 that she'd 'rather die than keep going back to that man' was sentenced Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Portland to 26 years and eight months in federal prison."

"Walker was charged with two counts of gross sexual assault of a child, one count of sexual misconduct with a child, one count of sexual exploitation of a minor, and one count of patronizing the prostitution of a minor. Ringuette was charged with one count of accomplice liability to gross sexual assault of a child, one count of sexual exploitation of a minor, and one count of aggravated sex trafficking of a child."

"Stickney says others immigrants, including some victims of human trafficking, may not be eligible under the rules as written, either. 'It's clear from her statement that she expected them to be included, but under the rule as written, they would not be included if they were applying affirmatively for a trafficking visa under USCIS,' Stickney says."

"Advocates have highlighted how institutional racism and discrepancies in the criminal justice system criminalize black and brown girls by labeling them as prostitutes when they are victims of sex trafficking. According to the Bureau of Justice, more than 1,000 children are arrested for prostitution every year in the United States."
Police are 'Failing' Human Trafficking Survivors: Study
The Crime Report: August 1, 2019

The Crime Report highlights an important new study about the challenges law enforcement face with human trafficking, published by John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Northeastern University. This article and the study’s abstract feature four recommendations for improvement.

Implementing Shared Decision Making with Child Trafficking Survivors
HEAL Trafficking

"The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child calls for every child to have the right to self-determination, dignity, respect, non-interference, and the right to make informed decisions...These rights are rarely afforded to sexually exploited children due to the well-meaning, yet paternalistic notion that youth are incapable of making smart decisions for themselves. We propose a novel approach to engaging and empowering youth victimized by human trafficking by adapting and applying the medical model of Shared Decision Making (SDM) to increase youth voice and participation in treatment and placement planning decisions."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps of SDM</th>
<th>Application to CSEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledge Options</td>
<td>Safe placement options are identified: Ex. Youth can live with grandmother, in foster care home, or in a CSEC group home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion of Risks &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>Service provider explains options; discuss provider and youth-perceived risks and benefits of each option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values Clarification</td>
<td>Youth voices questions, concerns, and/or opinions about each option and processes with provider. Ex. youth may value being close to family, but fear negative peer influence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Decision Aids</td>
<td>Decision Aids and Values Clarification Tools can be adapted for engaging CSEC youth in making placement decisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informed Preferences</td>
<td>Ex. Youth expresses preference for living with grandmother, and expresses wants and needs for safety and support in this placement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(C) Created by: Samantha Sahl, Chloe Hill, Maria Isabella Pontoriero & Christopher Knoepke

RESOURCES

PEARR Tool
HEAL Trafficking, Pacific Survivor Center, and Dignity Health

This tool was developed in response to research from domestic violence that showed that education and not screening is more impactful for the lives of survivors. Here you'll find resources for health care providers on how to embrace the universal...
education approach when working with potential victims of violence.

Evidence-Based "CUES Intervention" to Address IPV/Human Trafficking in Primary Care Settings, and Tools for Ryan White-Funded HIV Programs

Futures without Violence - Recorded Webinar

This webinar looks at shifting the way health systems respond to survivors away from screening and toward centering resiliency and healing-centered engagement.

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.

Want to stay updated on our work? Follow us on Facebook!