



Resource Round-Up

February 2021

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

LOCAL NEWS & UPDATES

[‘It happens in secret’: A look at human trafficking in Maine](#)

January 14, 2021
WFXV Bangor

“It’s something that’s unreported, under-reported, like other types of violence, and it happens in secret,” said Jess Bedard, director of program planning and performance at the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault or MECASA.

“So folks people may not know it’s happening, but it is happening,” Bedard said.



[HUD Rapid Re-Housing Program Information](#)

Preble Street Anti-Trafficking Program



Those experiencing homelessness or housing instability due to human trafficking OR domestic violence may qualify for Preble Street Anti-Trafficking Services Rapid Re-Housing Program (RRH). RRH provides short term rental assistance to clients moving into private market apartments - [check out eligibility requirements here.](#)

If you are interested in this program or know of a client that would benefit from this short-term rental assistance, please contact Program Supervisors, Jade Johnson (207)-415-8554 or Leanne Pomeroy, (208)-899-5087.

[Maine Human Trafficking Survivor Fund](#) MECASA

There is an abundance of funds and a few changes made to the survivor fund! [Find the updated application here.](#)*

Changes include the layout of the application and additions to the preapproved needs list:

- Two seasons of clothing for adults and children

MAINE HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVOR FUND

FUND PURPOSE

This fund is available to meet the immediate emotional, psychological, and physical health and safety needs of human trafficking victims/survivors when other funds are unavailable or unable to do so. [1] The Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MECASA) manages this fund and is available to answer questions by phone at 207-626-0034 or by email at htfund@mecasa.org.

QUALIFYING SERVICE PROVIDER APPLICANTS

Applications can be submitted by

- sexual assault support centers.
- domestic violence resource centers.
- trafficking-specific social service agencies or programs.
- other social service programs that are connected to an anti-trafficking Multidisciplinary Team (MDT).

Law enforcement officers who encounter a person with qualifying needs should contact a service provider for help. Law enforcement officers should only apply for the funds themselves in cases where service providers are unreachable. In those cases, law enforcement should make every effort to connect the individual with ongoing services as soon as possible.

Applications must always be submitted with the consent of the victim/survivor and in response to their self-identified needs. The application asks as few identifying questions as possible to maintain anonymity for those accessing it.

If you are not an eligible provider and want to access funds, you can contact any sexual assault center at 1-800-871-7741 or any domestic violence center at 1-866-834-HELP.

RECIPIENT ELIGIBILITY

The recipient of the funds must be a victim/survivor of human trafficking in Maine. There is no requirement that

- Bed set-up items for children
- Outerwear for children
- Baby needs
- Hygiene products
- Round trip train ticket

Thank you all so much for the work that you do, and if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out to Maureen at maureen@mecasa.org or through the htfund@mecasa.org email address.

Additionally, if you would like further training on the fund and how to fill out the application, again, check out the [webinar](#) explaining the fund.

*If you are submitting an application please send to the htfund@mecasa.org email.

RESOURCES & INITIATIVES

Voices of Freedom, a Collaboration with StoryCorps

Administration for Children & Families (ACF)

In recognition of the 20-year anniversary of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), the “Voices of Freedom” initiative will chronicle the impact of this seminal piece of legislation by preserving the stories of survivors and exploring the legislation’s legacy. Allied professionals working on policy, victim services, and prevention, will also be invited to share their perspectives on how the anti-trafficking field has evolved over the past two decades. These firsthand accounts will be preserved in the StoryCorps Archive at the American Folklife Center Visit disclaimer page at the Library of Congress and will be distributed as part of ACF broader public awareness and education initiatives.



For more information about the Voices of Freedom initiative, email EndTrafficking@acf.hhs.gov.

Human Trafficking Toolkit for Domestic and Sexual Violence Agencies

Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCEDSV)

This toolkit is designed to provide practical insight and resources to those who would like to support survivors of human trafficking. This toolkit is designed as a starting place or point of reference when seeking to navigate human trafficking. Sections include: terminology, intersections between trafficking & DV/SA, advocacy & ethics, and identifying survivors.

Human Trafficking Capacity Building Center

Department of Justice

As part of OVC’s commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, the Office for Victims of Crime announces the launch of the

Human Trafficking Capacity Building Center website.

Operated by the Office for Victims of Crime, the Center seeks to strengthen human trafficking victim services in the United States by delivering free coaching, mentoring, and a resource library for organizations and federally recognized tribes looking to start, sustain, or grow their anti-trafficking work. The Center offers help in a number of areas, including financial



management, community partnerships, delivery of victim services, and more. Watch the [Human Trafficking Capacity Building Center video](#), and visit the [Center's new website](#) to learn more.

TRAINING

[Labor Trafficking Conference 2021](#)

October 13 & 14 | Louisville, KY
Catholic Charities of Louisville

[Workshop proposals due February 12, 2021](#)

Topics of particular interest include: screening for labor trafficking, unaccompanied minors, typologies of labor trafficking, data driven approaches to labor trafficking, supply chains and ethical consumerism, prevention, survivor informed practices, workers rights and employer best practices, labor trafficking among native populations, domestic labor trafficking, and innovative law enforcement approaches to labor trafficking, among others. Workshop proposals are expected to incorporate the voices and insights of survivors of labor trafficking.

[Dismantling Privilege 4.0: A Study of Systemic Racism and Labor Trafficking in the U.S.](#)

[Justice Consulting](#)

Feb 9 - March 9, 2021



Dismantling Privilege 4.0 is a five week course to study U.S. economic dependence upon labor trafficking and exploitation of people of color, from colonization and slavery to modern mass incarceration and immigrant abuses. This course is aimed at white and white passing persons who would like to better understand the origins, evolution and modern manifestations of systemic racism within labor trafficking in the United States.

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](#).