



Resource Round-Up

February 2022

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



THANK YOU DEE

Since she passed away in October we at MECASA have been reflecting with gratitude for Dee Clarke, Survivor Speak USA founder and community change maker. Her vision and fierce advocacy shaped our field and us as individuals. There aren't enough thank yous for all she provided Maine and her community.

Statement from Survivor Speak USA

"Dee founded Survivor Speak because she wanted to see survivors - especially Black and Brown survivors - leading the movement to end sex trafficking and exploitation. Dee has been a mentor, a friend, an agitator, and a beacon to so many. It is difficult to capture in words how large Dee's impact has been in Maine and beyond."

Longtime partner Preble Street has also shared a lovely [memorial](#) of her work and her obituary can be found [here](#).

Portland Press Herald photo by Shawn Patrick Ouellette

LOCAL NEWS

[Helping survivors break the bonds of human trafficking](#)

January 2022
News Center Maine

"Krajewski connected Brittney with mental health resources and treatment. She works with both male and female prisoners throughout the Mid-Coast. She said economic hardship, especially during the pandemic, and no access to mental health services often increases someone's vulnerability."



[Human Trafficking: Efforts in Maine To Combat Trafficking for Forced Labor or Sexual Exploitation](#)

Maine Calling Recording | MPBN
September 2021

Panelists:

Jean Bruggeman, executive director, [Freedom Network USA](#)

Julie Kselman, social worker; director of anti-trafficking services, [Preble Street](#)

Melissa A. Brennan, supervising attorney, [Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project](#)

VIP Callers:

Kara Barnies, rural program manager, [Safe Voices](#)

Kate Sternsluce, program director, [CourageLives](#) - a branch of St. Andre Home

NEW RESOURCES

[Outreach Materials *Available in Korean & Portuguese*](#)

MaineSTEN

Maine STEN has printable 8 1/2 x 11 outreach posters in English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Mandarin, Russian, Hindi, Haitian Creole, and now Korean and Portuguese. [Check them out today!](#)

Maine STEN also has large outreach posters with tear-off phone numbers in English, Spanish, French, Arabic and Mandarin available for providers and partners across the state. [Contact us to request some.](#)



If you or someone you know is being trafficked or exploited, **we will support you.**

To get support or report a tip, call 1-888-373-2888 or text BeFree (233-733).

For more information, visit mainesten.org

[Care, Self-Determination, & Safety: A Public Health Approach to Human Trafficking](#)

Futures Without Violence

January 2022



This resource seeks to challenge some of the common narratives that exist about human trafficking and traditional approaches, which emerged out of a limited, historical understanding of what exploitation is and how it happens.

This resource builds on a growing body of work rooted in a commitment to constant learning, openness to change and self-reflection, with an understanding that there is not always a right or perfect answer.

[Resource Center for Courts on Child Sex Trafficking](#)

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)

January 2022

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) developed this resource center to provide new and experienced judicial officers and courts with the tools they need to enhance their ability to address these challenging cases.

This toolkit is organized by topic and includes Understanding the Scope of the Problem, Interpreting the Legal Landscape, Implementing Promising Practices, and Leveraging Judicial Leadership.

[Human Trafficking Capacity Building Center](#)

Department of Justice

November 2021

Securing funding while maintaining daily

operations and services for victims can be extremely challenging. The Human Trafficking Capacity Building Center is [offering free coaching services to assist victim service providers](#) pursue grant opportunities, engage in strategic financial planning, and identify paths toward long-term sustainability.



Visit the Center's website to learn more about the services and access the Center's [resource library with more than 100 downloadable](#) anti-trafficking resources. In addition, information about federal funding opportunities for anti-trafficking work can be obtained by [subscribing to News from OVC](#), an email newsletter from the Office for Victims of Crime.

TRAINING

[Freedom Network USA Human Trafficking Conference](#)

March 16-17 | Miami, FL
March 15-18 12-5pm Eastern | Virtual



Freedom Network USA

Anti-trafficking work has made tremendous progress, but the approach and tools we have used to prevent and address human trafficking have fallen short. We must push beyond the constraints of the past in terms of what we believe human trafficking is, how we support survivors and hold traffickers accountable, and what effective prevention looks like. Join Freedom Network USA to commemorate 20 years of progress and to reimagine what is possible in anti-trafficking work ahead.

This is a hybrid event. Attendees can choose to participate onsite in Miami, Florida or online.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVOR FUND UPDATE

THE FUND

[The Fund](#) is a flexible, accessible, and timely source of funds to support the immediate needs of victims of trafficking as they seek to increase their safety and start a new life.

Direct service providers and law enforcement officers from across Maine can apply to access these funds on behalf of individuals who have a demonstrated need and who are victims of sex trafficking, labor trafficking or commercial sex exploitation.



WEBINAR

Join MECASA on March 10th for a webinar that will review the pre-approved needs, the application process, and the required documents that need to accompany applications. There will also be some time at the end for questions. If you are interested in attending [you can register here](#), or reach out to [Maureen](#).

FY21 SUMMARY

During the 2021 fiscal year we spent a total of \$36,668.50. The fund served 21 individual people with 83 immediate needs. Those needs included shelter, healthcare, clothing, phones, food, home needs, and much more! Additionally, we added a few new pre-approved items to the needs list such as baby supplies, train tickets, and hygiene products.

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**.