



Resource Round-Up

October 2022

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

MAINE EVENTS AND TRAINING

[“The Last Girl” A Play by Dianne ‘dee’ Clarke](#)



On October 20th [dee Clarke's](#) play titled "The Last Girl," premiered at Portland Ovations. The play is based in part on Clarke's 2014 testimony on sexual trafficking to the Maine Human Rights Commission. The Last Girl tells, in three acts, Clarke's personal story of surviving trafficking as a young child and adult.

Clarke, who passed away unexpectedly in November, 2021, was driven to bring to life the humanity of each of the many characters portrayed, traffickers as well as survivors, giving voice and hope to those trapped by poverty and racism everywhere. In the final act, as in her life, Clarke uses her own story to become an advocate for survivors of sexploitation and shares others', inviting your personal engagement.

For those who were not able to attend the event, check out the podcast episode and article below to learn more about this powerful project.

[Podcast Episode](#)

[Portland Press Herald Article](#)

[More Info](#)

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.

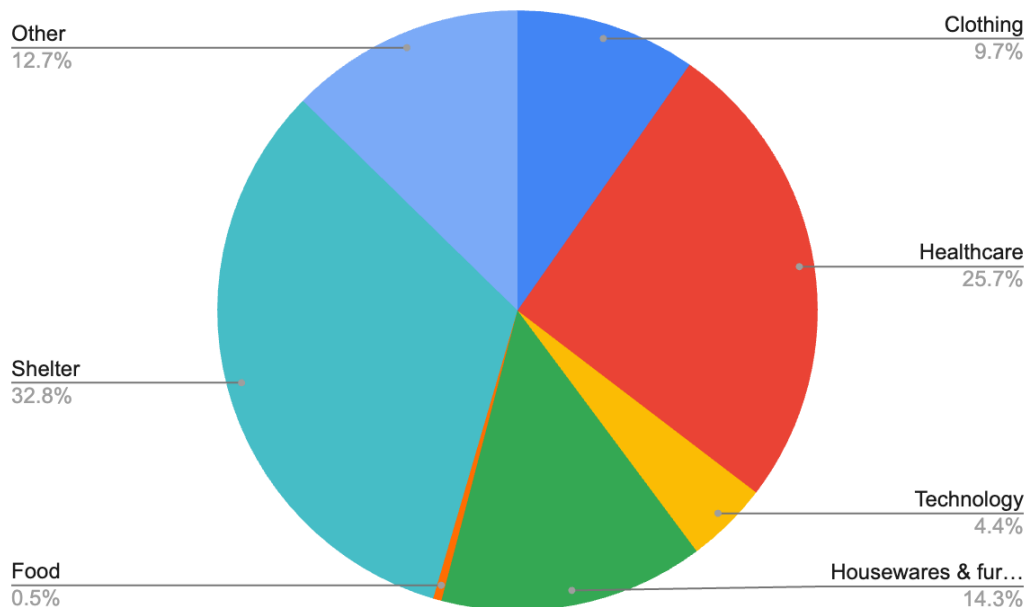


2022 Year in Review

This year, the Fund spent a total of \$29,524.55 on survivor needs. We served 34 individuals and covered items such as food, clothing for both clients and their children, rent, medical and dental needs, security equipment, housewares, and many other basic necessities. We were very excited to add a few new preapproved items to our list this year such as basic hygiene products, baby items, and train tickets.

While we are looking back on 2022, the Fund continues to move forward. The program has funds available and we are continuing to take applications! Check out the application [here](#) and feel free to email us at htfund@mecasa.org with any questions.

2022 HT Fund Expenses Breakdown



Clothing:\$2,880.59
Healthcare:\$7,601.83
Technology (mainly phone & minutes): \$1,318.37
Housewares & furniture:\$4,226.23
Food: \$134.25
Shelter: \$9,714.55
Other: \$3,759.70
Total \$29,645.58

NATIONAL EVENTS AND TRAINING

[Freedom Network USA Human Trafficking Conference Calling In: Centering Survivors & Impacted Communities](#)

Freedom Network USA Human Trafficking Conference

Washington, D.C., April 17-18, 2023

[Register here](#)

[Check out the agenda here](#)

Calling In: Centering Survivors & Impacted Communities

The anti-trafficking field has long struggled with creating spaces that meaningfully center survivors and impacted communities. Organizations in the field are passionate but sometimes disconnected from the communities most impacted. The call for equity by those with lived expertise and within marginalized communities has been heard. As a field, we have the responsibility and opportunity to call-in survivors and impacted communities by centering them in every aspect of the work. We are responsible for collaborating with our partners and prioritize accountability when their work is causing harm. And we are responsible for accepting the call ourselves in reviewing, reflecting, and transforming our work to be equitable in practice. This intentional shift is a critical step in becoming a movement that creates long-lasting change for those most impacted.

[A Broader Sense of Justice: Respecting Victim Autonomy While
Pursuing Offender Accountability in Sexual and Domestic Violence
Cases Webinar](#)

Trainings

AEquitas offers training related to the investigation and prosecution of gender-based violence and human trafficking. We work alongside our multidisciplinary partners to continuously expand our course offerings. All training events are tuition-free, and scholarships may be available to help offset the cost of travel-related expenses.

November 16, 2022 at 2:00pm ET

Presented by: Jonathan Kurland and Jenn Dolle, Attorney Advisors at AEquitas

[Register here](#)

This presentation will discuss the obstacles victims face when considering whether to participate in the prosecution of domestic violence or sexual assault and will suggest strategies that prosecutors can use to minimize these barriers to facilitate victim participation. Presenters will highlight the negative impacts that pre-trial detention and other next-level measures have on victims and on the community. In circumstances when victims are unable to participate, presenters will discuss possible alternatives for the prosecutor and considerations for balancing public safety risks with victim self-determination.

NEW RESOURCES

[Maximizing Justice, Minimizing Harm: The Prosecutors' Role in Achieving Survivor-Centered Justice](#)

Recorded Webinar from [AEquitas](#)

The screenshot shows a webinar interface with a blue background. At the top left, the title "Analysis of Laws" is displayed in white, with the subtitle "State Report Cards, Grading Methodology" below it. On the right side, there is a small video feed of a woman with glasses, identified as "Jana Anderson (she)". The main content area is divided into two columns of white boxes, each containing an icon and a text label:

- Range of Relief** (Scales icon)
- Arrests and Adjudications Relief** (Goggles icon)
- Offenses Covered** (Scales icon)
- Judicial Discretion** (Gavel icon)
- Nexus to Trafficking** (Double-headed arrow icon)
- Time Limits and Wait Times** (Clock icon)
- Hearing Requirement** (Court building icon)
- Burden of Proof** (Stack of books icon)
- Official Documentation** (Document icon)
- Confidentiality** (Lock icon)
- Additional Restrictive Conditions on Relief** (Prohibited sign icon)

This recorded webinar focuses on how prosecutors can collaborate with others to better serve their communities by holding traffickers accountable and protecting victims and survivors in meaningful ways. The presenters provide strategies to leverage the prosecutor's leadership role to positively influence how investigations are initiated, conducted, and charged. Additionally, the prosecutor's overlapping ethical obligations are discussed, focused on the duty to achieve justice over convictions and to proactively remedy wrongful convictions.

Learning Objectives:

- Leverage leadership role to promote trauma-informed, victim-centered policies and practices
- Collaborate with traditional and non-traditional partners to hold offenders accountable
- Partner with victim service professionals to ensure that survivors of sex and labor trafficking have meaningful access to appropriate services

Check it out [here](#).

Nameless: a Documentary about Child Sex Trafficking

by the DC Coalition to End Sexual Violence



Nameless is a documentary that addresses child sex trafficking in Washington, DC, and at-large. Through interviews with experts, advocates, and activists, child sex trafficking is reframed as a form of sexual violence that is often made invisible. Child sex trafficking is explored as an issue with deep historical-cultural roots, tackles misperceptions about which populations are most vulnerable to being trafficked, and illuminates systemic gaps in the current treatment of trafficking victims. Featuring 15 interviewees on the frontlines of the issue, Nameless mobilizes viewers to recognize and combat child sex trafficking.

Check it out [here](#).

Not Just a Credibility Contest: Sexual Violence Prosecutions That Go Beyond "Offender Said, Victim Said" Webinar

Recorded Webinar from [AEquitas](#)

Corroboration

Just because no one saw the assault, does not mean there are no witnesses.



Additional witnesses

- Pre/post incident
- Days after incident

Transportation methods

Locations

- Surveillance video

Digital evidence

- Electronic communication
- Photos

This recorded webinar addresses strategies and tactics to understand and explain victim disclosures through a trauma-informed lens; utilize victim behavior experts to educate fact-finders about the range of victim responses to sexual violence; and examine offender characteristics, motivations, and behaviors, as well as the impact of the offender's actions on the victim. The presenter suggests strategies for overcoming common misconceptions at trial, including establishing a compelling trial theme, introducing evidence of the defendant's predatory behavior, presenting corroborating evidence to support witness credibility, and recreating the reality of the crime for the jury.

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be better able to:

- Maintain focus on the offender.
- Support victim and witness credibility with corroborating evidence.
- Develop and present expert testimony to explain victim behavior.
- Recreate the reality of the crime at trial.

Check it out [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](#)**.

Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault | 45 Memorial Circle, Suite 302, Augusta, ME 04330

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