


Building a Better Response to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Maine

Child Protection Conference: *Trauma in Rearview Mirror: Closer Than it May Appear*
South Portland, ME
March 31st-April 1st 2016



MAINE NETWORK OF
**CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY
CENTERS**

Maine:
Context

There are an estimated **200-300** victims of sex trafficking in Maine per year.




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Hornby, et al. 2015

Maine:
Context

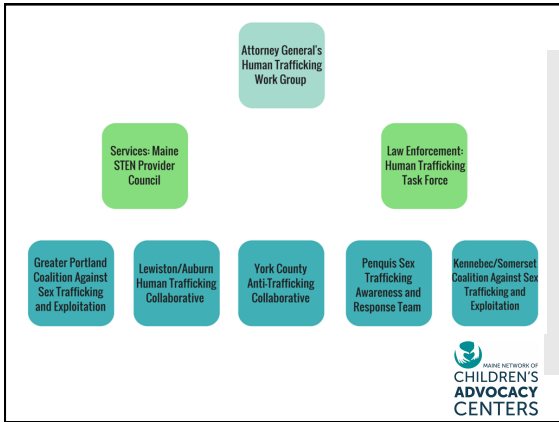
The demographic of Maine trafficking victims:

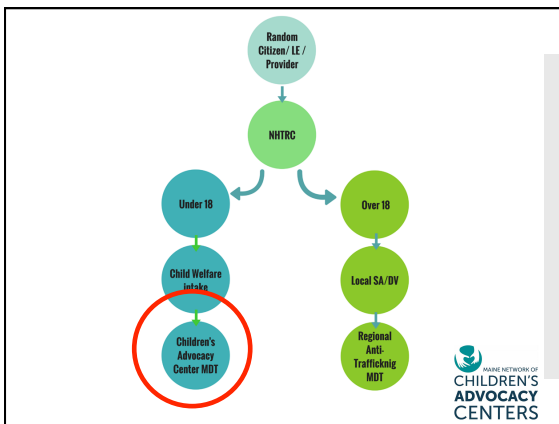
- Ages 14-30 (4/70 youth victims in 18 mos)
- Economically and socially marginalized
- History of child sexual abuse, domestic violence, substance abuse and/or mental illness ;
- Unstable childhood, especially marked by involvement in foster care or state custody.

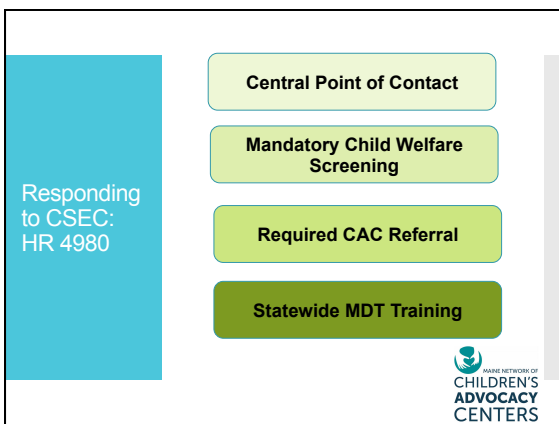


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For Better or for Worse

Successes as a State:

- Building a coherent system, all at once
- Statewide engagement of key disciplines

Challenges as a State:

- Serious service gaps: shelter; case coordination; Medicaid
- Ability to pick up non-CPS CSEC victims
- Meaningful survivor engagement



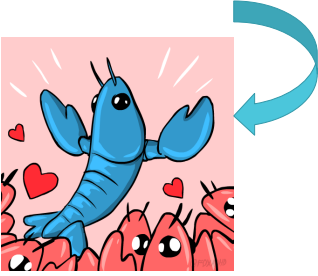

Keeping in Mind:

Trafficking and exploitation are the symptoms of broader social and structural issues.



The Good News

(teamwork lobster)

Resources:



MECASA
MAINE Coalition Against Sexual Assault

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maine sex trafficking
& exploitation network
mainesten.org

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