

MEDIA ALERT

Contact

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Hundreds to attend sold out conference in Augusta promoting understanding and effective response to human trafficking

Thursday, January 31, 9am-4pm at the Augusta Civic Center

PORTLAND, ME (January 26, 2019) — Human trafficking impacts thousands of people across the globe, the United States, and Maine. **Health Care Response to Human Trafficking**, a conference cosponsored by the New England Coalition Against Trafficking, Preble Street, the Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) program, and the UNE Advanced Nursing Education (SANE) program, promotes understanding of and effective responses to this serious problem.

On **Thursday, January 31 from 9am-4pm at the Augusta Civic Center** leading national and regional speakers from the health care profession, as well as a survivor of human trafficking, will speak on statewide human trafficking trends, survivor needs and co-occurring disorders, identification within the health care setting, and collaboration strategies.

The event is sold out and registration to the public is closed, but members of the media are invited to cover the event, speak with presenters, and learn more about human trafficking in Maine.

Agenda

- 9:00 – 9:05 | Welcome
 - **Stephanie Bratnick**, Director, Preble Street Anti-Trafficking Services
- 9:05 – 9:15 | Opening Remarks
 - **Mark Swann**, Executive Director, Preble Street
- 9:15 – 10:15 | Human Trafficking: Emergency Department Nurse's Perspective
 - **Michelle Markie**, RN, ME-SAFE-A, St. Joseph Hospital, Bangor, ME
 - **Amanda Blake**, BSN, RN, SANE A/P, St. Joseph Hospital, Bangor, ME
- 10:30 – 11:00 | My Escape from Slavery, Paralysis and Physical Pain
 - **Beatrice Fernando**, Survivor of Labor Trafficking
- 11:00 – 12:00 | Homelessness, Substance Use Disorder, and Trauma: Learnings from Community Based Collaborations
 - **Caitlin Corrigan**, Director of Health Services, Preble Street
 - **Courtney Pladsen**, Coordinator, Greater Portland Health
- 1:00 – 2:00 | Criminal Justice System and the Crime of Human Trafficking (moderated by Julia LiPez, State AUSA)
 - **Heather Putnam**, Victim Witness Advocate/Law Enforcement Coordinator, US Attorney's Office
 - **Dan Townsend**, FBI TFO/Portland Police Department
 - **Nate Walsh**, Assistant District Attorney, Androscoggin County
 - **Stacey Newmann**, Defense Attorney
- 2:15 – 3:00 | Trafficking in Minors: Signs, Needs, and Best Practices
 - **Amanda Brownell**, MD, Child Abuse Specialist, Spurwink Child Abuse Program
- 3:00 – 4:00 | Keynote: Human Trafficking for the Health Professional: Making the Invisible Visible
 - **Dr. Hanni Stoklosa**

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