

## Expanding Alternative Paths to Justice and Healing

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	UPDATE
Restorative Justice (RJ) Policy	<i>developing policy paper on RJ for SV</i>	Started a draft policy paper about restorative justice based on conversations with several stakeholders and research on nationwide trends. Will review this with other members of the internal restorative justice working group in the upcoming months. -Melissa
RJ Processes	<i>supporting statewide efforts</i>	Many members of MECASA staff have been attending a variety of statewide working groups and conversations, including the Juvenile Restorative Justice Summit, the Juvenile Restorative Justice Council, and the Restorative Justice Domestic Violence/Sexual Violence working group. Have also begun working with Restorative Justice institute of Maine on developing policies for taking cases involving sexual harm. -Melissa and Lisa
YPSB Resource Mapping	<i>evaluating current response</i>	Learning about existing resources around YPSB and requested to join the NCA sponsored YPSB workgroup - Katie C.
Tools for Legislative Engagement	<i>tools and support for advocate/survivor engagement</i>	Established the Legislative and Policy Workgroup staffed by a variety of center staff. The group will have its first meeting in December. -Melissa

## Increasing the Accessibility of Services

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	UPDATE
<b>Youth Medical Services Improvement</b>	<i>identifying strengths and gaps in youth medical exam program</i>	Met with Spurwink in October to learn about the CCCAC protocols and procedures, including the youth medical exam program. Will connect back with Spurwink for further conversations in 2023. - Katie C.
<b>Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Programming</b>	<i>expanding capacity to respond to CSEC</i>	SARSSM is presenting a MECASA webinar on risk factors for CSEC for young women of color and LGBTQ+ youth in November. - Lisa
<b>Outreach Materials Assessment</b>	<i>increasing accessibility</i>	Work has begun on identifying and cataloguing all printed and digital materials. - Jessica
<b>Provider Skills for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (IDD)</b>	<i>relationship building and training with disability rights orgs</i>	Provided feedback on the Maine DD Council’s Community of Praxis Report regarding recommendations for mental health providers in working with survivors with IDD and co-presented with DRM and Speaking Up for Us about collaboration efforts to date at a DD Council event in November. - Lisa
<b>Population and Services Assessment</b>	<i>assessment of statewide services based on population groups</i>	This fall the focus has been TA from Muskie and launching the survivor survey. The survivor survey will be live Nov 15 – 30 and the final Population Services Assessment will be done the end of January 2023 so we can include 2022 stats. – Katie K.
<b>Incarcerated Services Peer Calls</b>	<i>hosting space for advocates to connect</i>	Starting in January 2023 and happening every other month MECASA will take over convening the Incarcerated Services Peer call was (started last spring by SASSMM & ATS). We will propose (not yet MAC approved) to include other advocacy partners whose work is impacted by incarceration systems, specifically DV advocates, Maya from Maine TransNet, and Preble ATS. – Katie K.
<b>Website Accessibility</b>	<i>increasing the accessibility of MECASA websites</i>	Work has started on adding alt-text to all website images. The cost for the project is more than was budgeted for this year so completion may be delayed. - Jessica
<b>Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Kits</b>	<i>informing systems improvements</i>	SAFE Advisory Board is researching kit tracking systems in use across the country; working together to ensure that confidentiality and survivor choice inform the group’s recommendations for possible legislation as well as system practices. – Elizabeth, Marion, Sarah

## Cultivating Sustainable Workplaces

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	UPDATE
<b>Webinar on Grant Writing</b>	<i>webinar on seeking and managing federal grants</i>	Offered the part two of the webinar series that focused on federal grant writing. - Jess
<b>Racial Equity Phase III</b>	<i>practical implication of lessons from Phase II</i>	Working on a syllabus and agenda for our '23 racial equity work. With the consultants, we envision more integration of center staff, identity-based affinity groups, learning collaboratives, and coaching. – Katie K.
<b>MECASA Personnel Policies</b>	<i>updating policies to reflect agency values</i>	A first review has begun and included items such as updating contact information for outside agencies to who staff might make a report of discrimination as well as updating current practices. Once this review is complete, changes will be brought to the Board for approval - Sarah
<b>Trauma Informed Training Series</b>	<i>coordinating a series of trainings for centers</i>	Still in the planning stages; intended delivery spring-early summer 23. Sarah
<b>Sample Performance Improvement Processes</b>	<i>researching and sharing with center staff</i>	Will be a topic at the supervisor learning cohort in January or February.
<b>Supervisor Learning Cohort</b>	<i>hosting a monthly call for supervisors statewide</i>	Cohort has met three times and is now on a monthly schedule. Topics are determined by the group and have included orientation and onboarding as well as performance review processes - Sarah
<b>Model Policies</b>	<i>developing/updating and sharing policies</i>	Began to gather information about the current client record policies of each CAC. -Melissa
<b>Finance Peer Calls</b>	<i>calls for finance staff</i>	Next call is scheduled for Dec. and will be on transaction testing. - Julie
<b>Volunteer Recruitment</b>	<i>hosting a call, developing resources, and coordinating a training in support of volunteer recruitment</i>	Created toolkit section for helpline volunteer recruitment and management and posted a free volunteer management training through OVC TTAC. – Kayce and Jessica
<b>Helpline Call Pooling</b>	<i>offering options and support for centers interested in pooling</i>	Continuing to talk with centers about their acute helpline needs and how to structure the helpline in a way that feels more sustainable to center staff. Helpline Workgroup is discussing areas where they want to continue to develop shared guidance and practices. -Kayce
<b>Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) Peer Support Call</b>	<i>coordinating peer support call for BIPOC center staff</i>	Facilitated by Tracy Wright through 2022, MECASA has budgeted for a facilitator for 2023. – Katie K.

## More exciting programming!

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	UPDATE
MAC “Big Picture” Visioning	<i>identify shared visions, goals, and priorities that will inform statewide direction and QAS updates</i>	Completed listening sessions with centers and have presented half the data back to the directors and deputies. Engaged in conversations with partners now. - Jess
Requested Trainings	<i>coordinating training on a range of requested topics</i>	Completed training on new sexual assault laws. - Melissa
Talking Points	<i>data-backed talking points to share with center staff to use in trainings or with the media</i>	Begun planning on this project - Jessica
Subpoena Response	<i>developing resources for providers on responding to subpoenas</i>	Started drafting a resource packet for advocates in responding to subpoenas. - Melissa
Legislative Programming	<i>supporting centers building relationships with legislators, connect with survivors to inform direction, and develop policy papers</i>	Supported centers in organizing candidate briefings prior to the election and will continue to hold events through December at centers for elected candidates. - Melissa, Marion and Elizabeth
Mandated Reporting	<i>training development/improvement and resource creation</i>	Offered TA to center staff and are developing a training on this to offer in January. – Melissa and Katie C.
Campus Project	<i>continuing work with a group of campuses across the state to support</i>	Campus staff and MAC reviewed a draft version of the MOU template created in collaboration with MECASA and the campus learning collaborative advisory committee. - Lisa



This symbol indicates projects that emerged after we set our workplans that we pivoted to make space for.

## KEY

ASL - American Sign Language

CAC – Children’s Advocacy Center

CJ – Criminal Justice

CSA – Child Sexual Abuse

CSEC – Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

CPS – Child Protective Services

CSP – Children’s Safety Partnership

DHHS – Department of Health and Human Services

DRME – Disability Rights Maine

EDs – Executive Directors

FY22 – Fiscal Year 2022

IDD – Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

LGBTQIA+ - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual + (and beyond)

MAC – Member Advisory Council (the directors of sexual assault centers)

MDT – Multidisciplinary Team

OVW – Office of Violence against Women (a funding source)

PLTA – Pine Tree Legal Assistance

RJ – Restorative Justice

SASC – Sexual Assault Support Center

SV – Sexual Violence

TFCBT – Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

UMA – University of Maine Augusta

VAA – Victim Assistance Academy

VLP – Volunteer Lawyers Project

YPSB – Youth with Problematic Sexual Behavior

VOCA – Victims of Crime Act (referenced here as a funding source)

VWAs – Victim Witness Advocates