

MOVE The Newsletter of the Coalition

All survivors, now and always

Let us be clear: diversity does not mean the exclusion of anyone. It is the acknowledgment, celebration, and elevation of all voices, perspectives, and experiences. We are confronted with policies and practices that seek to take us back to periods in history when those with marginalized identities had no protections under the law, and fear kept people silent and complacent.

We recognize the challenges that seek to undo the progress that those before us have made. The wisdom passed down through generations, the strength of those who came before us, continues to be a steady influence for the work we do. We know that communities thrive when all voices are heard and respected, and that these voices, our collective stories, are the foundation of a just future.



The Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence will waiver neither in its commitment to equity, peace, and social justice, nor in developing and promoting efforts aimed at eliminating all forms of domestic and sexual violence, including human trafficking. We will create spaces where individuals can show up in their full selves, receiving dignity and respect in their service provision. We will continue to offer training and technical assistance that is inclusive and grounded in our core tenants and values. We will continue to be present in the community and stand with those who need us most right now.

WE SERVE ALL SURVIVORS - now and always

Domestic, Sexual & Trafficking Violence Hotlines



855-864-2374

In the last 6 months, 30% of hotline callers have called specifically for housing resources, including both emergency shelter and transitional housing. As federal funding continues to decline, and sometimes freeze altogether, organizations providing direct assistance to survivors are struggling to stay afloat. In the meantime, survivors are left without the basic necessities of life, including safe and stable housing.

MCEDSV will continue to fervently advocate not only for survivors in need of support, but also for the programs striving to give it.

INTERSECTIONAL

TRAUMA INFORMED

SURVIVOR CENTERED

Survivor Law Clinic

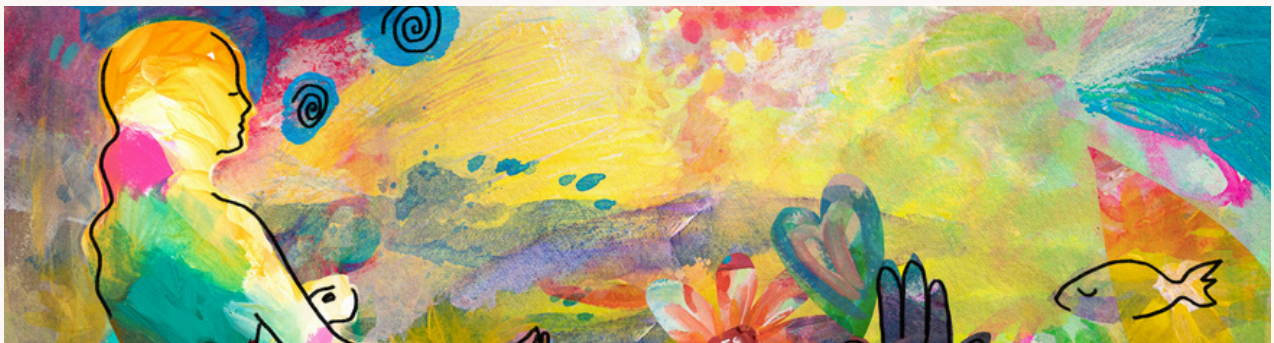


One of the specializations of the MCEDSV Survivor Law Clinic is Title IX. Title IX cases involve victimization that has occurred within a federally funded education program, often a school. They can be intensely difficult because of the stark difference in power between the survivor and the institution.

Also, while Title IX protections allow a survivor to bring a case to court, they do not include help with representation. Survivors are expected to either battle the highly resourced institution on their own or pay for a lawyer out of pocket, and Title IX cases often drag on for months and years as the perpetrator tries to wear the survivor down.

Domestic, sexual, and trafficking violence is about exploiting a differential in power. Title IX cases are a perfect example of this and the Survivor Law Clinic is always ready to stand with survivors.

New Paths, New Partners



With support from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, MCEDSV will soon be offering free trainings and materials to create a statewide education initiative addressing pregnancy at its intersection with mental health, sexual abuse, and intimate partner violence.

Resources will include virtual training sessions for SA/DV/HT advocates, healthcare providers, and other violence prevention partners to improve access to comprehensive, trauma-informed care for pregnant and parenting individuals.

A new online resource hub will also be created, with access to recorded trainings, research, articles, social media kits.

Get Loud, Be Seen

Your local domestic violence program might close next year.

The federal government funds domestic, sexual, and trafficking violence programs through VOCA, the Victims of Crime Act. VOCA funding is generated via fines for individuals and corporations convicted of federal offenses. The biggest “contributors” are the biggest fine-payers – usually those engaged in white collar or corporate crime.

Guess which type of prosecutions have plummeted over the last decade. Guess what that has done to the Crime Victims Fund. Guess what that means for your local domestic violence shelter. In 2026, Michigan programs are expecting another \$50-80 million drop in VOCA dollars. Since 2018, the amount of VOCA funding available from the federal government has fallen by 76%.

The movement to protect and support survivors of domestic violence was wrought from the blood and sweat of survivors and their allies. It was people before it was policy. Only after decades of pleas and protests did the federal government enact legislation to support its mission.

That support is evaporating. We need people power again. We need you.

Our coalition of 74 domestic, sexual, and trafficking violence programs is organizing an appeal to the Michigan legislature. We are asking them to use state funds to replace \$75 million lost due to VOCA reductions. There was never enough funding to help all survivors of domestic, sexual, and trafficking violence. Now there’s even less. We must ensure that Michigan survivors and the advocates who serve them have the resources to do this important work the right way.

You can do something. You can get a copy of an easy-to-use campaign toolkit at **tinyurl.com/75saveslives** or by following the link below the newsletter. Inside, you will find all of the information you need to let your state legislator know that Michigan stands with survivors. You can also make a donation directly to the Coalition at mcedsv.org/donations or by following the “Give Help” QR code below, which will provide support for domestic, sexual, and trafficking programs across the state.

We can do something. But we need to do it together and we need to do it now.



GET
HELP

Begin by Believing

GIVE
HELP



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