



## The Newsletter of the Coalition

### *All survivors, now and always*

Welcome to another edition of our newsletter. It is our hope that you are finding the content to be informative and engaging.

The last we communicated, we were headed to Grand Rapids for our Annual Conference. We're proud to share that the conference was a huge success thanks to all the attendees, presenters, sponsors, and staff. We are grateful for all the support.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It is also the beginning of the fiscal year for MCEDSV and our member programs. This is significant due to the potential of both a State and Federal government shutdown. The impact of a State and/or Federal government shutdown would result in the temporary closure of our vital services. The government has until September 30th to approve a budget or to approve a continuation resolution that allows for the work to continue until the budget is approved.

Advocacy for the funding level necessary to provide these lifesaving services is more important than ever. We can be the change that we seek. We together can make a difference. Will you join us?

In Unity, Chéree Thomas and Merkeb Yohannes, Co-Executive Directors, MCEDSV



CO-EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTORS  
CHÉREE  
&  
MERKEB



### *Survivor Law Clinic*

Survivors often face abuse even after they leave an abusive situation, as perpetrators can use systems and institutions to maintain control over the survivor. When perpetrators use the court system, it's described as "abusive litigation." The Survivor Law Clinic gave a training this month to other legal aid attorneys regarding examples of perpetrators' abusive litigation and legal strategies to combat such coercive tactics. Putting advice to action, the Survivor Law Clinic successfully advocated for the termination of a perpetrator's two retaliatory PPOs against a survivor.

INTERSECTIONAL

TRAUMA INFORMED

SURVIVOR CENTERED

## *Domestic, Sexual & Trafficking Violence Hotlines*



MCEDSV is proud to announce the launch of the State of Michigan Voices4 Hotline for Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking, launching October 1<sup>st</sup>.

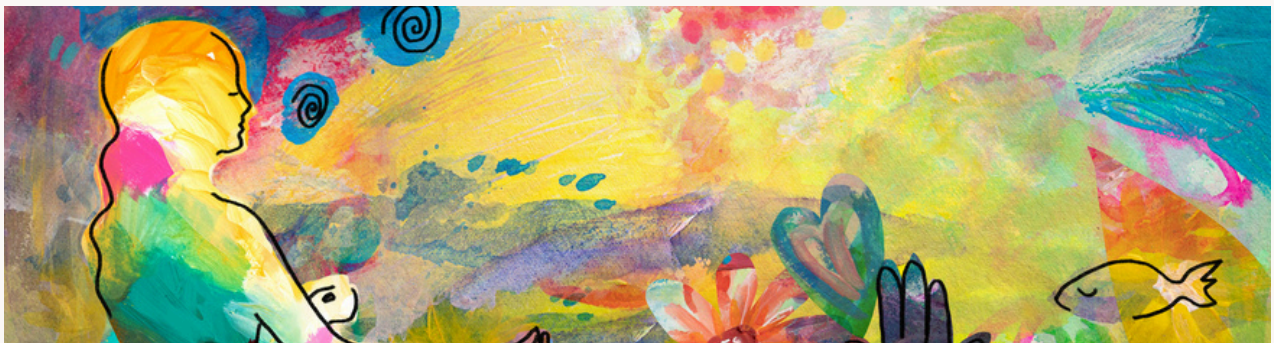
With an increase in contacts seeking support with human trafficking as well as overlapping victimizations, we saw fit to make the hotlines more accessible than ever before. Survivors can expect the same confidential and anonymous experience without having to keep track of multiple numbers, or decide which type of violence they're experiencing while in crisis to know which to contact.

# 855-VOICES4

Sexual Assault • Domestic Violence • Human Trafficking

24/7 • Confidential • Anonymous

## *New Paths, New Partners*



MCEDSV is proud to announced our brand new website with plenty of brand new features!

Currently, visitors can find much of the same information as our previous site. We've organized resources for survivors now by sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking programs to make it easier for survivors to find what they need.

We're working on implementing an events and trainings calendar, so you can find out what the coalition is doing with just a few clicks. This will also include a section where we'll be posting our recorded trainings in the event you're unable to attend.

Finally, you can reach out to us using our convenient contact form and share your thoughts!

## Get Loud, Be Seen

### October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

According to the Council on Criminal Justice, there's been a 3% increase in reported incidents of domestic violence in 2025, and the WHO estimates that 1 in 3 women worldwide have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate partner.

Now more than ever, it's important that we show survivors of domestic violence that we see them, we hear them, and we stand with them. That's what Domestic Violence Awareness Month is all about.

MCEDSV and Meridian Township are working together to launch Meridian Believes, an effort to stand with and stand for survivors in Meridian Township and beyond. We're also kicking off DVAM with our DVAM Walk/Run/Wheel event! Join us on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3pm at Hawk Island Park in Lansing to show solidarity with survivors of domestic violence and enjoy the picturesque beauty that Michigan is known for. The event is free except for parking, which is \$3; however, the first 50 entrants will have their parking fee waved. Look forward to this and future events from DVAM and beyond from MCEDSV!



GET  
HELP

Begin by Believing

GIVE  
HELP



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