# Evidence-Based Intervention to Address Domestic Abuse in Healthcare Settings

Pioneered by Futures Without Violence, **CUES** is an intervention approach designed to help healthcare professionals talk with all patients about how relationships can affect their health and how to get support. Unlike traditional screening methods, **CUES** does not rely on a disclosure of abuse in order to provide a patient with information and resources they might need. The **CUES** intervention is most effective when healthcare providers have a strong partnership with their local Domestic Violence Resource Center.

# Survivors say they want healthcare providers to:

Offer information and support. Be nonjudgmental. Listen. Not push for disclosure.





# **CUES: OVERVIEW**

# **UNIVERSAL EDUCATION**

Give each patient two MCEDV safety cards to start the conversation about relationships and how they affect health.

Open the card and encourage the patient to take a look.

Make sure patients know that you're a safe person for them to talk to.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

Prioritize patient safety. Only discuss relationships and abuse in a private setting.

When needed, always use professional interpreters; never use a patient's family or friend.

**Know Maine's mandatory** reporting requirements and share any limits of confidentiality with all patients.



While disclosure of abuse is not the goal, it will happen; know how to support someone who discloses they've been abused.

Make a warm linkage to your local Domestic Violence Resource Center.

Offer health promotion strategies and a care plan that takes surviving abuse into consideration.



# **EMPOWERMENT**

Offering MCEDV safety cards to all patients ensures that everyone gets access to information about relationships, not just those who choose to disclose experiences of violence.











# CUES: EXAMPLES

# **UNIVERSAL EDUCATION**

"Because abuse and violence is common in many people's lives, I talk to all my patients about safe and healthy relationships. Here is a safety card that describes how relationships can affect your health. Take a look. I've also included a second card in case you want to share it with a friend or family member."

# "Before we get started I wa

"Before we get started, I want to let you know that I won't share anything we talk about today outside of the care team here.

However, I am a mandated reporter and required to report suspected child abuse or neglect and suspected abuse or neglect of an incapacitated or dependent adult. I share this with you so that you have the power to decide what you want to talk about today."

CONFIDENTIALITY

# **SUPPORT**

"Thank you for sharing this with me. I'm so sorry this is happening. What you're telling me makes me worried about your safety and health... A lot of my patients experience things like this. There are resources that can help. Are you familiar with [name of local Domestic Violence Resource Center]? I would be happy to connect you today if that interests you."



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# **EMPOWERMENT**

"On the back of the safety card is the 24/7 state helpline number that you can call - it's free and confidential and will connect you to local resources. And you can always talk to me about how you think your relationships are affecting your health. Is any of this a part of your story?"













to End Domestic Violence

# Help is just a call away.

24 Hour • Toll Free • Confidential • Interpreters Available

1-866-834-HELP (4357)

Maine Telecommunications Relay Service: 1-800-437-1220

# **MCEDV MEMBERS:**

Hope and Justice Project

AROOSTOOK

Hope and Justice Project

PENOBSCOT & PISCATAQUIS

Partners for Peace

**KENNEBEC & SOMERSET** 

Family Violence Project

**HANCOCK & WASHINGTON** 

NextStep Domestic Violence Project

Partners for Peace
PENOBSCOT & PISCATAQUIS

ANDROSCOGGIN, FRANKLIN & OXFORD

Safe Voices

NextStep Domestic
Violence Project
HANCOCK
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KNOX, LINCOLN, SAGADAHOC & WALDO New Hope Midcoast

**CUMBERLAND** 

Through These Doors

YORK

Caring Unlimited

**CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SERVICES** 

Immigrant Resource Center of Maine

Her Safety Net

• Family Violence Project

New Hope Midcoast

SAGADAHOC & WALDO

KNOX, LINCOLN,

Safe Voices

 ANDROSCOGGIN, FRANKLIN & OXFORD

- Immigrant Resource Center of Maine
- Her Safety Net
  - Through These Doors
- Caring Unlimited

mcedv.org



**Aroostook County** 

#### **Hope and Justice Project**

www.hopeandjusticeproject.org 5 Erskine St., Presque Isle, ME 04769

Admin: 207-764-2977 Helpline: 1-800-439-2323

Penobscot & Piscataquis Counties

#### **Partners for Peace**

www.partnersforpeaceme.org P.O. Box 653, Bangor, ME 04402

Admin: 207-945-5102 Helpline: 1-800-863-9909

Kennebec & Somerset Counties

#### **Family Violence Project**

www.familyviolenceproject.org P.O. Box 304, Augusta, ME 04332

Admin: 207-623-8637 Helpline: 1-877-890-7788

**Cumberland County** 

#### **Through These Doors**

www.throughthesedoors.org P.O. Box 704, Portland, ME 04104

Admin: 207-767-4952 Helpline: 1-800-537-6066

Hancock & Washington Counties

#### **NextStep Domestic Violence Project**

www.nextstepdvproject.org P.O. Box 1466, Ellsworth, ME 04605

Admin: 207-667-0176 Helpline: 1-800-315-5579

Androscoggin, Franklin & Oxford Counties

#### **Safe Voices**

www.safevoices.org

P.O. Box 713, Auburn, ME 04212

Admin: 207-795-6744 Helpline: 1-800-559-2927

Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc & Waldo Counties

#### **New Hope Midcoast**

www.newhopemidcoast.org P.O. Box A, Rockland, ME 04841

Admin: 207-594-2128 Helpline: 1-800-522-3304

York County

#### **Caring Unlimited**

www.caring-unlimited.org P.O. Box 590, Sanford, ME 04073

Admin: 207-490-3227 Helpline: 1-800-239-7298

Serving Refugee and Immigrant Communities Through Culturally and Linguistically Sensitive Services

**Immigrant Resource Center of Maine** 

www.ircofmaine.org

1220 Lisbon St., Suite 102, Lewiston, ME 04240 Phone:

207-753-0061

Serving Immigrant, Refugee, Asylum Seeking and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) Communities

**Her Safety Net** 

www.hersafetynet.org

11 Westminster St., Lewiston, ME 04240

Phone: 207-513-9000



#### Member Programs of the Wabanaki Women's Coalition

#### **Tribal Domestic & Sexual Violence Coalition**

www.wabanakiwomenscoalition.org

#### **Micmac Domestic & Sexual Violence Advocacy Center**

www.micmac-nsn.gov

7 Northern Rd., Presque Isle, ME 04769

Admin: 207-760-0570 Hotline: 207-551-3639

#### **Maliseet Domestic & Sexual Violence Advocacy Center**

www.maliseets.com

690 Foxcroft Rd., Houlton, ME 04730

Admin: 207-532-3000 Hotline: 207-532-6401

#### Passamaquoddy Peaceful Relations Domestic & Sexual **Violence Advocacy Center**

www.wabanaki.com

P.O. Box 343, Perry, ME 04467

Admin: 207-853-0092 Hotline: 1-877-853-2613

#### **Penobscot Nation Domestic & Sexual Violence Advocacy Center**

www.penobscotnation.org

23 Wabanaki Way, Indian Island ME, 04468

Admin: 207-817-7448 Support Line: 207-631-4886

#### **Indian Township Passamaquoddy Domestic & Sexual Violence Advocacy Center**

P.O. Box 301, Princeton, ME 04668 Hotline: 207-214-1917



The Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence

Connecting people, creating frameworks for change. mcedv.org

Support us today

