

Partners for Peace

Community Engagement & Activism

October 2020



Domestic Violence Activism Month

October. You know what that means, right? Pumpkins, apples and Domestic Violence Activism Month. No, that's not a typo. Partners for Peace asks you to join us in a month full of **activism opportunities** to advocate for every person's right to feel safe in their relationships, homes, and communities. We knew that this month was likely to look different due to COVID-19, but given the current state of our nation, we are changing up our efforts this year and from here on. These are uncertain times we are living in. Marginalized people are rising up and speaking their truths and **we are listening, learning and amplifying their voices in service of the liberation of all oppressed people**. Black, Indigenous, People of Color, Immigrant, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer survivors need us now more than ever. Come along with us as we push ourselves outside of our comfort zones into a brave space of learning, growing and evolving together.

Connect With Us

Visit our [Website](#) to learn more and follow us on [Facebook](#), Instagram (@partnersforpeace), and Twitter (@PartnersMaine)

Cultural Humility

Recent events have moved us to take a more public and active stance against misogyny, racism, white supremacy, homophobia, and transphobia, while looking inward to explore our own biases and blindspots as individuals, an organization and a movement.

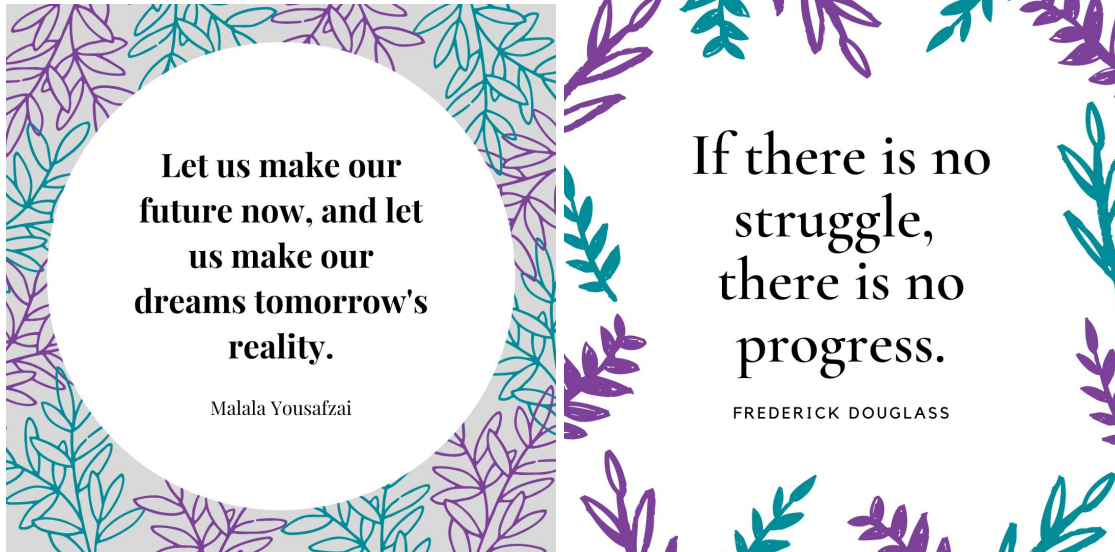
We are dedicating the month of October to actively **listening** to and **learning** from Black, Brown, Indigenous, and LGBTQ+ survivors and leaders. Together, we will explore the intersections of oppressions for marginalized survivors of domestic and sexual violence so that we can better meet the needs of all survivors.

Our communities as a whole can only be as safe or healthy as our most vulnerable members.¹ At Partners for Peace, we recognize that we have not adequately considered the experiences of Black, Indigenous and People of Color who are survivors of abuse, and survivors who identify as LGBTQ+ and trans in our coordinated community response to domestic violence. We are committed to deepening collaborations and broadening options in seeking safety and justice for survivors.

Justice, as defined by South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, requires three things: that the **truth be told**; to whatever extent possible the **harm be repaired**; and the **conditions that produced the injustice be changed**. We have a responsibility to embrace the spectrum of what justice and safety mean to survivors across communities. We must acknowledge that for many survivors on the margins, the safety and justice they seek cannot be found in the justice system as it exists and that so many folks on the margins experience further harm, injustice and oppression within the justice system. We need to work together to change the conditions that produce these injustices.

This Domestic Violence Activism Month, join us by **learning along** with us, **providing us feedback**, and **engaging in respectful dialogue**. We are determined to create meaningful societal and systemic change and that starts with us. Let's get to work together.

¹ Author credit to "JDI Statement on COVID-19 and People in Jails, Prisons, or Detention Centers, (May 13, 2020)



COVID-19

Given the current state of emergency, we have chosen to forego any in-person events in order to do our part to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. While this isn't exactly what we had in mind for Domestic Violence Activism Month, we are certain we can rise to the occasion and raise awareness about domestic violence without our usual walks and events.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had devastating consequences for people living with abusive partners and family members. People who are abusive are taking advantage of social distancing and quarantine practices to further isolate their victims. Domestic violence survivors need you and we have many ways for you to help from home.



Activism Opportunities



11 Ways to Be an Activist this October

1. **Display a Partners for Peace lawn sign!**
2. **Share a photo of your lawn sign on social media, tagging @partnersforpeaceme**
3. **Share the Partners for Peace helpline number on your social media**
4. **Register to vote, and create a voting plan**
5. **Join the Partners for Peace email list**
6. **Read a Knowledge Empowers Campaign book, and share your review**
7. **Shop at a store displaying a “Finding Our Voices” banner**
8. **Vist the Clothesline Project at Tea & Tarts**
9. **Wear a purple ribbon in honor of someone**
10. **Attend a Partners for Peace Event**
11. **Replace old Spruce Run/Womancare materials with Partners for Peace materials**

Invest in Our Mission & Enter to Win

Donate to Partners for Peace in the month of October and you will be entered to win a limited edition purple purse from The Allstate Foundation. The Foundation is dedicated to ending domestic violence through the **financial empowerment** of survivors.



This limited-edition purse was donated by The Allstate foundation. One of the Foundation's primary programs is dedicated to ending domestic violence through the financial empowerment of survivors. The purse is symbolic of the Allstate Foundation's program because purple is the color of domestic violence awareness and purses are a symbol of a person's financial domain. This cross-body bag is equal parts beauty and efficiency. Its rich purple hue and simple modern lines make it both elevated and adaptable, as appropriate for afternoon errands and an evening event. Its delicate strap offers a variety of ways to style the piece into a range of personal and professional looks. Produced in extremely limited quantities, the estimated retail value of the purse is **\$350**.

How do you win?

Donate \$100+ to Partners for Peace in the month of October and you will be entered **1 time** to win the purple purse.

Donate \$500+ to Partners for Peace in the month of October and you will be entered **5 times** to win the purple purse.

Donate \$1,000+ to Partners for Peace in the month of October and you will be entered **10 times** to win the purple purse.

Join us on [Facebook LIVE](#) on **October 31st at 10 AM** for the reveal of the winner! Attendance is not necessary to win.

Donate securely online at www.partnersforpeaceme.org/donate or mail a check to PO Box 653, Bangor, ME 04402.

Lawn Sign Fund & Awareness Raiser

“No Excuse for Domestic Abuse” and **“No Excuse for Partner Abuse”** signs are available for **\$25** each. Make your position on domestic and relationship abuse clear and spread the word about 24-hour helpline services for anyone affected by abuse. There are two options:



- **Purple** - “No Excuse for Domestic Abuse” - Blank space in the center is for you to customize and make a statement. Get your Cricut or sharpies ready! Here are some ideas for customization
 - “In honor of _____”
 - “In memory of _____”
 - “I stand with survivors.”
- **Pride** - “No Excuse for Partner Abuse” - LGBTQ+ and BIPOC folks experience partner abuse at much higher rates than white, cisgender women. This sign features all of the colors of the Inclusive Pride Flag. Help us spread the word that there is no excuse for abuse against LGBTQ+ and BIPOC people!

Signs are double-sided and come with metal stakes to affix into the ground. They can be ordered online, then picked up at our **Bangor or Dover-Foxcroft Resource Centers** on **Friday, October 9th or 23rd** between the hours of **8:30am-12:30pm** or delivered within a **20 mile radius of Bangor or Dover-Foxcroft**. [Pre-order your signs today](#) and we will follow up with details about delivery and contact-free pick up.

*We have a limited supply of each sign to start, but we plan to re-stock depending on the demand. We apologize in advance if this causes a delay in availability.

Knowledge Empowers Library Campaign

Every year, Partners for Peace donates books (a children's book, young adult book, and adult book) to all public and school libraries in Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties. All books are carefully selected by our staff and carry messages of kindness, respect, and hope for anyone affected by abuse.

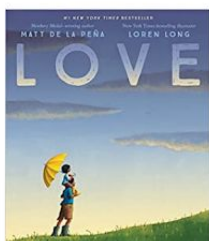
This year, we wanted our selections to teach about Love, Justice and Truth. We chose books that lift up the voices and experiences of marginalized people and that inspire us to take action to advocate for change. We believe we have succeeded in this mission, but you be the judge.





KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERS

Library Campaign 2020



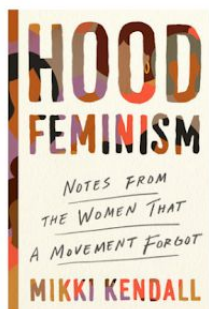
Love by Matt de la Peña

"In this heartfelt celebration of love, Newbery Medal-winning author Matt de la Peña and bestselling illustrator Loren Long depict the many ways we experience this universal bond, which carries us from the day we are born throughout the years of our childhood and beyond. With a lyrical text that's soothing and inspiring, this tender tale is a needed comfort and a new classic that will resonate with readers of every age."



Watch Us Rise by Renee Watson & Ellen Hagan

"Jasmine and Chelsea are best friends on a mission--they're sick of the way women are treated even at their progressive NYC high school, so they decide to start a Women's Rights Club. They post their work online--poems, essays, videos of Chelsea performing her poetry, and Jasmine's response to the racial microaggressions she experiences--and soon they go viral. But with such positive support, the club is also targeted by trolls. When things escalate in real life, the principal shuts the club down. Not willing to be silenced, Jasmine and Chelsea will risk everything for their voices--and those of other young women--to be heard".



Hood Feminism by Mikki Kendall

"In her searing collection of essays, Mikki Kendall takes aim at the legitimacy of the modern feminist movement arguing that it has chronically failed to address the needs of all but a few women. Drawing on her own experiences with hunger, violence, and hypersexualization, along with incisive commentary on politics, pop culture, the stigma of mental health, and more, Hood Feminism delivers an irrefutable indictment of a movement in flux. An unforgettable debut, Kendall has written a ferocious clarion call to all would-be feminists to live out the true mandate of the movement in thought and in deed."

We believe everyone deserves to live in peace and equality.

**Call our 24-hour Helpline at 1-800-863-9909
Or visit our website at partnersforpeace.org**

Funded in part by your generous donations, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Housing, and United Way of Eastern Maine.

Knowledge Empowers Campaign Children's Book Event

October 14th, 12:00 PM
Facebook



October 14th at 12:00 PM | Knowledge Empowers Campaign Children's Book Facebook Event

As part of our virtual events this year we are celebrating our children's selection for the Knowledge Empowers Campaign with a [Facebook event!](#) We will be streaming a short introduction from our Children's Services Advocate and a video of the author, Matt de la Pena, reading his book *Love*. We encourage all children, families, and interested parties to watch with us. It's sure to be a heart-warming event!

Hear Our Voices: Diversity & Inclusion in the Anti-Violence Movement

October 27th, 6:00 – 7:30 pm | [Zoom](#) & [Facebook Live Stream](#)

HEAR OUR VOICES: Diversity & Inclusion in the Anti-Violence Movement

10.27.20 | 6-7:30 PM |
Zoom & Facebook Live



As individuals, advocates and community members, how can we work together to address the needs of those who are affected by abuse and living on the margins, such as Black, Indigenous, and LGBTQ+ folks, people who are differently-abled, people living with mental health challenges, people who use substances, immigrants and refugees?

Join us for a panel discussion of truth and reckoning. Such an important conversation cannot be missed. We will have the honor of hearing from:

- Samaa Abdurraqib (She/Her), Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence
- Pat Graffam (She/Her), Penobscot Nation Domestic & Sexual Violence Advocacy Center
- Dina Yacoubagha (She/Her), Community Member & Candidate for Bangor City Council
- Maya Williams (They/Them & She/Her), MaineTransNet
- Fatuma Hussein (She/Her), Immigrant Resource Center of Maine

RSVP for this event on the [Partners for Peace Facebook Page](#). ASL, language interpretation, and learning accommodations available upon request. Please email Casey at cfaulkingham@partnersforpeaceme.org.

2020 Corporate Sponsorship Program

This October, we are excited to launch our brand new **Annual Corporate Sponsorship Program**. As sponsors, our goal is to recognize your commitment to ending domestic abuse by highlighting your support of survivors, not just in the month of October, but year round! We ask you to consider becoming a 2021 Partners for Peace Sponsor today.

\$5,000+	\$2,500+	\$1,000+
<p>Opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Logo prominently displayed on our website's home page and in e-newsletters · Quarterly recognition on social media · Recognition at major events · Featured in our Sponsor Spotlight Series in our e-newsletter · Exclusive media coverage for the first two sponsors who join at the 5,000 level · And more! 	<p>Opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Logo prominently displayed on our website's home page and in e-newsletters · Thanked on social media biannually · Featured in our Sponsor Spotlight Series in our e-newsletter · Recognition at major events · And more! 	<p>Opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Logo displayed on our website's home page · Thanked once on social media · Recognition at major events · And more!

We are offering free training, technical assistance, and policy consultation for our fiscal year 2021 sponsors. Business owners, we hope that you will join us as our first participants in our Annual Corporate Sponsorship Program. We're looking forward to partnering with you. If you have any questions about our Corporate Sponsorship Program or if you would like to discuss other ways for your organization to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact Casey Faulkingham at cfaulkingham@partnersforpeaceme.org or 207.852.7650.

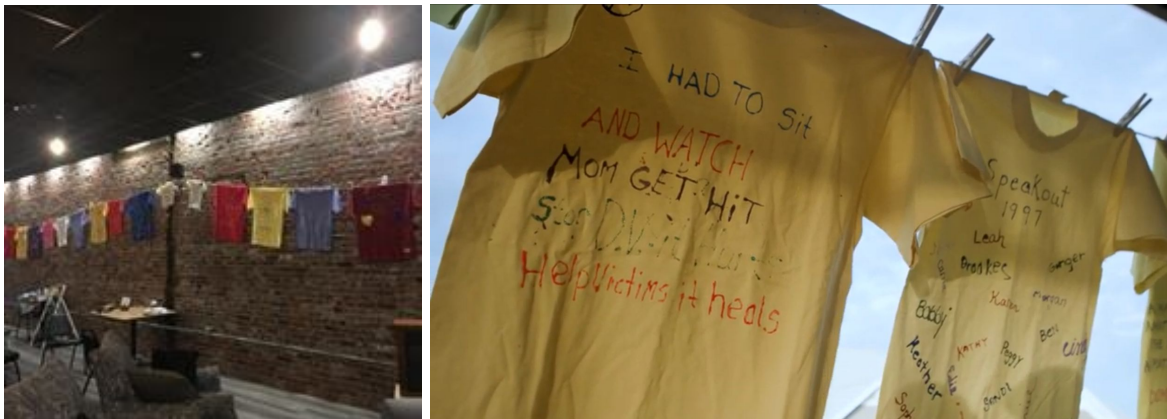
UMaine March Against Domestic Violence

The 7th Annual UMaine March Against Domestic Violence is being held virtually this year! The march will be held Wednesday, **October 7th at 12:00 Noon**. Partners for Peace and many other groups, organizations, and speakers will be participating. Come join us in raising awareness of domestic violence and standing against it!

To learn more about the event, please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/.../UMaine-March-Against-Domestic-V.../>

Clothesline Project Display | Tea & Tarts | Bangor, ME



The Clothesline Project began in 1990 on Cape Cod as an effort to bear witness to the epidemic of violence against women and to help survivors and those who care about them heal. The first clothesline carried 31 shirts in different colors, each color-coded and decorated to represent a particular victim or survivor experience. Since its inception, the Clothesline Project has grown into an international effort, with more than 500 projects throughout the world.

We are excited to partner with Tea and Tarts again this year to host The [Clothesline Project in the Addams Art Gallery](#) all month long! [Tea and Tarts](#) is located at 20 State Street in Bangor and they serve a wide variety of tea, baked goods and they cater to any and all dietary restrictions and choices.

Finding Our Voices Collaborations

We are pleased to partner with Finding Our Voices to promote awareness about the impact of domestic violence. Currently, Finding Our Voices has banners posted in the towns of Dexter, Newport, and Dover-Foxcroft with more coming soon to Millinocket and Lincoln. To learn more about the Window Banners Project and more, please visit Finding Our Voices at findingourvoices.net.



Patrisha McLean is a writer and photographer specializing in putting a face on, and giving a voice to, social injustice. Patrisha launched Finding Our Voices on Valentine's Day 2019 as an exhibit in her hometown library of portraits and audio of fellow survivors of intimate partner abuse. More than half the women featured in this exhibit lived in her community.

Finding Our Voices marshals the Voices of Survivors, creativity of community members and support of the business community to boldly break the silence of intimate partner abuse. **Talking about it** will bring it out of the shadows of shame and into the light, for peace and justice for the victim/survivor and accountability for the perpetrator.

Be on the lookout for these banners in a town near you!

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are a Partners for Peace volunteer and you'd like to get help out, please connect with Bree at bbelair@partnersforpeaceme.org. Here are a few tasks we need help with:

- Selling and delivering lawn signs
- Providing helpline coverage to help build capacity
- Creating and sharing social media content
- And more!

If you are not yet a volunteer, but would like to get involved, [sign up](#) on our website!



*No matter how you decide to get involved this October,
we look forward to partnering with you to
support survivors and create change!*