

News Release

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Contact: Diana McSorley, 338.8093; [diana.mcsorley@maine.edu](mailto:diana.mcsorley@maine.edu)

## Hutchinson Center presents two-day program on intimate partner violence



Belfast, Maine — The University of Maine Hutchinson Center, in partnership with New Hope for Women of Rockland, will offer a professional development program, Intimate Partner Violence, Sept. 12 and 13 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

The two-day program, from 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m. each day, is designed for social workers, substance abuse counselors and other mental health professionals, as well as clergy, police officers and first responders. The fee is \$135 per person; \$60 per University of Maine student, with need-based scholarships available. A continental breakfast and catered lunch will be provided each day.

The program, which provides 12 contact hours, will include the following topics: foundations of domestic abuse, addressing the lasting impact of domestic abuse, intervention strategies of domestic abuse and trauma-informed and culturally competent responses to domestic abuse.

By Jan. 1, 2020, an applicant for social work license renewal must demonstrate a one-time successful completion of the equivalent of 12 hours of continuing education or coursework in family and intimate partner violence.

Facilitators of the program are Kelly O'Connor and Jesse Lucas, of New Hope for Women.

O'Connor is the education & outreach director for New Hope for Women where she oversees violence prevention programs. She previously worked for the Carter Center in South Sudan, and Oxfam America in Boston, Massachusetts. O'Connor has a master's degree in international human rights and humanitarian assistance from the University of Denver. Her specialties include South Sudan and sexual-gender based violence in armed conflict.

Lucas, the community-based advocate at New Hope for Women, is responsible for advocacy and outreach in Knox and Waldo Counties. She holds a bachelor's degree in women and gender studies from the University of Southern Maine. Lucas started her career as a helpline volunteer and intern at New Hope for Women.

For more information, to register, or to request an accommodation or scholarship application, contact Michelle Patten, 338.8002; [michelle.patten@maine.edu](mailto:michelle.patten@maine.edu)

The Hutchinson Center, an outreach center of the University of Maine, is committed to offering high-quality professional development programs to the greater midcoast Maine community.

About the University of Maine:

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's land grant and sea grant university. As

Maine's flagship public university, UMaine has a statewide mission of teaching, research and economic development, and community institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from Maine and 49 other states, and 67 countries. It currently enrolls 11,240 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world- class scholars. The University of Maine offers 35 doctoral programs and master's degrees in 85 fields; more than 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship, with substantial efforts campuswide aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu)