MAEA CONFERENCE 2023

RESOURCE MAP COMMUNITY

MAKING LOCAL RESOURCES AND STATEWIDE DATABASES WORK FOR YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS!





Statewide databases

- What are they?
- **Tips and Tricks**
- **Facilitating Student Access**

Mapping local resources

- Where to start
- Where to look
- How to distribute the information Explore mapping resources in your community!

STATEWIDE DATABASES

STATEWIDE DATABASE

- PRO: Interact in multiple ways:
 - <u>https://211maine.org/</u>
 - Call 211 to speak to a call center operator (language interpretation can be requested)
 - Text your zip code to 211 to chat with a call center operator
 - Email <u>info@211maine.org</u>
 - Interpreter services!
- CON: search results are not always accurate
 - Two search options that turn up different results based on how you enter the search information

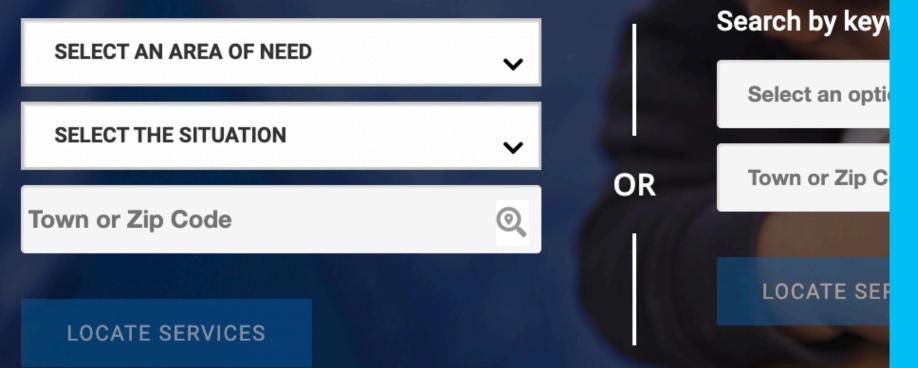


COVID-19 UPDATES ABOUT SERVICE CATEGORIES JOIN US

What do you need help with?

Find services in your area by selecting an area of need or by search also dial 211 or text your zip code to 898-211.

Select a need below:



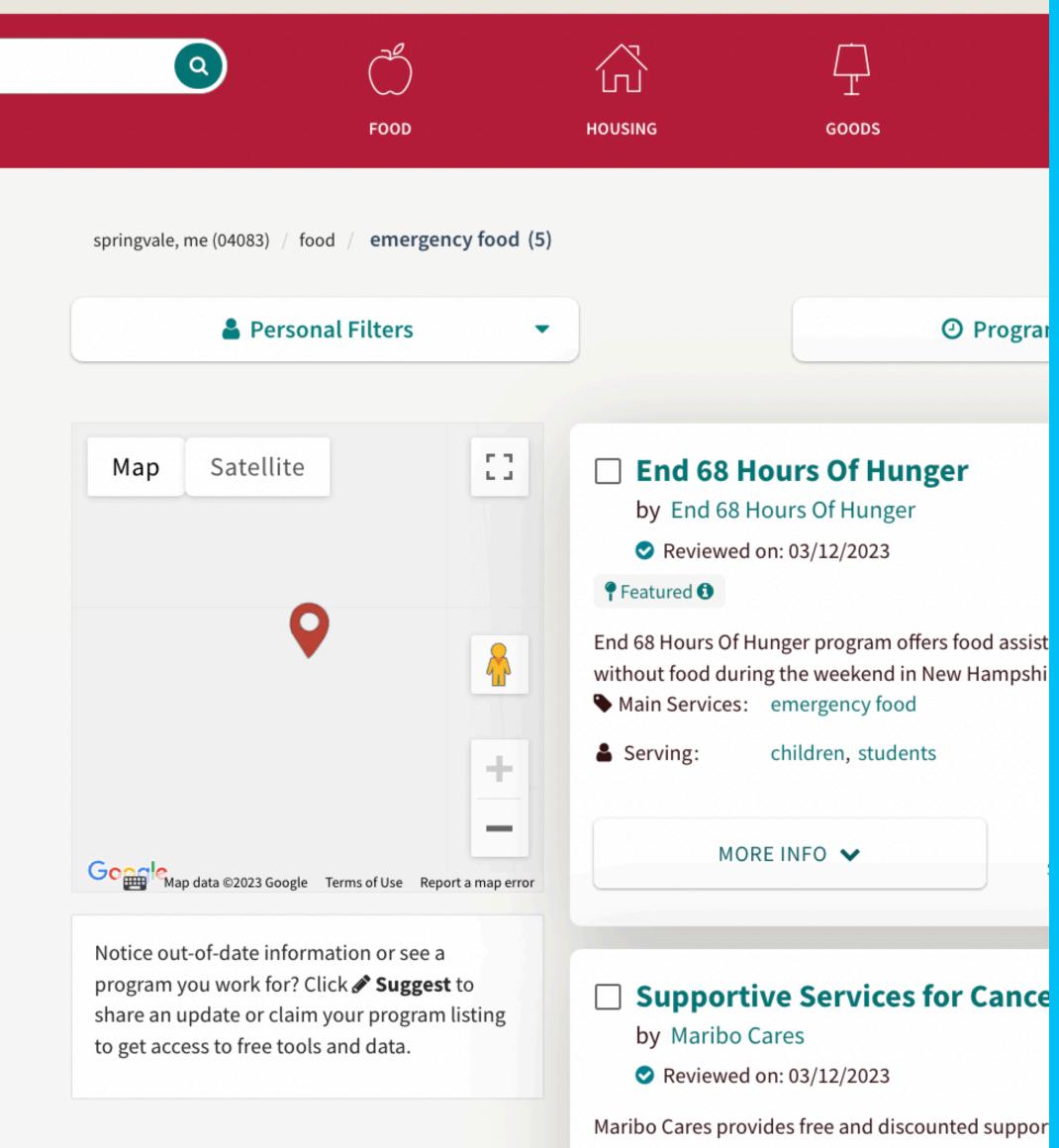
You can also connect with Maine specialists by dialing 211 or texti

? Need help using this tool?

STATEWIDE DATABASE MAINEHEALTH FINDHELP

- PRO: site navigation <u>https://</u> mainehealth.findhelp.com/
- PRO: crowdsourcing capability for resource mapping
- CON: some for-profit resources
- CON: dependent on crowdsourcing for resource, so some areas of Maine may be sparsely mapped

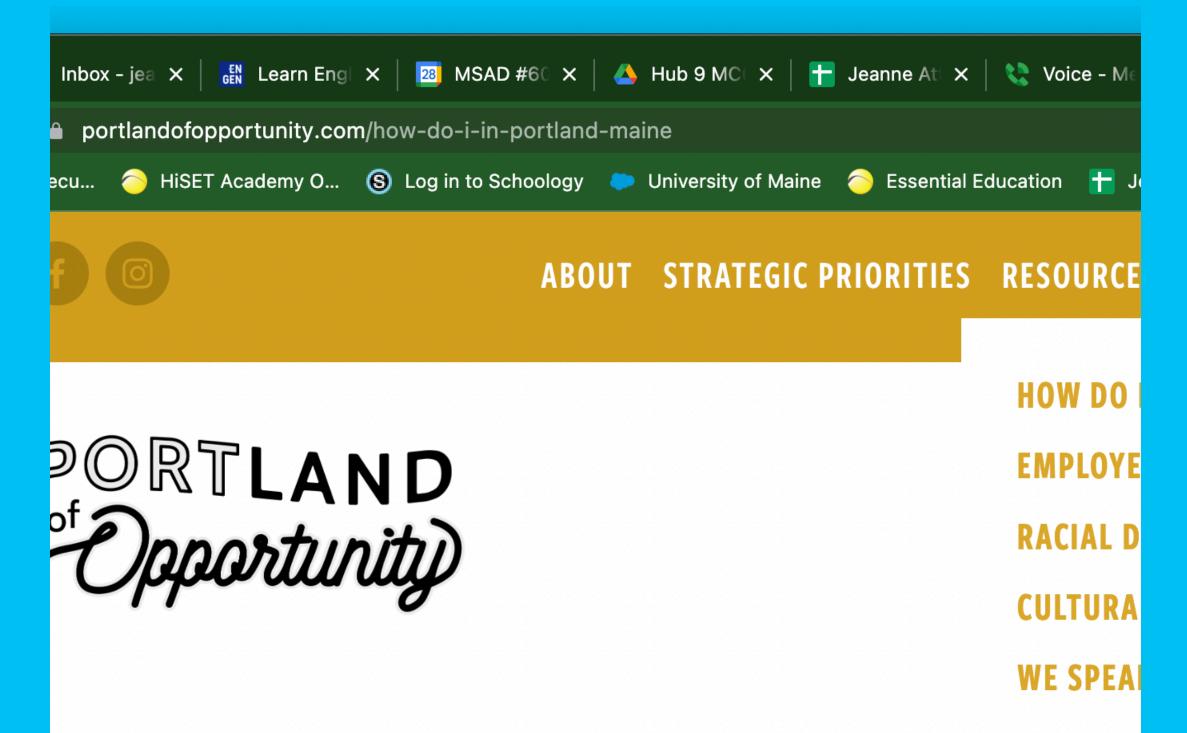
Health



Maribo Cares provides free and discounted suppor program provides:- House Cleaning- K-Laser Thera Main Services: emergency food, support & se home visiting, peer support, support groups, vir

STATEWIDE DATABASE PORTLAND OF OPPORTUNITY

- PRO: "How do I...?" Guides are applicable across the state
- PRO: TRANSLATIONS!!!!
- PRO: excellent collection of local resources
- CON: localized resources may not be applicable across the state



How Do I ... In Portland, Maine?"

rtland is a dynamic and vibrant city with so much to offer. If you are looking ances are it exists, but you may not know how to access it or where to start aine?" seeks to direct New Mainers towards essential resources, as well as to arn more about the resources available in Portland for themselves or to help

ofopportunity.com/resources

STATEWIDE DATABASE MANE EQUAL JUSTICE

- PRO: Well-organized
- PRO: TRANSLATIONS!
- PRO: Printer-friendly flyers
- CON: Limited to benefits/ government resources



About Us

#WEAREMAIN

Help is available!

Help for Immigrant

Education

Food Security

Health Care

Housing and Utilitie

Making Ends Meet

Unemployment Ins

Other Supports



CAP AGENCY

- **PRO:** Local CAP agencies have knowledge of local resources! And often they offer the resources that your students need!
- **CON:** They are busy, so sometimes response times can vary
- **<u>CAP Agencies in Maine</u>** (via MaineHousing)

- **Choose one of the databases:**
- **211** Maine
- MaineHealth FindHelp
- PortILand of Opportunity
- Maine Equal Justice
- Your local Community Action Agency
- database you chose, or a new resource you didn't know about before!

Be ready to share something you like and wish could be better about the

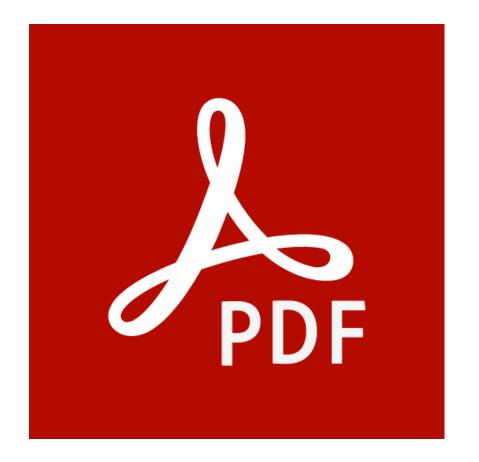


MAPPING LOCAL RESOURCES



THE YORK COUNTY RESOURCE MAP: AN INCOMPLETE HISTORY

- **Sanford Resource Map**
- 2014 Google Doc
- **2017 Google Doc**
- **2017-18 Google Doc**
- 2020 Google Doc
- **York County Resource Map**
- **2021 Google Site with Maps**
- **Biddeford Resource Map (now** maintained by Tim Boston from **Biddeford General Assistance)**





Google Docs







- Be ready to share what pros and cons you notice about the following:
- etc.)
- 2. Organization
- 3. Site features
- 4. Variety of resources

Additionally:

- 1. What would you like to incorporate in your own resource map?
- 2. How would you address the "cons" of the York County map?

1. Accessibility (device experience, language, visual/auditory accessibility options,



START WITH WHAT'S NEEDED Or Pick a category of basic needs

WHERE TO LOOK

- **Faith partners**
- Local food pantries, including a Backpack Program in your school district
- Other organizations/agencies that are supporting basic needs:
 - Housing Authorities
 - **CAP Agencies**
 - **Community groups**
 - **Salvation Army**
- Service provider networking opportunities
- **Google Maps**
- Your own knowledge or that of your adult education colleagues!

HOW TO MAP

Google Doc

- PRO: flexible formatting, table of contents feature
- CON: not easily searchable (unless you use the "Find" feature
- CON: can also get messy quickly
- CON: need to adjust sharing permissions before document can be shared
- Google <u>Sheet</u>
 - PRO: using tabs within the same Sheet can make categories easy
 - CON: if you want to add a search feature, you need to have some coding skills
 - CON: need to adjust sharing permissions before document can be shared
- Google <u>Site</u>
- Google products are the most easily shared (everyone gets the most updated version every time they
 access), but use the apps that work best for you!
- If you can, partner with someone from another agency to share the workload!

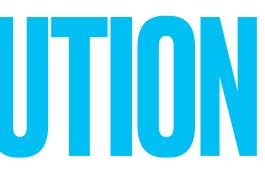
TPS AND TRICKS

- This is a marathon, not a sprint. Pick away at this project when you can.
- Include:
 - **Resource name and location/contact information**
 - Short description of resource, including any eligibility criteria or restrictions
 - A direct contact if you can get one
 - A section for notes that don't fall into the above categories
- Connect at least annually with your resources to make sure they are up to date
 - This is also an outreach opportunity to get student referrals!

BE FLEXIBLE AND COMFORTABLE WITH THE FACT THAT THIS WILL <u>ALWAYS</u> BE WORK IN PROGRESS!

RESOURCE MAP DISTRIBUTION

- Link it on your website and in your email signature
- **QR** code:
 - On print materials: brochure, rack cards, business cards, etc.
 - **On digital materials: website, email signature, presentations, etc.**
- PDF, spreadsheet, or hard copies
 - This can require frequent re-printing or re-exporting and uploading.
- Curated resource lists emailed or distributed to students



EXPLORE YOUR LOCAL RESOURCES 10 MINUTES

- Make a plan for resource map implementation!
- 1. Tweak the resource lists you already have, or try a new modality of presenting the information
- **2. Google resources in your community and start a list**
- 3. Send an email to a resource master in your area, or a resource you
- already know of to gather more information
- 4. Connect with your colleagues here about how you would like to
- implement or improve your resource maps!

FINAL THOUGHT:

THE FLIPSIDE OF RESOURCE MAPPING: RESOURCE ADVOCACY

When you know what's out there, you know where the gaps are!

OUESTIONS? FEEDBACK? AH-HAMMENT?

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THANK YOU