
Sex Workers Rights In Vermont

Hosted by New Moon Network & Ishtar Collective



AGENDA

01. INTRODUCTIONS & DEFINITIONS
02. SUBTOPIC WHEEL EXERCISE
03. ISHTAR COLLECTIVE - LOCAL ACTIVITY
04. HOW IS THIS INFORMATION RELEVANT TO YOUR WORK OR LIFE?
05. NEW MOON NETWORK - NATIONAL & GLOBAL
05. AUDIENCE Q & A



CONTINUE THE
CONVERSATION:

**Join us at 6pm
at Three Penny
Taproom!**

DEFINITIONS

- **Sex trade**
 - A global economy, ranging in formality and legality, encompassing a variety of sexual and erotic commercial transactions.
- **Sex work**
 - The exchange of sexual and erotic services (escorting, stripping, pornography, etc.) for money or something of value.
- **Sex trafficking**
 - Use of force, fraud, or coercion to compel another person to engage in a commercial sex act or causes a minor to engage in a commercial sex act.
- **Customer**
 - A person who purchases erotic or sexual services from someone who is providing such services.
- **Third Party**
 - Managers, booking agent, security, cleaners, or others involved in a transaction of sexual or erotic labor outside the provision of the service itself.

Special guest:

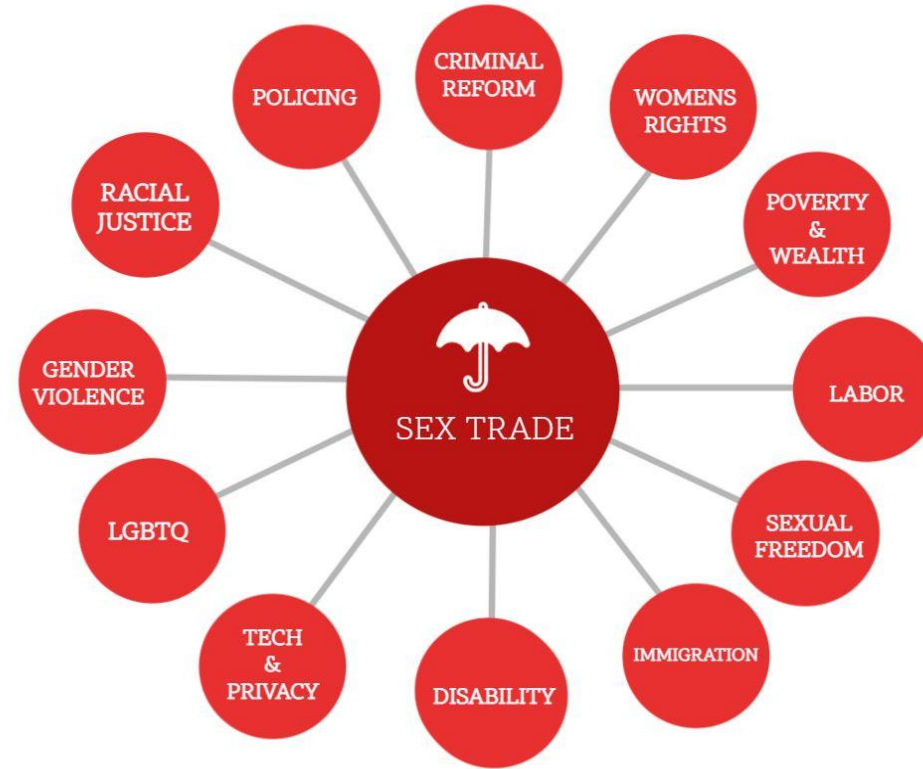


Nebula Fund

**Supports movements advancing
gender justice and LGBTQ+ rights
to expand their narrative power.**

EXERCISE:

How is the issue of the sex trade relevant to other issues?





The Ishtar Collective

Supports Vermont's sex workers
And survivors of human
trafficking



FOOD JUSTICE

Intent: To grow and provide produce to low income households in central Vermont.

Result: Food Garden is in it's 3rd year of operation. Community Fridge installed in downtown Montpelier.

POLICY ADVOCACY

Intent: To improve legal conditions for people who trade sex in Vermont.

Result: Removed barriers to accessing 911 services. Removed stigmatizing language from municipal codes. Introduce bill to decriminalize sex work.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Intent: To create opportunities for connection and amongst people who trade sex in Vermont.

Result: Strong core membership. Co-hosted the New England Sex Work Summit (regional gathering).

But enough about us..

Who are you?

What brings you here today?

What about this feels relevant to you?



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ISHTAR COLLECTIVE - Cross Issue Initiatives



New Moon Network

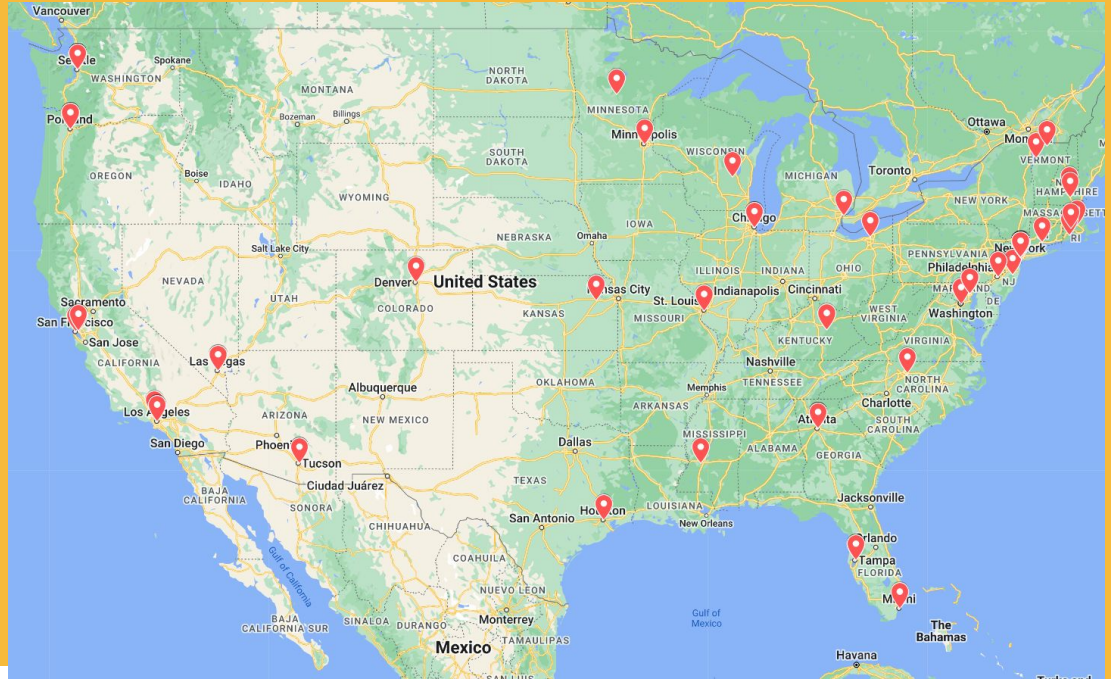
Advancing rights and welfare for people in the sex trade through capacity building, regranting, and donor advising.

Sex Worker Led Groups in the USA:

2023 Count:

- 200+ groups
- 120 active in past 6 months

Up 1000% from a 2015
count of ~20 groups.



**1000% growth in grassroots sex worker
groups in the past 8 years...WHY?**



Increasing Pressure

In response to rising **censorship, discrimination,** and **policing** conducted under the banner of ending sex trafficking, **sex workers are mobilizing.**

The movement for sex workers rights is directly tied to the major movements of our day.



The movement for sex workers rights is global



338 sex worker led members of Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP)

NEW MOON NETWORK - AREAS OF FOCUS



Philanthropic Advising

We open the door to dialog around one of the most entrenched issues of our time, and uplift alignment between issue areas.



Moving Money Into Movement

By leveraging data and relationships, we identify and fund opportunities poised to accelerate change.



Capacity Building

Through technical assistance and pilot programming, we fortify leaders with skills, info, and resources.

Funding Landscape

Percentage of global foundation human rights funding:

Women & Girls - 23%

(sex workers commonly excluded)

LGBTQIA+ - 5%

People with Disabilities - 3%

Sex Workers Rights - <1%

Human Rights Funders, 2019



<1%

SHARE OF FOUNDATION HUMAN RIGHTS FUNDING

\$7.1 Million out of
\$4.1 Billion for all rights
163 Grants

TOP FOUNDATION FUNDERS

1	Comic Relief	\$1.8 M
2	Foundation to Promote Open Society	\$1.5 M
3	Red Umbrella Fund	\$900.1 K
4	Foundation for a Just Society	\$800.0 K
5	Open Society Policy Center	\$749.9 K
6	American Jewish World Service	\$584.5 K
7	Aidsfonds	\$407.7 K
8	Mama Cash	\$352.2 K
9	Levi Strauss Foundation	\$185.0 K
10	Freedom Fund (UK)	\$155.0 K

Links for further learning:

SEX WORK POLICY:

[Is Sex Work Decriminalization the Answer? What the Research Tells Us](#) - ACLU, research report

[Decriminalise sex work to prevent trafficking and abuse](#) - Open Democracy, article

[Preventing Sex Trafficking Requires the Full Decriminalization of Sex Work](#) - Freedom Network USA, position paper

[Associations Between Sex Work Laws and Sex Workers' Health](#), PLOS Medicine

[The Impact of Twenty Years of End Demand Implementation on People who Trade Sex](#), Reframe Health & Justice

[Criminalising Clients Endangers Sex Workers and Creates Barriers to Exiting Sex Work](#)

Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, position paper

[Health Outcomes Associated with the Criminalization and Regulation of the Sex Trade](#) - briefing paper

Center for HIV Identification, Prevention & Treatment Services & Sex Workers Outreach Project of Sacramento

Global Lab for Research in Action, UCLA Luskin

[Sex Work Policy Recommendations](#) - National LGBTQ Task Force, position paper

[Debunking the Entrapment Model](#) - Decriminalize Sex Work, research review

Links for further learning:

CONNECTED ISSUES:

[Migrant Sex Workers](#) - Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP), briefing paper

[To Protect Black Trans Lives, Decriminalize Sex Work](#) - ACLU, article

[Disability & Sex Work](#) - Decriminalize Sex Work, video and info sheet

[Sex Worker Rights and Domestic Violence and Gendered Violence](#) - Old Pros, 1 pager info sheet

[Erased: The Impact of SESTA/FOSTA and the Removal of Backpage](#) - Hacking/Hustling, research report

[Financial Discrimination and the Adult Industry](#) - Free Speech Coalition, report

FUNDING LANDSCAPE:

[Defining Sex Worker Rights Funding](#) - Sex Work Donor Collaborative, info sheet

[Foundation Funding For Sex Workers, 2011-2016](#) - Human Rights Funders Network, info site

[Shifting the \(funding\) power to sex workers – my years at Mama Cash](#) - Alliance Magazine, article
