

**Public Health and Well-Being Research and Project Grants for Medical Students
Application Form
New Haven County Medical Association Foundation
August 2024**

Name of Applicant (First/Last): **Jana Sun**

Medical School: **Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University**

Projected Graduation Date (Month/Year): **June 2027**

Name of Co-Applicants (First/Last): **Taylor LaPira, Sam Capozzi, Kelsey Savoy**

Medical School: **Quinnipiac University School of Law**

Projected Graduation Date (Month/Year): **June 2025, June 2025, June 2026**

Advisor Name: **Katherine McLeod, PhD¹, Leonard Dwarica, JD²**

Advisor Title/Role: **^{1,2}Co-Directors of Health Policy and Advocacy Concentration at ¹Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University, ²Distinguished Practitioner in Residence – Health Law at Quinnipiac University School of Law**

Section 1: Eligibility

Please check the boxes below to confirm that you meet the eligibility requirements for this grant application:

- **I confirm that I am currently enrolled at either the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University or the Yale School of Medicine.**
- **I understand that grant recipients will be required to present the final results of their project at the annual NHCMA winter meeting in 2026 (date TBA).**

Section 2: Introduction and Purpose (250 words maximum per question)

1. What is the specific public health issue or challenge your project/research aims to address in the Greater New Haven area?

Human trafficking is an under-reported issue. Yet, estimates of survivors range from hundreds (state-wide) to hundreds of thousands (nationally) to millions (internationally). Traffickers often target individuals from vulnerable communities, including children involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems, people

experiencing housing insecurity, immigrants, people of color, and people who identify as LGBTQI+. These communities often experience health and legal inequities as well. With New Haven, CT being one of the most populous and diverse areas in the state, it is essential for future healthcare and law professionals to be aware of collaborative approaches to human trafficking prevention, identification, and intervention. Home to both medical and law schools, Quinnipiac University is an ideal place for medical and law students to share their diverse perspectives and grow together to better support survivors of human trafficking.

In the past, examples of medical and law school collaborations (led by medical students Alex Murphy, Eric S. Vilsmark, and Julia Tupper) have included a Narcan training, menstrual product drive, and poverty and health panel. These events supported interdisciplinary learning and services addressing substance use, menstrual inequity, and economic disparities. With the generous support of the NHCMA Foundation, we plan to continue these efforts by providing a human trafficking prevention training and service opportunity for healthcare and law students. Our hope is that, with an interdisciplinary approach, our colleagues will be empowered and prepared to address the unique health and legal issues of the communities most impacted by human trafficking.

2. How does your project align with the mission of the NHCMA Foundation: to promote health and well-being in the Greater New Haven area?

This event is a key opportunity for medical and law students to come together, learn with one another, and actively support a local non-profit organization that advocates and provides direct services for survivors of child trafficking. By creating a collaborative space for future healthcare providers and legal professionals, we will be encouraging them to take on a holistic approach to care and advocacy for future patients and clients near and far.

3. How will your project directly benefit the residents of the Greater New Haven area?

Our project will directly benefit the residents of the Greater New Haven area by increasing interdisciplinary collaboration among future healthcare and legal professionals, as well as directly contributing to local anti-child-trafficking efforts.

Both healthcare and law professionals play pivotal roles in identifying and responding to survivors. By educating healthcare students about the signs of trafficking and related legal processes, they can better recognize and assist these at-risk populations, leading to earlier interventions and improved outcomes. Similarly for law students, understanding how patients present in the healthcare setting and related healthcare documentation processes equips them to advocate for stronger protections and resources for survivors. This interdisciplinary event can promote awareness, improve perspective sharing, and lead more community awareness of this pressing

issue, ultimately strengthening efforts to prevent trafficking and support vulnerable populations.

During this event, students will also build Rapid Response backpacks for Love 146, a non-profit organization with headquarters in New Haven, CT that advocates for and provides direct services to survivors of child trafficking. We plan on educating students on why certain items are important as we prepare the backpacks for donation, further encouraging them to consider the unique needs of survivors.

Section 3: Proposal Guidelines

1. Provide a detailed description of your project/research, including objectives, methodology, and expected outcomes.

Objectives

- **Increase Opportunities for Interprofessional Education:** The human trafficking prevention training will educate healthcare and law students on collaborative approaches to identify, report, and respond to suspected cases of human trafficking in healthcare and legal settings. They will also discuss ethical considerations and trauma-informed approaches to support survivors of human trafficking.
- **Support Community Efforts Against Human Trafficking:** We will be creating Rapid Response backpacks for Love 146, a local non-profit organization that supports survivors of child trafficking.

Methodology

- This human trafficking prevention training event will be supported through collaboration between Quinnipiac University School of Medicine and Law's Health Law Society, Quinnipiac University School of Law's Human Trafficking Prevention Project (HTPP), and Love 146. HTPP will be providing the human trafficking prevention training for healthcare and law students. The Health Law Society will work with Love 146 to gather supplies for Rapid Response backpacks, which will be prepared with students at the event. The event will be open to healthcare and law students at Quinnipiac University and will be 2.5 hours in the evening the week of November 11, 2024.

Expected Outcomes

- **Increased Opportunities for Interprofessional Education:** After the event, healthcare and law students will better understand collaborative approaches to identify, report, and respond to suspected cases of human trafficking in healthcare and legal settings. They will also be better aware of ethical considerations and trauma-informed approaches to support survivors of human trafficking.
- **Supported Community Efforts Against Human Trafficking:** We will have Rapid Response backpacks ready for donation to Love 146.

2. Outline an itemized budget, detailing how the grant funds will be used. Please also include mention of any additional outside funding pertaining to your proposed project, if any.

Item	Quantity	Cost	Notes
Backpacks	20	\$480	\$24/backpack
Teddy Bears	20	\$136	\$34/5 bears
Fleece Blanket	20	\$320	\$16/blanket
Coloring Book	20	\$260	\$13/book
Deodorant	20	\$25	\$1.25/deodorant
Body Wash, Shampoo, Conditioner	20	\$38	~\$1.90/pack
Journal	20	\$160	~\$8/journal
Doodle Pads	20	\$140	~\$7/pad
Socks	20	\$18	~\$0.9/pair
Wipes	20	\$27	~\$1.35/wipe
Poncho	20	\$31	~\$1.55/poncho
Silly Putty	20	\$28	~\$1.4/silly putty
Toilet Paper	20	\$73	~\$3.65/toilet paper
Hand Sanitizer	20	\$90	~\$4.5/hand sanitizer
Granola Bars	20	\$24	~\$1.2/granola bar
Stress Balls	20	\$13	~\$0.65/stress ball
Toothbrush and toothpaste	20	\$60	~\$3/pack
Gloves	20	\$40	~\$2/pair
Cardholder	20	\$24	~\$1.2/card holder
Colored Pencils	20	\$20	\$1/pack
Food for Training	1	\$300	

Event			
Tax on Items	1	~\$193	
Total	20 Rapid Response backpacks and 1 meal for students	\$2500	

3. Please provide an outline of your project/research’s timeline. The proposed goal of the project should be completed within one year of funding disbursement.

- **October 2024**
 - **Connect with HTPP about collaboration, discuss content and logistics of event**
 - **Connect with local anti-trafficking organization Love 146, discuss collaboration and logistics of creating Rapid Response backpacks**
 - **Finalize location, date, and time of event**
 - **Publicize event to healthcare and law students**
- **November 2024**
 - **Order and receive Rapid Response backpack supplies**
 - **Order food for event**
 - **Check in with HTPP about day of logistics**
 - **Host event on a weekday evening during the week of 11/11/2024**
 - **Deliver Rapid Response backpacks to Love 146 after event**

4. Describe your plan for evaluating the project/research's impact on public health in the Greater New Haven area.

We will have a RSVP form along with a pre and post survey to evaluate the impact of the event on students and to gather feedback. This information will inform further collaborative educational and community events between medical and law school students.