

INTRODUCTION TO TRAFFICKSTOP

Welcome team members to the program, review the schedule, introduce facilitators, and establish the group environment.



0307



Introduction

Introduce team members to the TraffickSTOP program, to yourself, and to any other co-facilitators that will be participating in the program. Talk with team members about your background and your interest in helping students learn about human trafficking. Ask team members to introduce themselves and share why they wanted to participate in the program. You can choose an icebreaker activity from the toolkit to make team member introductions more fun! The toolkit contains a selection of icebreakers or warm-up activities that can be used during any meeting to encourage discussion.

Overview of Meeting Plans

Tell students about the meeting plans and topics that they will be discussing throughout the program. You should discuss the awareness week project; if team members have any preliminary ideas, take note for when project planning begins. Review the schedule – whether you'll be meeting weekly or bi-weekly, what day of the week, what time, and approximately how long meetings will be.

Agreements and Expectations

Remind team members that while participation is voluntary, there is an expectation of regular attendance. It is ok to miss one or two meetings, but team members need to be present at most meetings to develop a meaningful understanding of human trafficking and related topics, and to participate in the awareness week.

At this point, give team members the opportunity to discuss the environment they would like to create for the group. Team members should make some agreements to ensure that everyone's perspectives are welcome and that everyone feels comfortable expressing their opinions. The agreements should be written down and kept somewhere so that they can be referenced later. Here are a few examples:

- Give everyone space to contribute to discussions and participate in activities.
- Be considerate of everyone's perspectives and opinions, even if you don't agree with them.
- Don't interrupt while someone is speaking; actively listen to what they are saying and wait until they are finished before responding.
- Team members' statements should not be discussed by others outside of the group.

- Team members will let facilitators know if they need to miss a meeting.
- Team members may step outside or take a short break during the meetings if needed.
- Team members will do their best to ensure that the meeting provides a safe space for individuals to share personal experiences if they choose to do so.

Things to Consider

It is best to assume that some team members may have personal experiences with topics that are discussed throughout the meeting plans, so be sure that these sensitive issues are discussed in a safe and respectful manner.

As a facilitator, students might trust you with information that they think other adults won't believe. Discuss mandatory reporting during this meeting or at the beginning of the next meeting. Explain what mandatory reporting means for anything a team member discloses to you. You want them to have adequate information to fully understand what it might mean to share something. If you'd like additional guidance, refer back to the facilitator onboarding training materials.

Facilitator Notes

Upcoming Meeting Dates: __/__/__
