

## 5-7 MINUTE TALKING POINTS

### **INTRO: Shared Hope International exists to PREVENT, RESTORE AND BRING JUSTICE.**

- Please visit our website for more information at [Sharedhope.org](http://Sharedhope.org)
- Today our focus is on kids who go missing.
- The common age of recruitment is 13 years old. Most victims are female.

### **What makes a kid vulnerable to being recruited?**

- Being a teenager: insecure, lonely, feels misunderstood, wants to fit in
- This pretty much describes every 13 year old.

### **A recruiter comes along and MAKES PROMISES:**

- You're beautiful and we can build a life.
- No one understands you or cares but I will take care of you.
- Your life is hard and I will make it better.
- I know how you can make a lot of money.

### **They sell the LIE and once the girl buys the lie:**

- He isolates her from family and friends
- Gives her "new" friends – may introduce drugs so she "needs" him more
- Fast track the relationship – gets jealous easily, controls her, move in with me, go on a trip with me
- Change her looks (clothing, style, tattoo of ownership)
- Her attitude changes (appears belligerent, making poor choices) He's teaching her to trust only him, to be tough because "no one else understands you."
- Eventually engages her in illegal activity to achieve his goals and dreams and to control her
- Uses suggestive photos or video to manipulate her

### **This is what kids need from caring adults:**

- Care and listen without judgment
- Tell them and show them their value and worth
- Offer them resources and solutions to their life
- Arm them with tools to KNOW how traffickers work and what they can do to defend themselves and their friends.
- 65% of the victims we have worked with have come through the Foster / CPS system. Simply giving these kids stability will help prevent them from being recruited.

### **Shared Hope offers tools and resources –**

- SHARED HOPE is about sharing – what do we have that can support what you do?
- We can provide the tools YOU NEED to educate the kids in your community to the tactics of traffickers.
- Stop by our table and talk to our Ambassadors for more information how you can take action.