

## Turning Point's Survivor Speaker's Bureau Guidelines

The purpose of the Survivor Speaker's Bureau is to increase awareness about sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking through public speaking and education. We have prepared the following guidelines to assist you in determining if the Survivor Speaker's Bureau is the right fit for you at this time:

- You must be at least 18 years old.
- You must be able to receive messages from Turning Point on your chosen method of communication regarding the details of a speaking engagement.
- Speaking should not be considered counseling or a substitute for counseling. We ask that you be at a place of healing prior to undertaking public speaking.
- The goal of the Speaker's Bureau is to educate the community, not to get even with an offender, to seek revenge or retribution, or to promote a personal business or third-party agency. We ask that you consider your motivation and goals before considering public speaking.
- To eliminate conflicts of interest, Survivor Speakers are not able to speak in front of organizations with which they are personally or professionally affiliated with, including but not limited to former schools or current schools of applicable minor children, religious organizations, or community groups.
- If you are currently struggling with mental health or substance use, we ask that you wait to participate until these things become manageable.
- Speakers are ultimately responsible for their own health and well-being before, during, and after speaking engagements. Be honest with yourself about your limitations and safety.
- Do not use the last name of your offender(s) when sharing your story.
- Be open to feedback from Turning Point staff when writing your story.

### For Non-Offending Loved Ones

- If your loved one is still alive, we ask that you inform them of your intention to take this training and your reason for doing so.
- If the survivor is opposed to you speaking publicly about the violence, respect their wishes and do not take the training. Consider another form of volunteerism.
- Establish guidelines with the survivor about what they would like you to share and what should be kept confidential.
- Do not use the last name of the offender or survivor even if they give you permission.
- Review the Speaker's Guidelines and your completed Speaker Form (which you will receive after completing the training) with the survivor so that they understand the program and can give their input on your choice of speaking engagements.