



## The “*Why Us?*” Campaign Constitution

### *Article 1 - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization.*

**Section 1: Organization Name:** The “*Why Us?*” Anti Human Trafficking Campaign

**Section 2 – Organization Purpose:** To bring awareness to what human trafficking is and how it affects college-aged students on college campuses through education and advocacy.

**Objective 1:** To increase the knowledge of Ohio State students about human trafficking and how diversified the social injustice is, as well as how it affects all demographics.

**Objective 2:** To speak to at least 1,000 people on Ohio State’s campus about human trafficking and educate them on the signs and how to intervene or participate in combating human trafficking.

**Objective 3:** To collect material assistance (clothing, hygiene products, ethnic hair care products) as well as monetary donations to donate to local human trafficking organizations that work to eradicate human trafficking and serve/protect victims and survivors.

**Objective 4:** To create an educational scholarship fund for human trafficking survivors to assist with school supplies and books.

The “*Why Us?*” Campaign membership includes Ohio State University - Main Campus students only.

**Section 3 – Organization Core Values:** The “*Why Us?*” Campaign’s core values are as follows:

***Leadership:*** We have the courage to shape the future

***Diversity:*** We are inclusive of all genders, ethnicities, races, perspectives and opinions

***Commitment:*** We are committed to eradicating human trafficking in Central Ohio

***Education:*** We work to educate our community on human trafficking and its prevalence

***Passion:*** We are committed in our hearts and minds



***Service to Others:*** We are committed to serving and protecting human trafficking victims and survivors and promise to not engage in any activities that could enhance the human trafficking industry.

**Section 4 - Non-Discrimination Policy:** The Ohio State University’s non-discrimination statement outlined in the Affirmative Action, Equal Employment Opportunity & Non-Discrimination/Harassment 1.10 is as follows:

“The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a diverse community to reflect human diversity and to improve opportunities for all. The university is committed to equal opportunity, affirmative action, and eliminating discrimination. This commitment is both a moral imperative consistent with an intellectual community that celebrates individual differences and diversity, as well as a matter of law.

Ohio State does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.”

**Section 4a - Non-Discrimination Policy:** The “*Why Us?*” Campaign’s non-discrimination policy is as follows:

This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

**Section 5 - Sexual Misconduct Policy:** The Ohio State University’s sexual misconduct statement is as follows:

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, The “Why Us?” Campaign expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here:

<https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>.

If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleIX.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at [titleIX@osu.edu](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu).



## ***Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership***

Students interested in becoming a member of the “*Why Us?*” Campaign must email the organization to express interest in combating human trafficking and provide their contact information. Campaign Members of the campaign must attend at least one human trafficking 101 training by our community partner, She Has A Name or any other human trafficking-specific training.

There is a \$5 membership fee associated with becoming a member. Membership fees open at the beginning of the semester. Fees must be paid by the fourth meeting of the semester. Membership fees go toward funding the organization’s numerous events and the cost of the “*Why Us?*” organization t-shirt. Any Ohio State student with a 2.5 GPA or higher is can become a member of the campaign. Previous experience or knowledge of human trafficking is not required to be a member, but it is strongly recommended.

Members are required to sign and abide by the organization’s core values and pledge which reads as follows:

*“Today I, \_\_\_\_\_, make the pledge to stand against human trafficking and HIV.*

*By this I will:*

- Encourage others to do the same*
- Hold others accountable for their words, thoughts, and actions*
- Report and suspicion I have in this area to the National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888)*
- Not purchase sex through any means including pornography, prostitution, stripping*
- Talk with my significant other, friends, and family about getting tested and practicing safe sex*
- Fight the stigma and fear around HIV by helping to educate others and promote testing”*

**II.a.** As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Executive Committee can make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

## ***Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers***

**III.a.** If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization’s constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student



Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

**III.b.** If any member or elected officer were to violate the organizations core values, mission or pledge, they may be subjected to removal from the organization by a 2/3 vote of current and active members.

**III.c.** Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

**III.d.** In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

#### ***Article IV - Organization Leadership***

Organization leaders represent the Executive Committee and general membership and are elected or appointed from the ranks of the organization's voting membership. The titles of organization leaders, the length of terms, specification as to which leaders are elected or appointed and by whom, and the general duties of each leadership position should be clearly specified.

**Primary Leader (President):** *October (Fall Semester) – May (Spring Semester)* This role is voted on by the entire committee, the year before. Members who are interested in becoming the primary leader, must have previous human trafficking knowledge and been involved in the campaign the previous year. It is recommended that the applicant has served on the executive board a semester to be considered for this position.

**Secondary Leader:** *October (Fall Semester) – May (Spring Semester)* This role is voted on by the entire committee, the year before. Members who are interested in becoming the secondary leader, do not have to have previous human trafficking knowledge, but must have been involved in the campaign the previous year. It is recommended that the applicant has served on the executive board a semester to be considered for this position.

**Treasurer:** *October (Fall Semester) – May (Spring Semester)* This role is voted on by the entire committee, the year before. Members who are interested in becoming the



treasurer, do not have to have previous human trafficking knowledge, or have been involved in the campaign the previous year. Person interested must have some financial knowledge or interest.

**Advisor:** *August (Fall Semester) – May (Spring Semester)* This role is chosen by the previous advisor, and/or the executive committee. Staff or faculty interested in being the advisor must have previous knowledge of human trafficking and experience and leadership experience.

#### ***Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership***

Members who are interested in roles will submit a 1-pg written summary of why they would like to be in a leadership role in addition to present to the general body on why they want to have that leadership role. Once all nominees submit their summary and present to the general body, all present members will vote ballot style for each specific leadership role. Executive Committee oversees creating the ballots and election process. The primary leader will lead said elections annually with the general body. Elections will take place in spring the year before to prepare each student in leadership roles before the new school year begins. All members have the right to resign. If this occurs, the Executive Committee works with the general body to appoint someone else into that specific open position. Impeachment can take place if members or committee violate the school code of conduct or anything outlined with the organization's constitution.

#### ***Article VI - Executive Committee: Size and composition of the Committee***

The Executive Committee (like a board of trustees or directors) represents the general membership, conducts business of the organization between general meetings of the membership, and reports its actions at the general meetings of the membership. The "Why Us?" Campaign Executive Committee is comprised of the Primary Leader, Secondary Leader, Treasurer, Secretary, and Advisor; all other members consist of general membership.

#### ***Article VII - Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria***

Advisors of student organizations must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If a person is serving as an advisor who is not a member of the above classifications, a co-advisor must be chosen who is a member of these University classifications. Advisors must attend all general meetings and events. Advisors specifically work with the Executive Committee to ensure all meetings are ran correctly, elections are run properly and all responsibilities are being met. Advisors also are a community resource for the organization. Advisors act as the link between the student organization and the university.



***Article VIII – Meetings and events of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency***

10 general meetings and attendance at all or 50% of events hosted may be required for membership each academic term except for summer.

***Article IX – Attendees of Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency***

The organization reserves the right to address member or event attendee behavior where the member or event attendee’s behavior is disruptive or otherwise not in alignment with the organization’s constitution.

***Article X – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements***

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

***Article XI – Method of Dissolution of Organization***

If dissolution occurs, organization is required to submit payment of all passed due balances, debt or current charges before removing organization information. Should any organization assets and debts exist, appropriate means for disposing of these assets and debts will be conducted by the Executive Committee. Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff must be contacted to remove organization information from website.

**By-Laws**

***Article I – Parliamentary Authority***

The rules contained in Robert’s Rule of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this organization.

***Article II- Membership***

Students interested in becoming a member of the “Why Us?” must email the organization to express interest in combating human trafficking and provide their contact information. Campaign Members of the campaign must attend at least one human trafficking 101 training by



our community partner, She Has A Name. There are no semester or annual fees that members must pay to stay a member. Any Ohio State student with a 2.5 GPA or higher is can become a member of the campaign. Some knowledge of human trafficking is not required to be a member, but it is strongly recommended.

As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Executive Committee are able to make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

### *Article III- Election / Appointment of Government Leadership*

Members who are interested in roles will submit a 1-pg written summary of why they would like to be in a leadership role in addition to present to the general body on why they want to have that leadership role. Once all nominees submit their summary and present to the general body, all present members will vote ballot style for each specific leadership role. Executive Committee oversees creating the ballots and election process. The primary leader will lead said elections annually with the general body. Elections will take place in Spring the year before to prepare each student in leadership roles before the new school year begins. All members have the right to resign. If this occurs, the Executive Committee works with the general body to appoint someone else into that specific open position. Impeachment can take place if members or



committee violate the school code of conduct or anything outlined with the organization's constitution.

#### *Article IV- Executive Committee*

The Executive Committee (like a board of trustees or directors) represents the general membership, conducts business of the organization between general meetings of the membership, and reports its actions at the general meetings of the membership. The "Why Us?" Campaign Executive Committee is comprised of the Primary Leader, Secondary Leader, Treasurer, Secretary, and Advisor; all other members consist of general membership. Executive Committee conducts all general body meetings, creates meeting minutes/agenda, applies for organization funding, keeps in contact with the Office of Student Life. The executive committee is the primary representation of the organization.

#### *Article V- Advisor/Advisory Board Responsibilities*

Advisors of student organizations must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If a person is serving as an advisor who is not a member of the above classifications, a co-advisor must be chosen who is a member of these University classifications. Advisors must attend all general meetings and events. Advisors specifically work with the Executive Committee to ensure all meetings are ran correctly, elections are run properly and all responsibilities are being met. Advisors also are a community resource for the organization. Advisors act as the link between the student organization and the university.

#### *Article VI - Meeting Requirements*

10 general meetings and attendance at all or 50% of events hosted may be required for membership each academic term except for summer. Determination of quorum for membership and organization voting is when at least 7 members are present.

#### *Article VII - Method of Amending By-Laws*

By-laws may be amended by proposing in writing and reading the change at a general meeting of the membership and then bring the proposed change up for a vote at the next general meeting with a 2/3 majority vote of the membership present (a quorum being present).