WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?
Human trafficking happens when a person either (a) involves a minor in a commercial sex act like prostitution or (b) uses force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person into work or prostitution.

IS IT A PROBLEM?
An estimated 300-500 children are prostituted yearly in greater Seattle.¹
Youth typically enter prostitution at ages 13-15 years old.²
117 labor trafficking cases were reported in Washington State from 2012 to 2017.³

A lack of employment opportunities is one of the most serious barriers individuals face when attempting to rebuild their lives after escaping a trafficker.

"But I can tell you that running was not the hard part. The hard part was choosing poverty. The hard part was starting over at age 26, with an eight-year-old girl, being homeless. The hard part was having a criminal record, a huge gap in job history, and more trauma than any person should live with. The hard part was 'What now?'"
- Rebecca Bender, trafficking survivor

BENEFITS OF BECOMING A SAFE JOBS COLLABORATIVE EMPLOYER

- Receive job applications from qualified applicants. Applicants are prescreened and receive ongoing job readiness and wrap-around support from social service agencies
- Attend valuable training to address stress, trauma, and resilience in the workplace
- Receive public recognition from BEST
- Help to meet your goals for diversity and inclusion

"Employers often overlook young people who lack traditional qualifications. But, for many of the young people involved in our job training programs, their life experiences have made them resilient, motivated, and loyal—all qualities that are a great benefit to employers who give them a chance."
- Melinda Giovengo, CEO, YouthCare
“Liletha Williams, a sex trafficking survivor who was first trafficked at twelve years old, has worked for years helping survivors and now at-risk youth gain skills for employment. Recently, we asked her what she thinks businesses can do to help survivors and her answer was simple: ‘Hire us. Give us jobs.’”

- Paula Clapp, Founding Director, StolenYouth

The Safe Jobs Collaborative works in partnership with:

REST
Real Escape from the Sex Trade

YOUTHCARE
Homeless youth • Off the streets • Preparing for life

NEXUS
Youth and Families

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1-3 All references listed online at www.bestalliance.org/sjcreference.