

## **Connection Event Information**

*\*\* Connection events are **NOT** training events and should not be promoted as such. CR materials may be present and available for review or discussion, but Advanced Leadership Training materials are designed and intended for local ministries to equip their teams, so training is not conducted out of official CR materials for connection events. \*\**

Connection events may be initiated by a State Rep for the area or by local ministries for outreach and networking. It's always a great idea to have the State Rep for that area included in or at least aware of the event so they can share it with others.

### **Connection events serve to:**

- Provide outreach to the community and information for people interested in CR
- Provide a forum for people to connect with and know who their State Reps are
- Provide a forum for networking for support and encouragement
- Provide an opportunity to share best practices
- Provide an opportunity to see and ask questions about CR resources
- Provide an opportunity to share contact information for testimonies-to-go

### **Connection events are for the following people:**

- CR leaders, volunteers, and participants
- New CR start ups
- Community leaders, members
- Church leaders, members

### **Connection events may include:**

- Worship, prayer, and testimonies
- Subject matter speakers on various topics such as sponsorship, opioids, suicide, etc.
- Topic panel discussions with TEAM Leaders, State Reps, National Team members, speakers, etc.
- Ministry tables such as CR Inside, Cultural Communities, Broken Chains, etc.
- TEAM specific question and answer breakout sessions

### **Connection event duration, location, and frequency:**

- Events are usually about 2-3 hours. If cost is an issue, they can be scheduled between mealtimes to save costs, such as 8:30-11:30 on a Saturday morning. This might give participants an opportunity to go to lunch with people they have met. There could also be evening events, such as a 6:00-9:00 pm Friday night of worship and fellowship. Other times, you could have cookouts, food trucks, or other special events or activities to provide outreach.
- Ideally, connection events would be available somewhere in the area on a quarterly basis. Churches or organizations that host the event can work with the State Rep to plan and provide volunteers for the event.
- Events should be held in different areas of the state to provide more people the ability to participate.