



The National  
**CONSUMER VOICE**  
for Quality Long-Term Care  
formerly NCCNHR

**TO:** Long-Term Care Residents, Activity Directors, Social Workers & Interested Others  
**FROM:** The Consumer Voice  
**SUBJECT:** The Resident's Voice Challenge 2013



**Speak Out**  
**Against Elder Abuse!**  
October is Nursing Home Residents' Rights Month  
The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

**SPEAK OUT AGAINST ELDER ABUSE!**

The **Resident's Voice** is an opportunity for residents from facilities across the country to share their ideas about this year's Residents' Rights Month theme with other residents, ombudsmen, families, community members and nursing home staff.

**Residents are encouraged to think about and respond to the following questions:**

1. Have you ever experienced having to speak out against elder abuse?
2. Why do you think it's important to speak out against elder abuse?
3. How can you encourage others to speak out against elder abuse?
4. What could facilities, families and communities do to make residents feel safe and know that their right to be free from abuse is supported?

**National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month will be celebrated in October 2013.** Mark your calendars and plan to celebrate! Information and materials for Residents' Rights Month celebrations will be available on the Consumer Voice website at [www.theconsumervoice.org](http://www.theconsumervoice.org)

Residents can respond to the questions in writing (poems, stories), through art of any kind or with video's/recordings. We encourage facilities/families to frame resident entries and hang them in residents' rooms or other areas of the facility.

**All submission are due July 12, 2013.**

Resident submissions will be randomly displayed on the Consumer Voice and National Long-Term Ombudsman Resource Center websites in a section called "**The Resident's Voice.**" Residents who participate will receive a certificate of participation. Please see the submission criteria and photo release forms.

**Residents' Rights Month** is designated by the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care and is celebrated in October each year to honor residents living in all long-term care facilities, including nursing homes, sub acute units, assisted living, board and care and retirement communities. It is a time for celebration and recognition offering an opportunity for every facility to focus on and celebrate awareness of dignity, respect and the value of each individual resident.

This year's theme "Speak Out Against Elder Abuse!" is designed to call attention to elder abuse and to encourage residents, advocates, friends and family members to speak out against it.

Send entries electronically to [info@theconsumervoice.org](mailto:info@theconsumervoice.org).

**National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month will be celebrated in October 2013.** Mark your calendars and plan to celebrate! Information and materials for Residents' Rights Month celebrations will be available on the Consumer Voice website at [www.theconsumervoice.org](http://www.theconsumervoice.org)