

2016 Resident's Voice Challenge



Announcing the **2016 Resident's Voice Challenge!** Creative writing and artistic expression are meaningful and compelling ways to highlight the importance of residents' rights and how these rights can be carried out in all long-term care settings.

Residents' Rights Month is designated by the Consumer Voice and is celebrated in October each year to honor residents living in all long-term care facilities and consumers receiving care in their homes and communities.

For this year's **Resident's Voice Challenge**, residents are encouraged to pick up their pens, dust off their type writers or use a computer to display their writing or artistic skills by submitting essays, poems, artwork, drawings, or videos related to the theme for Residents' Rights Month 2016 "My Vote Matters".

Entries submitted for the Resident's Voice Challenge will be compiled and shared in a variety of formats. We are asking residents and consumers to participate in one of the following activities and submit entries using the guidelines below.

1.) Resident President

For residents and consumers: Pretend you are running for President and your platform is long-term care consumers' rights. Create a campaign poster or write a stump speech (or record a video of you giving your stump speech). What would you change to improve the lives of long-term care consumers? How would you make that change? What promises would you make to long-term care consumers in your facility and across the country? Why should other residents and long-term care consumers vote for you?

Campaign posters are available for purchase in the Resident's Voice Activity Toolkit or can be downloaded on our website. Residents are invited to add their photo, artwork or information on their "campaign" to the poster. Display posters throughout your facility. Plus, mail them or take photos and email them to Consumer Voice and we will post entries on our website.

2.) Most Memorable Election

Write an essay, create a poem, or express yourself artistically sharing the most memorable election in which you voted.

- Did you vote in a historically significant election?
- Tell the story of your first time voting.
- Was there a time when you thought your vote was especially meaningful?

3.) What Would You Tell the Current Presidential Candidates?

Imagine you got a meeting with one of the current presidential candidates.

- Which candidate would you speak to and why?
- What types of questions would you ask them?
- What type of issues would you ask them to focus on?
- What would you tell them on behalf of all long-term care consumers?

For all Resident's Voice activities, residents and consumers are encouraged to be creative when crafting their entry.

Possible types of entries include:

- Essay
- Poem, word collage or song
- Artwork, drawings or photos
- Video or audio recording

Participation Criteria and Rules

- The deadline for submissions is **September 15, 2016**.
- Submissions must be produced by a long-term care consumer or consumers. Relatives, friends and facility staff may be involved in assisting residents with the challenge but may not submit their own entries without creative involvement of at least one long-term care consumer.
- Submissions may be made via email or snail mail (see instructions below).
- Video or audio submissions should be sent via email as MP3, WAV, MOV, or MP4 files or via a YouTube or Vimeo link.
- Any photo submissions must be accompanied by a photo release form (provided on the Consumer Voice website) and signed by anyone appearing in the photo.
- Every resident who submits an entry will receive a certificate for participating.
- The Consumer Voice maintains the right to utilize entries in a variety of forums including the Residents' Rights Week packet, its websites and other mediums determined appropriate by the Consumer Voice. The Consumer Voice reserves the right to use submissions, including the photographs and/or likenesses contained therein for promotional and publicity purposes, at any time, including, but not limited to posting on the Consumer Voice/NORC websites, inclusion in promotional and other materials and for display at the Consumer Voice Annual Conference and Meeting.

Mail or Email Submissions to:

Consumer Voice

Attn: Resident's Voice Submission

1001 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite. 632

Washington DC 20036

info@theconsumervoice.org

Any questions about the Resident's Voice should be directed to info@theconsumervoice.org.