



# SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROVIDERS ASSOCIATION

*Working Together, We Can Accomplish Anything*



PEER LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Training Center

SOAR WORKS  
ILLINOIS



GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

The Strength of People



The Power of Community



# *Sharing Your Story of Truth*

*Why we share our stories of truth, the value of sharing your truth, and some tips & tricks to sharing it well*



# The value of sharing your truth

- The truth of your experience helps to eliminate misperceptions
- Removes the notion that disability, unnecessary institutionalization or housing situation was somehow your fault (the advocacy situation)
- You are helping to override & eliminate societal stigmas
- You can shed light on our systems and values for change




You already know how to do it

*“If you have ever told the tale  
of your life more than once,  
then congratulations,  
you already know how to tell  
your story.”*



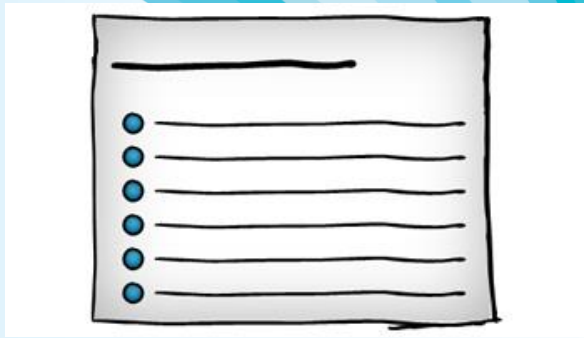
# Your story of truth is advocacy

- ***As a person with lived expertise, you have the knowledge & ability to:***
  - Propel truths into solutions
  - Dismantle bias into facts
  - Help others understand the barriers to leadership
- You have the skills needed to help shape policies and laws



# Advocacy is the active support of an idea or cause

- It can take a wide array of forms
- It includes basic education about the importance of an issue



Start with an Outline

Defining the  
“Problem” is the  
key to advocacy

## **S. O. A. R.**

S= Set the scene (who?,  
what?, where?)

O= Obstacles were  
encountered

A= Actions were taken

R= Resolution. How did it  
turn out?



## S.O.A.R Story Outline

**S** = Set the scene (who?, what?, where?)

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**O** = Obstacles that were encountered

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**A** = Actions that were taken

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**R** = Resolution. How did it turn out?

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# Elevator Speech



Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_

I am from/work for/with \_\_\_\_\_

You know how \_\_\_\_\_ (state the problem)

Well, what we need is \_\_\_\_\_ (describe a change you want)

So that \_\_\_\_\_ (community benefit)

# Be Prepared

## Keep

Keep the message simple

- Know the core of your message
- Stay focused

## Have

Have credible information ready

- Personal experience
- Statistics

## Give

Give people a reason to care

- Sensory information
- Emotions



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