



# National Essay Contest for Young Writers

## Be Heard!

*Your story could be shared online and  
at a national conference for youth workers.*

We want to hear about **ONE of the following:**

1. A time that someone supported you and why what they did mattered.
2. A time that you felt safe and what made you feel that way.
3. What you do to cheer yourself up when you're feeling down.
4. What independence means to you, and a time when you felt independent.

**Deadline:** September 28, 2012  
*See back of this flier for guidelines.*

# Family and Youth Services Bureau National Essay Contest for Young Writers

## Guidelines

- The contest is open to 14- to 21-year-olds involved in a FYSB-funded Street Outreach, Basic Center or Transitional Living Program. Please include your name and age and the name, address, and a contact person at your program at the top of your essay.
- Be clear! Be original! Be honest!
- Write 2 to 3 pages.
- Format your document with 12-point font and 1-inch margins.
- Email your essay as a Word document or text file to [ncfy@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:ncfy@acf.hhs.gov) with the subject line “Essay Contest.” Or mail it to: Essay Contest, National Clearinghouse on Families & Youth, 5515 Security Lane, Suite 800, North Bethesda, MD 20852.
- Don’t miss the deadline! Your entry should be postmarked or emailed by **5 p.m. Eastern time, Friday, September 7, 2012.**