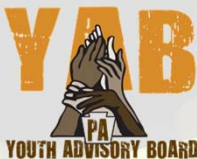


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**YAB**  
YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

YAB 101: Strategic Sharing

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**Overview**

- What is Strategic Sharing?
- Benefits
- Risks
- Choose, Connect & Claim
- Practice with Strategic Sharing

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**What is Strategic Sharing?**

- Training designed to help you share your personal story in a way that is meaningful, effective, and safe



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**Why is it important to share our stories?**

- Helps “put a face” to a problem
- Inspires change in the system and in individuals
- Influences people’s perceptions and stereotypes
- Youth and alumni of the system are the experts



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**What are some of the risks when sharing your story?**

- Sharing regret/over sharing
- Memories can be painful
- Some people only hear what they want to hear
- It’s personal – it’s **YOUR** life!



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**How do we guard against the risks?**

- Be prepared
- Be strategic
- Be honest



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### Being Strategic

- Choose
  - Your purpose
  - What you will share
  - The details



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### Being Strategic (cont.)

- Connect with your...
  - Audience
  - Purpose



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### Being Strategic (cont.)

- Claim the...
  - Meaning and significance
  - Emotion
  - Process of sharing



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**Responding to Difficult or Inappropriate Questions**

- Restate your purpose and move on
- Open the question up to the entire group
- Generalize the question to the larger issue
- Decline to answer



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**Credibility and Professionalism**

- Credibility can vary due to...
  - Manner of communicating
  - Perceived status or education
  - Perceived trustworthiness
  - Appearance
  - Professional allies
  - Self-marketing and Branding



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**The YAB Panel Presentation**

- Review typical presentation questions
- Discuss format and flow
- Tips for effective presentations



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**Choose, Connect, and Claim**

- Take some time to choose one part of your story to share
  - Coming into the system
  - Aging out of the system
  - A significant life experience while in the system
- Use page 9 of participant guide to think about how you will choose, connect, and claim
- Present in front of the group

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**Results**

- How did it feel?
- What was the toughest part?
- What was the easiest part?



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**Resource**

- This presentation was adapted from the **Strategic Sharing** booklet developed by Casey Family Programs and Foster Care Alumni of America
- The booklet is available for download at <https://fostercarealumni.org/strategic-sharing/>



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