

Tips for video & story submission

Half in Ten and the Coalition on Human Needs are collecting videos and stories highlighting the ways that federal programs successfully build shared prosperity. We will use these videos and stories in advocacy efforts to protect and strengthen human needs programs. The stories will also be featured online. We hope you will send us a short video clip or written story explaining how public investments have made a difference in your life, community, and/or business.

Who should submit: We welcome short video clips or written stories from anyone who can speak to the benefit and success of federal programs, including direct beneficiaries, social service providers, and community, faith, or business leaders.

What to highlight: Feel free to speak about the value of any programs made possible by federal funding or policies such as SNAP/food stamps and other nutrition assistance benefits, subsidized job programs, child care, Head Start, the child tax credit and earned income tax credit, child support, job training, homelessness prevention efforts, etc.

In your story, be sure to include:

- Who you are—i.e. mother/father, business owner, service provider, job-seeker, community or faith leader.
- The program you value – i.e. SNAP, CTC/EITC, TANF Emergency Fund, LIHEAP, etc.
- Specific examples of how the program has helped, such as:
 - In my state, the TANF Emergency Fund created 26,000 jobs. Because of the program I was able to hire . . .
 - After receiving the earned income tax credit, I was able to....
 - If it were not for the child care assistance I received, I would not have been able to keep my job...

To submit your story today, visit <http://halfintention.org/grassroots/stories/submit>.

We welcome homemade videos. You don't have to be a professional filmmaker or use high-tech equipment.

For sample submissions, see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2jumluK7WA>.

Do's for story submissions

- **Keep it short.** Please submit a video that is less than two minutes long, or no more than 250 words if submitting a written story.
- **Clear sound is crucial.** Make sure to shoot in quiet environments, speak slowly, clearly, and project.
- **No distractions.** Avoid recording in settings and in dress attire that could distract the viewer.
- **Don't backlight.** Make sure the light is on your face and not behind it — i.e. don't sit in front of a bright window.

Legal considerations

- Story submission does not guarantee posting or use by Half in Ten and the Coalition on Human Needs.
- In general, use logos, trademarks, music, artwork, or recognizable buildings in video and audio story submissions only if you have a license from the owner.
- Do not submit stories with offensive or inappropriate content.
- The story must be your own work, or, you have the right to grant a license to Half in Ten and the Coalition on Human Needs for the story.
- Upon request, you must provide us with waivers or releases from anyone appearing in a story. A sample personal release form can be found [here](#) and a sample copyrighted material release form can be found [here](#).