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**Crafting your story**

**Your story should touch on a personal experience with early childhood services for y our child and/or other families. It could address the positive impact of well trained personnel or the difficulties in working with personnel who are not comfortable engaging with family members.**

**Use the attached table to guide you in crafting your story.**

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| **Things to Consider** | **Your Story** |
| What is the purpose or goal of your story?What does your story illustrate? |  |
| Who is your audience? |  |
| What outcome would you like from the audience?  Is there a specific action, discussion or other outcome? |  |
| What powerful examples are you willing to share to illustrate this issue?   * + 1. An event, challenge, hurdle, setback     2. Personal or professional growth; “transformative consequences” ; triumph, success |  |
| How will you organize your points with your examples? |  |
| What visual aide, creative wording, reading, or “audience hooks” will you use?  (Ask the audience questions, share pictures, or weave visual images and emotion into your story.) |  |
| What solutions or suggestions will you give your audience? |  |
| How will you close?  I’m sharing this with you in the hopes that …    Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition… |  |
| What will you do if you get nervous or emotional and don’t know what to say next? |  |