

## PERSUASIVE STORYTELLING

Here are some exercises to help generate stories to add to your repertoire. Consider keeping a file of story ideas that will illustrate the values, programs and policies you will be advocating. The following categories will help trigger memories of people, places, and experiences that have influenced your way of looking at the world.

### ***People***

- A relative or friend who taught you an important lesson
- A teacher who was an important influence
- A colorful character who fascinated you
- Someone you envied, or wanted to imitate
- Someone you at first disliked, but then grew to love or admire
- A celebrity you once encountered
- A boss who affected your career choice
- A client who opened your eyes to other realities
- Someone you met in your travels who taught you something important
- A child whose problems or insights enlightened you
- A violent person who scared or threatened you
- An altruistic person who moved you
- An amazing communicator
- Someone who let you down

### ***Places***

- A place of great beauty that inspired you
- A friend or relative's home
- A secret hideout or getaway place
- A foreign city or country that felt like home
- A famous place that disappointed you
- The first place where you lived on your own
- A place you revisited after many years
- A place you saw in a photo or movie that moved you
- A place you affected by what you did there
- A place that didn't welcome you

## ***Experiences***

- An historical event you took part in
- A time when you narrowly escaped disaster
- A meaningful reunion
- A weird or moving encounter with a stranger
- A supernatural experience
- A travel experience you'll never forget
- A work experience that changed your career path
- An event that made you grateful for family connections
- The death of a family member, friend, or famous person
- A change of heart about an important issue
- A decision that changed your life
- A disappointment that enlightened you
- A painful conflict and how it got resolved
- An illness or disaster that had an unexpected effect
- A mistake that you learned from