



News Release

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FY2017-2018

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“The Real Word” Speakers Panel of Current and Former Foster Youth Visit Palm Desert on Saturday, January 27

(January 11, 2018) Palm Desert, CA— Voices for Children’s “The Real Word” speakers panel is comprised of courageous young adults who currently live or have lived in foster care after being abused, neglected, or abandoned by their parents or caregivers. The Real Word is a question-and-answer style event where speakers are open and forthright about their experiences in the foster care system, such as what it is like to move from home to home or how it feels to be separated from their siblings.

The Real Word panelists are trained and supervised by Voices for Children, and have spoken both locally and nationally about life in the foster care dependency system. Panelists also describe how their lives were impacted by their volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), assigned to them by Voices for Children. CASA volunteers advocate for a foster child or sibling group in Court, in school, and in the community, and make a profound difference in the lives of foster youth.

EVENT: THE REAL WORD SPEAKERS PANEL

DATE & TIME: Saturday, January 27, 2018 (2:00 to 3:30 p.m.)

LOCATION: University of California, Riverside - Palm Desert Center - Auditorium
75080 Frank Sinatra Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211

Admission is free, but space is limited. Online registration is required to attend and can be found at the Voices for Children website: www.speakupnow.org. *Adults (age 18+) only, please. This event is not appropriate for children.*

For more information about the event, contact Voices for Children at (858) 598-2205. To learn more about becoming a CASA volunteer, visit the Voices for Children website at www.speakupnow.org.

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ABOUT VOICES FOR CHILDREN

Voices for Children (VFC), founded in 1980, transforms the lives of foster children in San Diego and Riverside Counties by providing them with volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs). CASA volunteers advocate for a foster child or sibling group in Court, in school, and in the community to ensure their needs are met. Voices for Children believes that every child deserves a safe and permanent home and strives to provide a CASA volunteer to every child in the foster care system who needs one. Last year, Voices for Children staff and CASA volunteers advocated on behalf of more than 3,400 foster children.

