We want to hear your story! In recognition of Recovery Month 2011, the Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) National Office, in partnership with Faces & Voices of Recovery and the National Alliance for Medication Assisted Recovery, invites individuals who have been supported by Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), such as utilization of methadone or buprenorphine for opioid addiction and acamprosate or naltrexone for alcohol addiction, to share YOUR STORY of recovery.

As a person in long-term recovery with the assistance of MAT, you have a unique perspective to share about your own journey. Your story highlights how medication, in combination with counseling and other recovery support, can transform lives.

> GUIDELINES: In your own words, write an essay (250 words or less, typed, double spaced in 12 point font) in which you tell us about your medication-assisted recovery experience. Please use the following statements as the basis for your response:

* How MAT has supported my recovery from addiction ...  
* I continue to be committed to recovery because ...

The top three submissions from individuals whose recovery has been supported by MAT will receive:

**PRIZES**

1st Place  $500  
2nd Place  $250  
3rd Place  $100  

Previous contests have focused on behavioral healthcare professionals, High School/College students in recovery, and families. Essays from these contests can be found at: ATTCnetwork.org
> JUDGING CRITERIA
Essays will be judged through a two-tier process. First, the ATTC National Office will select the top 20 essays. Then, these essays will be judged by an Essay Review Board. All essays will be judged on three unique criteria: (1) quality of writing; (2) thoroughness of response to each open-ended statement as previously outlined in the guidelines; and (3) overall impression and impact of the essay. Essays should be no more than 250 words, typed, doubled-spaced in 12 point font.

> SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
The “In My Own Words...” Essay Contest opens September 1, 2011 and closes October 1, 2011. All entries must be received by midnight, Central Standard Time, on October 1, 2011. Please send your entry, along with your fully completed registration form, to Deann Jepson at jepsond@umkc.edu or fax to (888) 503-3105. For questions contact Deann at (816) 235-6984, ATTC National Office, UMKC, 5100 Rockhill Rd, Kansas City, MO  64110.

> NOTIFICATION
The ATTC National Office will notify winners by phone no later than October 28, 2011. Essay winners will be announced in the November electronic publication of Addiction Messenger and on the ATTC Network Website.

> RELEASE
By submitting an entry to this essay contest, entrants give the ATTC National Office and Essay Contest partners’ permission to use their name and essay submission in the electronic publication, Addiction Messenger, on the ATTC Network, Faces & Voices of Recovery, and the National Alliance for Medication Assisted Recovery websites, and in any other ATTC Network marketing materials or publications deemed appropriate by the ATTC National Office.

> ELIGIBILITY
Any individual committed to recovery and is a current or past recipient of Medication-Assisted Treatment. Former and/or current ATTC Network staff and/or consultants are ineligible to participate in the “In My Own Words...” Essay Contest.