

BE A PLAYGROUND SUPERHERO



Playgrounds are wonderful places that help young residents make new friends, develop social, cognitive, and physical skills, and burn off energy. To keep our playgrounds enjoyable, we need heroes to keep them safe.

The theme of HAI Group's 2023 Playground Safety Poster and Essay Contest is **Be a Playground Superhero** because we all have a superhero inside of us waiting to be discovered.

Here's the mission: As National Playground Safety Week (April 24-April 27) approaches, teach your young heroes (residents ages 6-14) about playing safe and avoiding dangers on the playground. Then, task your superheroes with using their creative skills to develop a superhero-themed poster or essay highlighting acts of playground heroism (please avoid any depictions of weapons or violence). The following are examples of playground heroism (you can [find additional ideas here](#)):

- Ensuring there's no running, pushing, shoving, or rough play on the playground.
- Notifying agency staff or an adult about broken glass, wooden playground parts with splinters, or damaged equipment.
- Preventing others from playing on equipment that's not age-appropriate or misusing equipment (e.g., going down a slide backward or standing on a sit-down swing).

HAI Group will award prizes to the best posters and essays. GOOD LUCK!

The HAI Group 2023 Playground Safety Poster and Essay Contest

CONTEST DETAILS

Participants must be between 6 and 14 years of age in 2023 and reside at a housing organization that is an existing policyholder with property/general liability coverage. HAI Group will declare one poster and one essay winner for each of the three age groups:

- 6- to 8-years-old
- 9- to 11-years-old
- 12- to 14-years-old

All submissions must address playground safety and incorporate this year's theme: **Be a Playground Superhero**. Posters should be created on 22-inch by 28-inch poster board or smaller; essays can be hand-written or typed and should be no longer than 500 words. HAI Group will award three prizes in each category from our national submissions (winning is a big deal).

First-place winners will receive a \$100 gift card to Walmart

Second-place winners will receive a \$40 gift card to Walmart

Third-place winners will receive a \$25 gift card to Walmart

HOW CAN MY HOUSING ORGANIZATION PARTICIPATE?

HAI Group encourages your organization to participate in the contest because it's a fun activity for kids and because playground safety is important to reinforce. Here's how to get started:

1. Email, fax, or mail the attached registration form indicating your organization's intent to participate no later than Friday, March 31, 2023.
2. Promote the contest to your residents using the attached flyer or your own communications.
3. Plan to judge your local contest entries during Playground Safety Week—April 24 to April 27. We suggest awarding first-, second-, and third-place prizes in each age group.
4. Submit the original first-place essay and first-place poster in each age group (total of six) for national judging to HAI Group by Friday, May 5, 2023. Note that submissions will not be returned. Please also send a list of all participants, including their names, ages, and categories (essay or poster). HAI Group will send a certificate of participation to each one.
5. Each submission must have the following clearly written on the back: participant's name, age, address, and housing organization.
6. HAI Group will judge all submissions in late May and announce national winners—three prizes in each category—soon thereafter.
7. By participating in the program, you agree to allow HAI Group to publish the submitted photographs. From time to time, we use the photographs in publications or on our website. If you do not wish us to use such materials, e-mail Debbie Seidel at dseidel@housingcenter.com and indicate that you do not want Playground Safety Poster and Essay Contest photographs to be used in any HAI Group media or publications.

HAI Group must receive all contest entries and a list of contest participants by Friday, May 5, 2023.

THE HAI GROUP 2023 PLAYGROUND SAFETY POSTER & ESSAY CONTEST FORM

Please fill out this registration form if your housing organization plans to participate.
(Do not register individual children on this form.)

Housing Organization Name:

Contact Name:

Title:

E-mail Address:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

We will participate in the following:

Poster Contest

Essay Contest

Poster and Essay Contest

This form is fillable and can be submitted by email, or printed out and sent by regular mail or fax. Please send in your registration no later than **Friday, March 31, 2023**.

Email: dseidel@housingcenter.com

Mail to:

Attn: Debbie Seidel

HAI Group

189 Commerce Court

P.O. Box 189

Cheshire, CT 06410

Fax to:

203-250-8377

Attention: Debbie Seidel

