

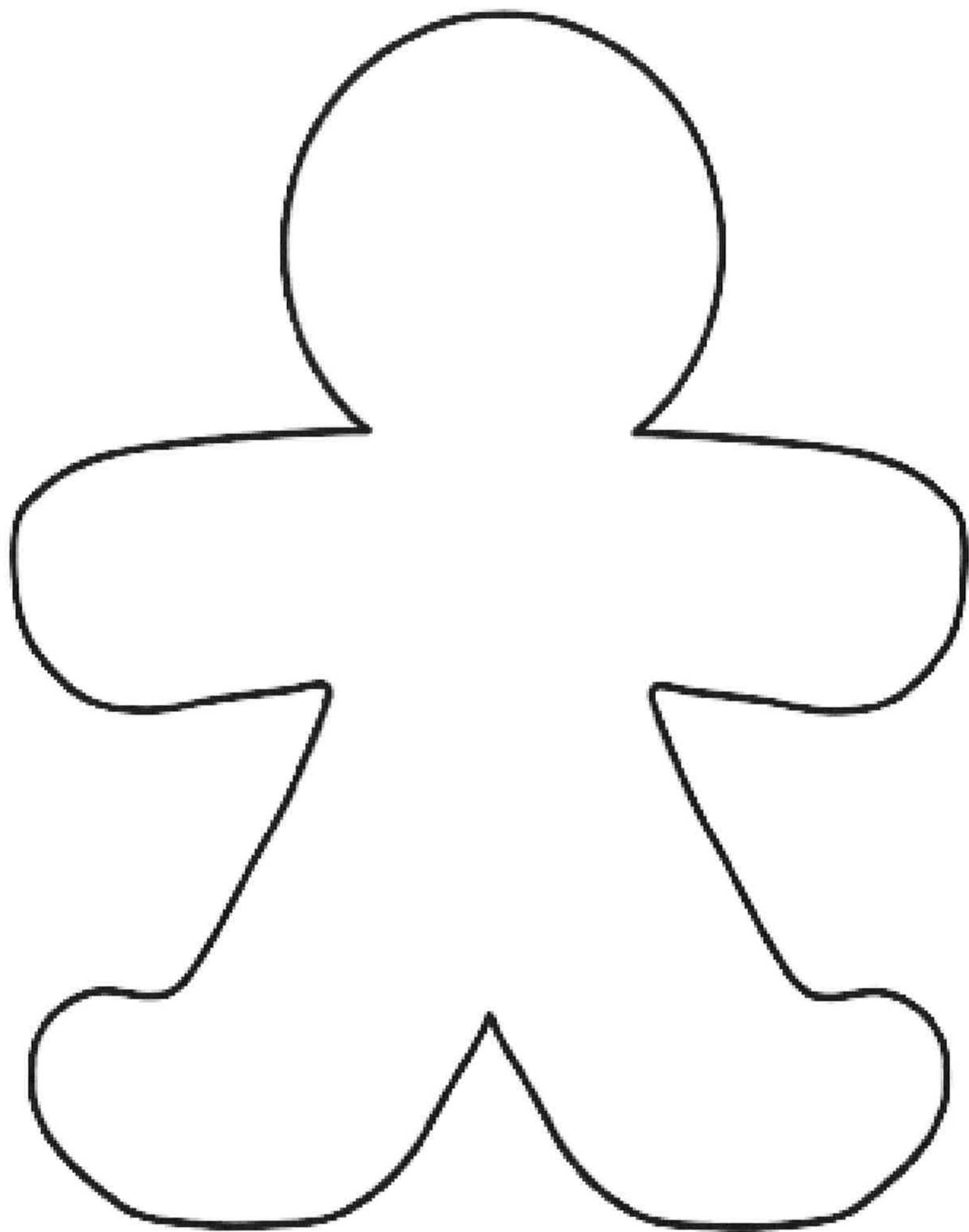
Finding Your Foundation

Who helped create good qualities you have today?

Who do you call or did you call to celebrate a special event?

Who is or was your biggest cheerleader through your ups and downs?

Who is the person or people that you were given in your life that help or helped you through the major trials and helped you get through some of the small 'big stuff' in your life?



Permanence comes in many shapes and forms. There can be more than one way, one option, one process or one set of services to bring permanence into your life.

We call this process:
getting SOLID

**a place
to call
home**

safety

from now on,

I will have...

**people
who
love me**

**lifelong
connections**

**a
safety
net**



www.fosterclub.com message

"It really depends on what you consider permanence. I consider it a life long relationship with an adult and consider it very important. In my experiences, I have just met adults that seem to stay in my life and that connection with them helps me to succeed in life."

— FosterClub member Caliguy94037,
age 18, from California:

Antuone Fisher was a foster child whose father died before he was born. In his book about his life, "Finding Fish", he describes what he imagined having permanence with a dad would be like:

**a plan
I believe
in**

family

"I saw us walking together, laughing. I'd say, 'Man, it was rough out there. But now I'm home, I made it.' And he'd put his hand on my shoulder and I'd know, without him saying a word, that I made him proud. That I was the son he always hoped for, the one he would have invited, if he could have."

"... all of these people are sort of holding hands in my vision and dancing slowly around me. For me, this is the 'circle of trust'... When I think of myself inside this circle, I know I'm safe, I know I'm loved, and I don't feel scared anymore."

— Charlotte Ayanna, actress
and Former Miss Teen USA

"Permanence can't be defined by the state; it's got to be defined by the person. And it can't be about money; it's got to be defined by relationships. It's about whether or not you've got the tools you need to live your life with."

— Skip, NFYAC member

"When I look back, instead of me just getting help and doing a permanency plan on my own, I would have wanted to do more of a plan with my family. My family is part of my support system even if they did things wrong, I still love them."

— Jimmy, NFYAC member

Bodner, C., Tuhy, D., Wendt, M., Knapp, D., & Crowe, K. (2007)
Getting Solid. Tulsa, OK: National Resource Center for Youth
Services