

# Youth Photovoice

## Overview

Youth Photovoice is an innovative program used internationally to empower youth and foster dialogue and awareness about a particular topic.

**Local Goal:** To empower youth to become actively involved with community change efforts around underage drinking in Dexter and Pinckney.

Photovoice provided a way for youth in Dexter and Pinckney to explore and communicate their perceptions and experiences related to underage drinking.

## Implementation

Eight students from Dexter High and five from Pinckney High participated.

Students learned about defining photo subject matter, the ethics of Photovoice, photography techniques, and training on group facilitation at after-school sessions.

Students photographed aspects of community life that they felt influenced youth drinking and related traffic crashes. They discussed the photos and made selections for the exhibit.

An exhibit was held in each community where students facilitated conversations about their photography.

## Exhibit Highlights

About 60 people attended the Dexter exhibit and about 40 attended the Pinckney exhibit.

Small group discussions generated a lot of ideas about how the photos could be used in the schools and community.

Exhibit evaluations revealed that most people strongly agree or agreed that underage drinking is a problem in their community, Dexter 89% and Pinckney 93%.

## For More Information

Visit [www.ewashtenaw.org/stopunderagedrinking](http://www.ewashtenaw.org/stopunderagedrinking) for more about this project or how to request photos.

For more information on the Dexter & Pinckney Coalitions to Reduce Underage Drinking contact Amanda Naugle at (734) 544-2973 or [nauglea@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:nauglea@ewashtenaw.org).

## Ways to Partner or Volunteer

- Host photos at local businesses or meetings.
- Recruit locations for long term display.
- Have open dialogue with other community members on the photos taken, and their implications.