



Photo by: Isabel Kelly

# Photovoice: Utilizing A Participatory Action Research Strategy in Extension Programming

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## Photovoice is...

a powerful photographic technique that enables people to assess the strengths and concerns of their community and communicate their views to policy makers.

Photo by Doris LT



Photovoice: Concept, Methodology, and Use for Participatory Needs Assessment," Wang & Burris (1997)





# Photovoice Goals

- Record a community's strengths and weaknesses
- Promote critical dialogue
- Reach policymakers



Photo by: Addie R.

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# Framing with Research Questions

**A good Photovoice research question:**

- Is personal
- Is open
- Is clear and specific
- Is related
- Results in answers







# Our FEC Photovoice Research Question

What is one thing that supports staff morale in your organization, and/or what is one thing that could be improved in order to achieve a higher level of staff morale?

## Your assignment:

- 10 minutes
- Take 1 or 2 photographs which answer our research question
- Upload your photos to our shared Google Slide (link in the Chat)



Photo by: Ethan H.

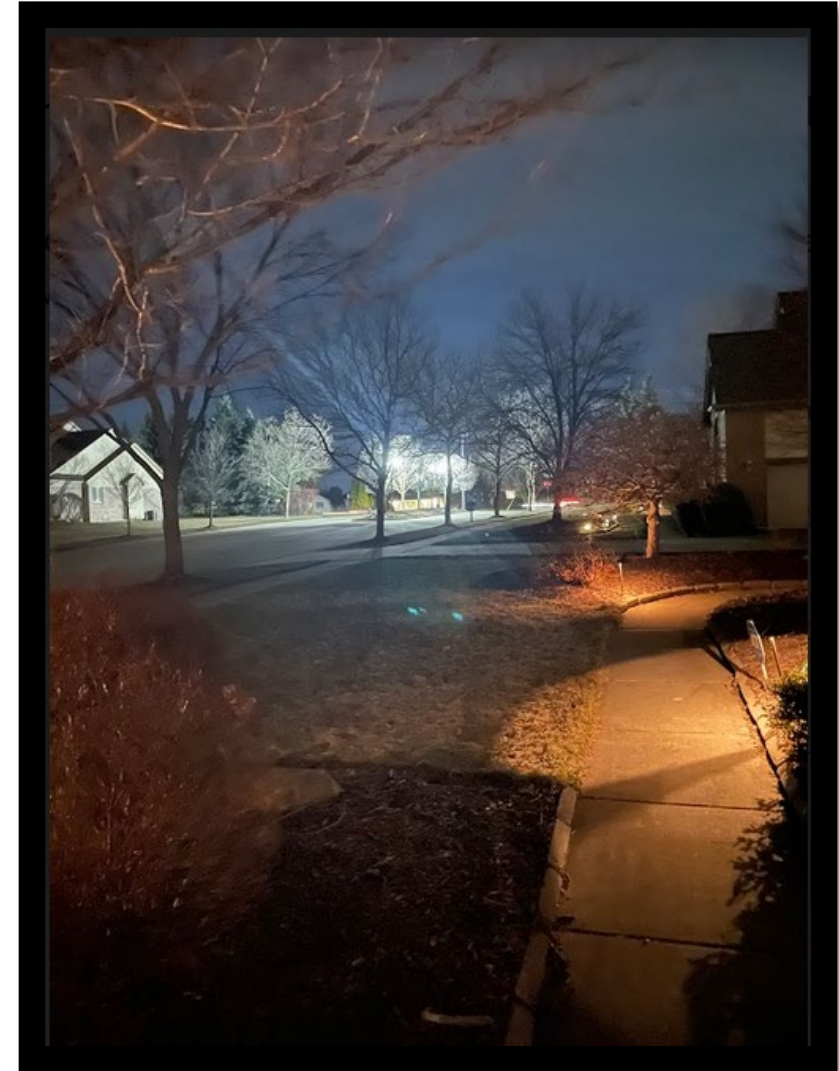


# Digging Deeper – SHOWeD Method

- What do you See here?
- What is really Happening here?
- How does this relate to Our lives?
- Why does this situation, concern, or strength exist?
- What can we Do about it?

Sometimes during our life we can be in the shadows but the light is still shining down even though it may not seem that there is light.

-Lucy Krichko





# Breakout Rooms



## Cheboygan's \$125,000 Photovoice Project

### Topic: Substance Abuse

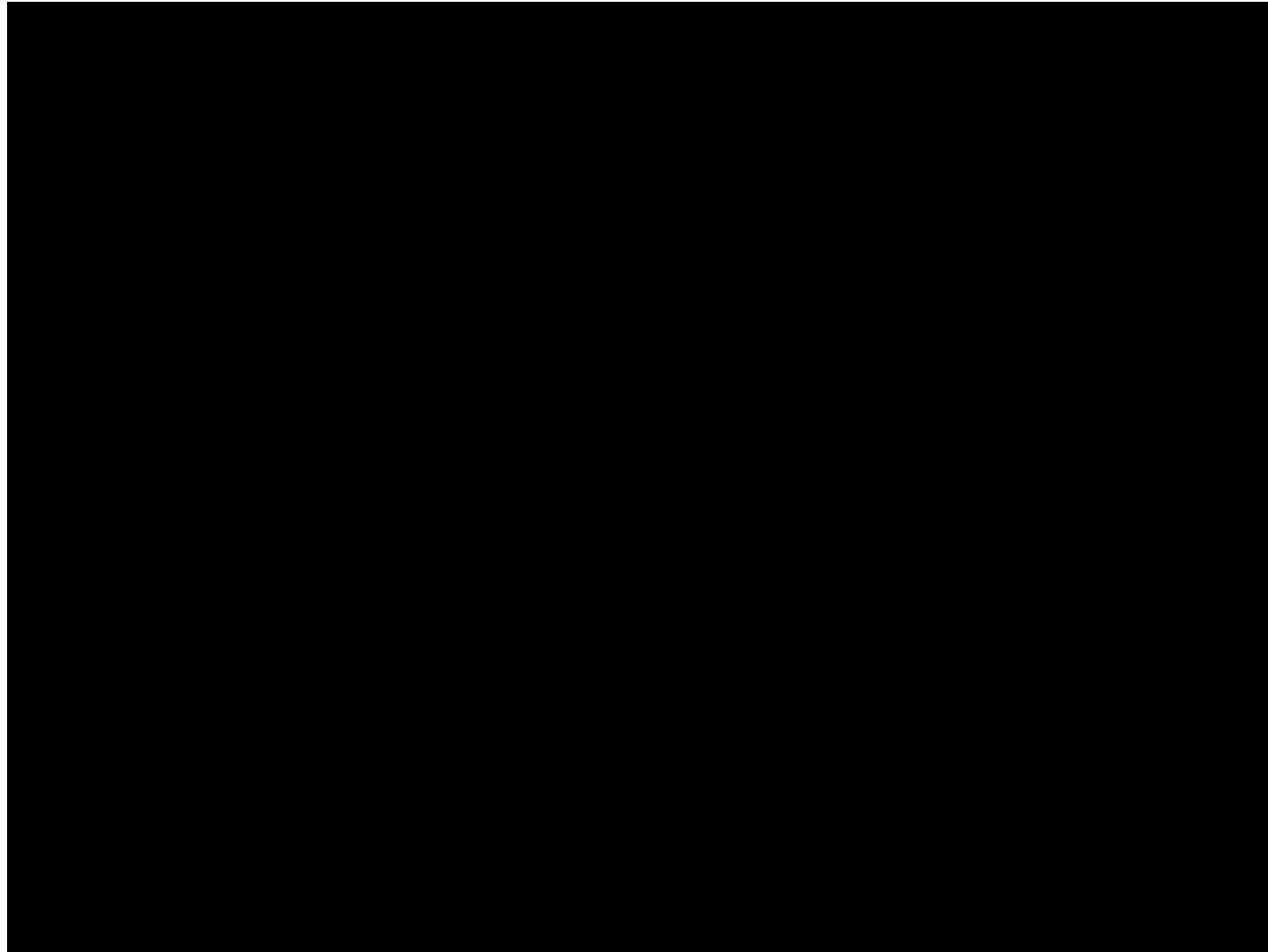
- When you hear the words “substance abuse” what does that mean to you?
- Who or What influences you to abuse substances?
- Who or what keeps you from using substances?
- How do your parents/guardians and friends feel about substance abuse?
- What is missing? What would help you or others in our community stay substance free?







# Substance Abuse Photovoice



# Visualizing a Year Like No Other

- WEEK 1 – ORIENTATION AND INTRODUCTIONS
  - WEEK 2 – SELF PORTRAIT
  - WEEK 3 – REFLECTION
  - WEEK 4 – FOCUS
  - WEEK 5 – VISION/DEPTH
  - WEEK 6 – ACTION
  - WEEK 7 – CONNECTION
  - WEEK 8 – WRAP -UP/EXHIBIT PREP/CELEBRATION
- 
- MAY 15 – AUG 15, 2021
    - PROJECT EXHIBIT AT MSU BROAD ART LAB



Photo by Leala S.

**MSU BROAD**



**MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

| Extension



**ARTLAB**



# Visualizing a Year Like No Other







## My biggest takeaway from the program was ...

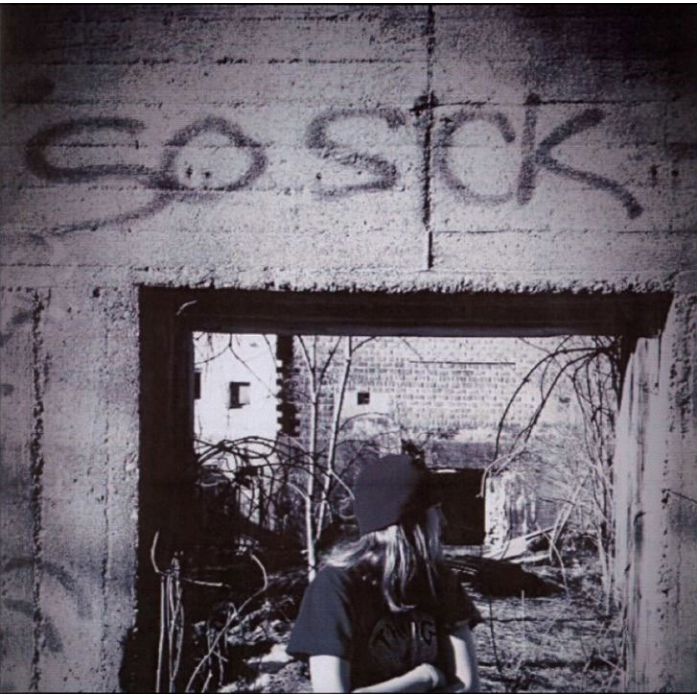
- That every photo is amazing and tells a story. Also that you can be positive about anything, if you just look to the bright side.
- To not be scared. I usually don't do anything like this because I'm too worried. But I signed up on the last day and boy am I so glad I did, probably one of my favorite things I've participated in ever.
- That we're all in this together.
- My biggest takeaway from the program was probably the feeling of how amazing it was to have my own community of people who shared similar interests as me and that I felt supported me. I also learned a lot about how fun photography is and how it can have a huge impact and very deep meanings.



# Alger County – Youth Mental Health

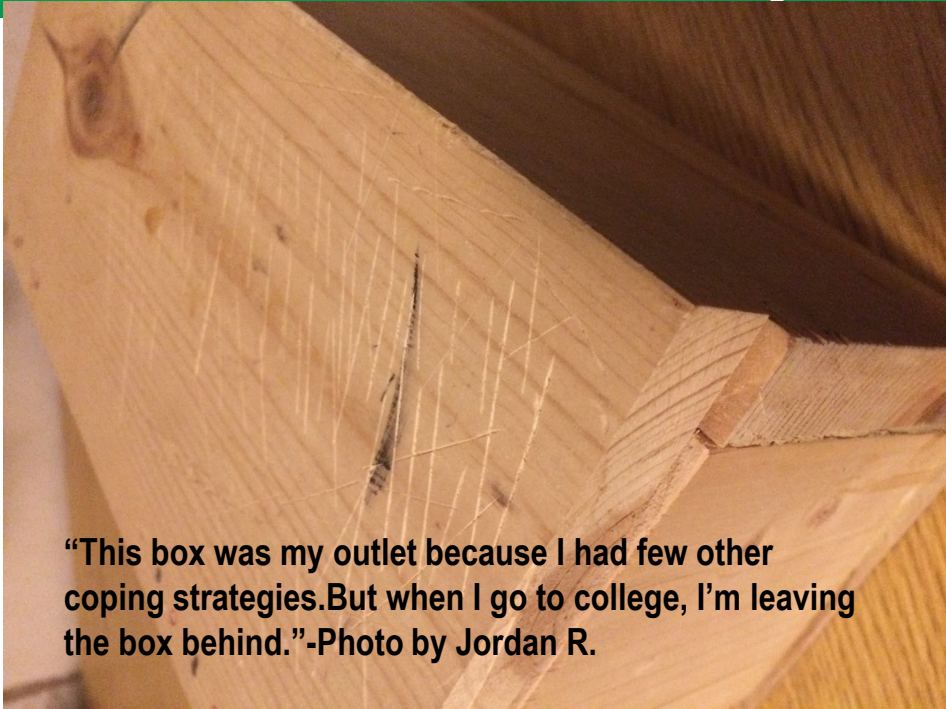
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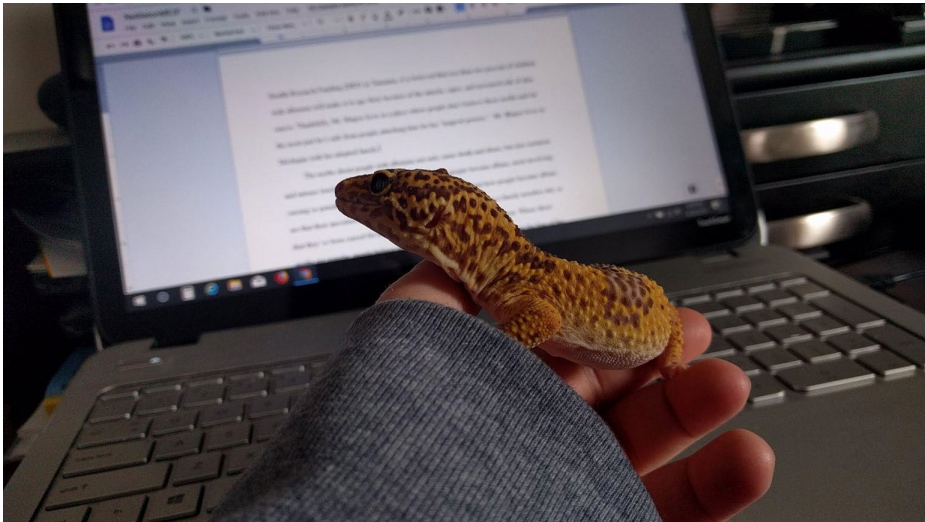


“Labels are everywhere.”-Photo by Caitlin B.

“The day they were adopted was one of the best of my life.”-Photo by Kyle F.



“This box was my outlet because I had few other coping strategies. But when I go to college, I’m leaving the box behind.”-Photo by Jordan R.



“It’s the little things that help through the day.”- Photo by Maezie N.





## Group discussion

**What is one example of how you might be able to use Photovoice in the work that you do?**

**Questions for presenters?**

Photo by: Audrey J

