



WREN

Women's Rights &
Empowerment Network

Seen and Heard: Women and Girls in the Midlands Photovoice Project

Project Overview

What is Photovoice?

Photovoice is an advocacy tool that blends photography and critical thinking to analyze problems through the eyes and perspective of community members. Residents who experience problems and opportunities became “issue education experts,” informing facilitators of their first-hand accounts through the use of photography and critical dialogue. In this project, photovoice is used to provide a space for women and girls to speak on the challenges and opportunities faced within the Midlands of South Carolina.

How will photovoice be used in the Seen and Heard: Women and Girls in the Midlands project?

WREN will be recruiting diverse participants who are willing to meet in a group setting and discuss their experiences as a woman or girl. After having an opportunity to meet fellow participants and receive photography training, participants will be asked to capture images that represent their challenges or opportunities faced on a daily basis. Participant groups will then meet again to discuss captured images and the themes that were repetitively present. It is WREN's intent to share some of these captured images with the community at large in the form of traveling exhibits.

How can I sign-up to be a participant?

WREN will be accepting submissions of interest for one of our adult groups through July 19th. You may submit your interest via email to project coordinator, Megan Plassmeyer. mplassmeyer@scwren.org. When submitting interest via email, please use the subject line: “Photovoice Participant” and include a few sentences about your typical availability, where you are located in the Midlands, your age, and the phone number that we may reach you at.

Participant requirements:

As a participant, you will be expected to:

- Attend four meetings lasting two hours a piece. Meetings will be scheduled within the time frame of September 2017- October 2017, and will occur on weekday evenings from

six to eight o'clock. Although we will do our best to schedule feasible meeting dates for the group, we ask that you refrain from submitting interest if you know that you are generally not available in the evening. All meetings will occur at either the North Main or Main Street branch of the Richland library. Childcare and dinner will be provided;

- Receive and use disposable camera;
- Take photos outside of scheduled meeting times;
- Return camera at least 72 hours before next meeting date. This can be done by leaving your camera at a posted drop-off location, or if necessary, can be scheduled for pick-up by a WREN staff member;
- Provide feedback and discussion in a group setting;
- Allow WREN to share some of your captured images with the community at large.

Upon submitting interest, am I guaranteed a spot?

Upon submitting interest, you are not guaranteed a spot as a participant. After the July 19th deadline, WREN will be utilizing a lottery system in order to select our group. If you are selected, you will hear back from WREN by August 1st.

Who is organizing this project?

This project is being organized by the Women's Rights and Empowerment Network (WREN). Our goal is to increase visibility of and support for the health and economic well-being of women, girls, and families in our region. Project point of contact is Megan Plassmeyer. If you have any questions, you can reach her at mplassmeyer@scwren.org.