



MiThrive Photovoice Project Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

I'm ready to submit photos for the MiThrive Photovoice Project – what now?

Great! Follow this link to the submission form page:

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7884076/Photovoice>. This form will open on **Monday, July 29th**.

What is photovoice?

Photovoice uses photos and stories to share an individual's perspectives and experiences related to a particular topic or issue. Photovoice projects have been used to highlight a specific population's viewpoints, influence decision-makers, and inspire change at the community level.

What is the purpose of the MiThrive Photovoice Project?

We want to hear from you on what makes your community a great place to live—or where improvements can be made. We aim to understand and highlight the unique strengths of Northern Lower Michigan communities and identify areas for improvement to enhance community health and well-being.

How will the data from the MiThrive Photovoice Project be used?

Data collected in the MiThrive Photovoice Project will be used in the [2024 MiThrive Community Health Assessment](#). This will include using submitted photos and photo stories in reports, presentations, exhibits, and social media. Personal information such as your name and demographic data will be kept confidential.

Who can participate in the MiThrive Photovoice Project?

Anyone that lives, learns, works, or plays in the 31 counties of Northern Lower Michigan are invited to participate in the MiThrive Photovoice Project. The 31 counties included are Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Arenac, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Emmet, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Iosco, Isabella, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Montmorency, Newaygo, Oceana, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Wexford.

There are no age restrictions for the MiThrive Photovoice Project. However, if you are under 18, you will be asked to provide parent or guardian consent when submitting photos.

What will participants be asked to do for the MiThrive Photovoice Project?



MiThrive Photovoice Project participants will be asked to respond to at least one of the photovoice questions, provide a description of each photo submitted, and answer demographic questions. The photovoice questions are:

- **Question #1:** Take a picture of something in your community that helps you, your family, or others live well. This can be places, jobs, services, cultural and faith-based groups, programs, nature, people, and more.
- **Question #2:** Take a picture of something that makes your community a good place to live in like parks, grocery stores, sidewalks, walking places, schools, housing, crosswalks, safety, accessibility, and how easy things are to use.
- **Question #3:** Take a picture of something that needs improvement in your community.

How long will the MiThrive Photovoice Project be open for?

You can submit photos for the MiThrive Photovoice Project starting Monday, July 29 – Friday, September 6.

What types of photos are you looking for?

We welcome a variety of photos that show your experience and community. You can include pictures of people, but if someone's face is visible, you must have their permission to use the photo. Please do not put yourself or others in unsafe situations to take a photo. All photos must be original and taken by you, not from the internet.

Can you provide an example of what we might submit?

- **Example #1:** Take a picture of something in your community that helps you, your family, or others live well. This can be places, jobs, services, cultural and faith-based groups, programs, nature, people, and more.



This is a picture of our community garden. It's a place where people grow vegetables and fruits together. The garden gives us fresh food to eat. It also helps us make friends with our neighbors.



- **Example #2:** Take a picture of something that makes your community a good place to live in like parks, grocery stores, sidewalks, walking places, schools, housing, crosswalks, safety, accessibility, and how easy things are to use.



This is our local playground. The playground is safe and clean, so parents like bringing their kids here. Having a nice playground helps families have fun and stay active.

- **Example #3:** Take a picture of something that needs improvement in your community.



This is a picture of a broken sidewalk in our neighborhood. The cracks and holes make it hard for people to walk, especially for kids, older people, and those using wheelchairs or strollers. Fixing the sidewalk would make it safer and easier for everyone to get around.

Are there incentives to participate in the MiThrive Photovoice Project?

All participants will be entered into a \$50 gift card drawing. You may opt out of this drawing if you wish to. Gift card winners will be notified in September.

I don't have a smartphone or camera – can I still participate?

Yes! We have a limited supply of disposable cameras. Please email us at mithrive@northernmichiganchir.org and we can organize for a disposable camera to be sent to you.



Are the MiThrive Photovoice Project materials available in other languages?

Currently, the MiThrive Photovoice Project flyer is available in Spanish and can be accessed [here](#). If you need additional translation or if we can support improved accessibility of these materials, please email us at mithrive@northernmichiganchir.org.

I'm a part of a group, coalition, or collaborative – can we complete the photovoice project as a group?

Yes! This is a great way to include diverse perspectives in the process. When submitting your photos and stories, please make sure to credit all contributors or submit individual forms. Email us at mithrive@northernmichiganchir.org for additional support.

I still have questions – who can I reach out to?

Email us at mithrive@northernmichiganchir.org.

I'm experiencing technical difficulties submitting my photos – who can I reach out to?

Email us at mithrive@northernmichiganchir.org.

How can I get involved in more efforts like this?

Sign up for MiThrive digital mailers [here](#) and visit our website: www.northernmichiganchir.org.