Over 100,000 13-24 year olds live in Monroe County, New York and currently face the transition of leaving their childhood homes and schools to become successful and independent.

Raising 100,000 Voices is a community education project - where 13-24 year olds in area communities work with youth serving organizations to receive the tools necessary to develop digital portraits through filmmaking and storytelling to document their strengths and challenges of emerging as healthy adults. Over the course of several months, participants work to produce their own three-minute video on issues of relevance to growing up successful and healthy, and to present their views and solutions to their community.

Over 243 documentaries were showcased from 2006-2015. They are available for viewing at http://wxxi.org/education/raising100kvoices/. Some filmmakers have returned each year, producing pieces that explore their original topics more deeply or creating new projects such as “Living Life,” an original animation that premiered at the High Falls Film Festival in 2006.

Raising 100,000 Voices is a partnership across community agencies that is coordinated by Jenny Hernández at the University of Rochester Medical Center's Department of Psychiatry. For more information call (585) 275-3571.

Participating Organizations from 2005-2015:
ArtPeace, Inc.
Association for the Blind/Visually Impaired-Goodwill
Baden Street Settlement House
The Center for Youth, Inc.
Charles Settlement House
Citizen U
City of Rochester – Department of Parks and Recreation
Community Place of Greater Rochester, Inc.
Compeer, Inc.
Dazzle School of Visual and Performing Arts
East High School, Rochester City School District (RCSD)
Edison School of Information & Imaging
General Elwell S. Otis School #30, RCSD
Global Media Arts High School at Franklin
Grace Community Village, Inc.
Hillside Children’s Center
ImagineYOU
Monroe County DHS Youth Opportunity Unit
Monroe County Youth on the Move
Mt. Hope Family Center
Operation Higher Learning/Freedom School- Thomas P. Ryan Community Center
Rochester City School District
RCSD, School 39
RCSD: Frank Fowler Dow School No. 52
Rochester Community TV, Inc. (RCTV15)
Rochester Youth Digital Academy
Rural and Migrant Ministry
Rural Education Outreach Program
School of Imaging and Information Technology at Edison, RCSD
St. Joseph’s Villa
Strong Ties Young Adult Program – URMC Department of Psychiatry
Teens Advocating Nonviolence (TAN) - Parsells Avenue Community Church
United Way of Seneca County – SURGE After School Program
University of Rochester’s Department of Psychiatry
Writers and Books, Inc.
Western Region Corps, 209th Regiment
Youth and Justice Program at Water Tower Academy
Youth In Progress & Youth Opportunity Unit (YOU) with URMC

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Roadwork for Success in Youth Adulthood emerged in 2005 as a community-wide Coalition to develop solutions for 14-24 year olds in western and central NY. Key Steering Committee members were from Hillside Children’s Center, Monroe County Family Court, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester City School District, Grace United Methodist Church, and WXXI.