



## The 2011 Peer Educator Summit: “Sex Ed: Prevention. Equality. Access.”

On Saturday, March 19, 79 teen peer educators, volunteers, and community educators assembled in Battle Creek for Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan’s annual Peer Educator Summit. We hosted peer educators from Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, and Milan for the day-long conference.

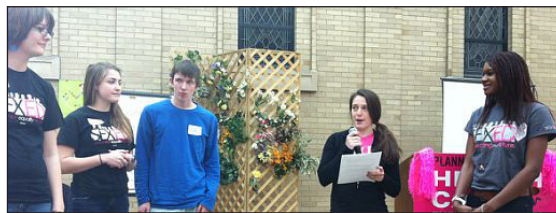


The summit is designed to teach the peer educators new skills, give them new information about sexual health that is relevant to their lives, and help them prepare to run a campaign in support of comprehensive sexuality education in their own schools and communities.



The peer educators learned how to “get sexuality education elected in their schools,” meaning they were taught how to garner support and mobilize community members to ensure the availability of sexuality education to all teens in Michigan schools. The peer educators came up with different ways to run their campaigns and gather petition signatures. In May, after the completion of their campaigns, the peer educators will take their collected petition signatures to their elected officials in Lansing.

The day ended on a high note with students taking signs supporting sex education, women’s health, Planned Parenthood, and birth control outside to do a “burma shave.” Many of the cars that drove through downtown Battle Creek honked to show



their support for Planned Parenthood peer educators. One student that attended said “[I] loved the outdoor activities and the impromptu burma shave! I Love seeing my peers from across the state.” The Peer Educator Summit was a very successful and informative day, and we look forward to taking the “Sex Ed: Prevention. Equality. Access.” campaign to the capitol in May! ■

SNAPSHOTS