THE JOURNALISM AND MEDIA FUND

What is the Journalism and Media Fund?

Established in 2022 to support local and regional journalism and media and build the pipeline of talent for the sector. In these days of rampant disinformation and loss of local journalism outlets, it is essential to cultivate reliable sources of news based on fact and integrity.

What are the benefits of the Journalism and Media Fund?

- Support local journalists from community newsrooms to expand their reporting of "quality of life" issues in the IE
- Learn about and invest in news organizations doing investigative, citizen and advocacy journalism
- Combine your gift with others to enhance impact
- Network with others who are philanthropically minded and living their passion

With your help, your gift is providing vital support to communities affected by "news deserts" and connects you with other donors and funders who are committed to amplifying community voices to bolster civic engagement and foster more active, informed communities.

Since the explosion of the pandemic that began in early 2020, at least 85 local newsrooms in the U.S. have closed. Others have barely remained in operation, cutting staff, salaries, work hours. About 1,800 newspapers have closed around the country since 2004, according to "news desert" authority and researcher Dr. Penny Abernathy, a former professor at UNC.

~ The Community Foundation Local Media Guidebook

Anemic local news staffing leads to less coverage of topics of interest to foundations, such as public health and solutions for underserved communities. This is becoming a common fear among local funders: If there is no press coverage for their issues, for their areas of focus, then the work they support will not have the necessary impact.

Knight Foundation | knightfoundation.org

While an IECF board member, I started hearing about media initiatives of other California community foundations. As publisher of the Black Voice News and then-president of California News Publishers Association, I wanted to explore more. I was intrigued by the role we can play in building resilient communities by supporting local information ecosystems.

PAULETTE BROWN-HINDS, PhD
Journalism and Media Fund Chair
IECF Immediate Past Board Chair
Publisher, Black Voice News

Donations may be made directly to the Journalism and Media Fund at: iegives.org/journalismandmediafund
For more information, contact our Charitable Giving Team at giving@iegives.org or call 951.241.7777.

DONATE TODAY!

The information provided is general and is not to be construed as tax, legal or financial advice. Your attorney or tax professional can provide additional guidance on the best options to help you accomplish your financial and charitable objectives.

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