

Press Forward Impact Report



FEBRUARY 2025

Press
Forward 

pressforward.news

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On the cover: Teen journalism students and their instructors visit a county government office as part of the Voices of Monterey Bay Young Voices Media Project, with Co-founder Claudia Meléndez Salinas, center. Image by Carlos René Castro. On this page: Adriana Chavela of Hola Carolina conducts an interview for a podcast and radio show. Image courtesy of Hola Carolina.

A Letter from Our Director



At Press Forward, we're guided initially by two simple but powerful questions: Are we expanding resources for local news? And are local communities—especially those that are currently and historically underserved—gaining more access to reliable local news and information that they need, deserve and trust?

Looking back on 2024, my first year as Press Forward's inaugural director, I'm proud to say that together, we are making significant progress. That success didn't happen by chance. It results from key decisions our funder coalition made to focus our efforts where they could make the most significant difference.

The first was an investment in creating local chapters and finding advocates for news at the community level. When Press Forward launched, we started with a big, bold commitment of \$500 million from national funders. But our real momentum this past year has been at the local level. We've brought together new local funders who are now supporting local news innovation and sustainability through 34 chapters in 29 states.

Most of these chapters are just getting off the ground. Many are figuring out what their communities need most, building critical partnerships and raising funds to deploy to local news and information. Some have already raised millions of dollars in their states and regions. This local work is essential. Revitalizing local news isn't something that can — or should — happen from the top down. Communities need people on the ground who understand their unique challenges and are deeply invested in ensuring their neighbors get the information they need.

And journalists shouldn't be the only part of this effort. Local news needs champions in every corner of a community — civic leaders, funders, educators and other stakeholders who recognize that reliable local journalism is critical to our collective well-being. After all, progress on every major issue — whether it's education, the economy or the environment — depends on trustworthy, local information about those topics.

Whenever I visit a community, I see that people understand this. They might not have all the answers, but they feel the absence of original, timely local news when it's missing - especially in emergency situations like wildfires, floods or a pandemic. And they want to be part of the solution.

Our second strategic decision was to focus our first open call for proposals on the smallest newsrooms – with budgets of under \$1 million – that are filling critical coverage gaps across the country. Small, locally owned and operated newsrooms still produce the lion's share of original, local content that serves communities of color, rural areas and non-English

speakers. These smaller newsrooms are also far less likely to be on the radar of national funders. The Press Forward Pooled Fund can distribute funds in a way that advances equity and increases access to local news where it's needed most.

We're already learning a lot from these small newsrooms — about what sustainability looks like on a modest budget, how to reach audiences where they are and what it takes to build trust in historically underserved communities. Their stories are inspiring, and we're sharing them widely to show our funding partners what's possible.

We're making real progress, but there's still so much to do. Local news faces many deep-rooted challenges, and rebuilding trust and resources isn't something we can accomplish quickly.

Still, there's a growing understanding that we are experiencing a moment of transformation in local news. As a coalition, we're proving that collaboration works — that when we pool resources, knowledge and determination, we can be stronger together.

Dale R. Anglin
Director, Press Forward

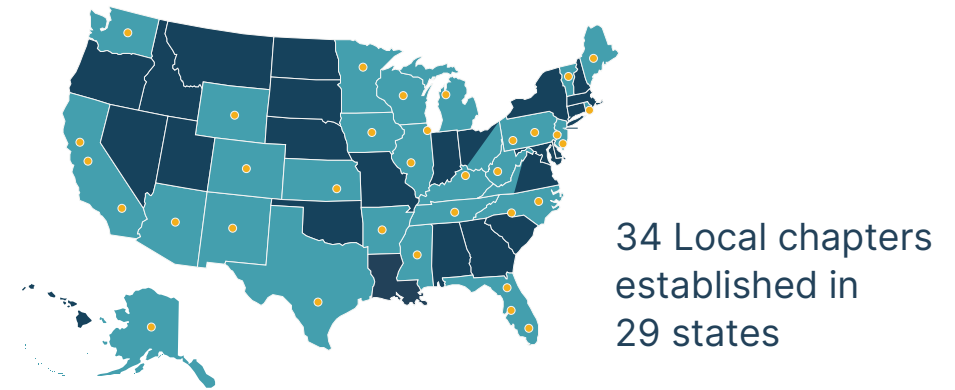
Image of Dale R. Anglin by Kamron Khan.

Our Funding: By the Numbers

\$200,000,000

Press Forward is a \$500 million+ initiative to strengthen communities by reimagining local news. Our milestones to date include:

\$200 million-plus invested in local news



\$3,025,000 awarded by Press Forward to local chapters to catalyze their work



\$36 million in funding raised by local chapters



Note: Figures reflect coalition member totals through Dec. 31, 2024, and grantmaking data submitted by Press Forward partners through Jan. 15, 2025.

Our Funding: Investment Priorities

Together with our coalition members, Press Forward is driving meaningful change in local news in these four areas:



SUSTAINABILITY

Strengthening local newsrooms that have the trust of local communities



EQUITY

Closing longstanding inequalities in journalism coverage and practice



INFRASTRUCTURE

Accelerating the enabling environment for news production and dissemination



POLICY

Advancing public policies that expand access to reliable local news and information

Our Approach

Press Forward funds are invested in one of three ways:



Aligned Grantmaking

Funders who prefer to give directly and independently to local news initiatives can join Press Forward's coalition by committing to make investments that align with our four strategic priorities. Press Forward hosts peer-to-peer working groups and in-person convenings to align resources to leverage impact and introduce funders to new ideas, best practices and bold leaders who are shaping the field of local news.

Pooled Fund

Funders can make their dollars go further and maximize their collective impact by contributing to a Pooled Fund housed at The Miami Foundation. The funds are invested through open calls and strategic grantmaking that advance our four pillars.

Press Forward Locals

Press Forward is putting down roots at the local level by seeding and shepherding 34 local chapters across the country. These chapters galvanize place-based funders and other community leaders to support reliable, trusted local news in their backyards.

Locals: Leading from the Ground Up

In 34 regions across the country, Press Forward Locals are working diligently to bring people together and build coalitions to support local news.

Each of the Locals is in different phases of the journey. Some chapters are researching their local information landscape to determine the information gaps and residents' needs and demand for local news.

Others, like Press Forward Chicago, Colorado, Minnesota, North Carolina and Arizona are raising funds and making grants from their pooled funds.

All of these chapters are leading from the ground up and finding creative ways to engage their communities in the future of local news.

Press Forward has provided **\$3,025,000** in support to Locals through our Catalyst Funds, which help chapters grow.

1. Iowa: Mary Jo Jean-Francois, Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, Dale Anglin, Press Forward, Nancy Van Milligen, Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, and Silvia Rivera, MacArthur Foundation. Image courtesy of the foundation.
2. New Mexico: CNN's Brian Stelter and KRQE News 13 Anchor Jessica Garate speak at the 2024 New Mexico Local News Symposium. **3. Pennsylvania:** Leaders of three Press Forward Locals gathered in Pennsylvania. Image courtesy of Jim Friedlich.
4. Southwestern Pennsylvania: Andrew Conte of Press Forward Southwestern Pennsylvania speaks at Newsapalooza. Image by Caleb McCartney. **5. Minnesota:** Press Forward consultant Mukhtar M. Ibrahim speaks at the launch of Press Forward Minnesota.





WYOMING

In the Mountain West, the Wyoming Local News Fund, home of the state's Press Forward chapter, presented its first local news and information landscape study at the Governor's Business Forum, ensuring business and civic leaders are part of the conversation on the future of local news. In January, the Fund also presented its community information needs and habits study to the Wyoming Press Association, offering the latest interpretation of vital data to publishers and news leaders. Wyoming Local News Fund is a fiscally sponsored project of the Wyoming Community Foundation.

SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

The convener of the local chapter launched Newsapalooza, a day-long event to celebrate the Pittsburgh story and the people who continue to tell it.

PENNSYLVANIA

This winter, The Lenfest Institute for Journalism hosted all three Pennsylvania Press Forward Local chapters, Rebuild Local News, Spotlight PA, and other stakeholders in Lancaster to plan statewide strategies for increasing civic support of local news. The group agreed on 2025-26 priorities and collective action to support Pennsylvania legislative initiatives, consumer listening and marketing, and collaborative news, education, and reporting activities.

MINNESOTA

After raising \$6 million, this statewide chapter recently invested \$520,000 in 13 local news organizations that are closing local coverage gaps, thanks to a coalition the McKnight Foundation brought together that is housed at the Minnesota Council on Foundations.

NE IOWA

In Dubuque, the community foundation is building an endowment for local news, raising 60% of its \$1 million goal. The foundation is currently supporting three full-time reporting positions, an intern and two fellows.

SILICON VALLEY

The Silicon Valley Community Foundation, home to Press Forward Silicon Valley, made local news the focus of its annual meeting, which featured PBS NewsHour's Judy Woodruff alongside journalists from three local news outlets: San José Spotlight, CalMatters and KQED.

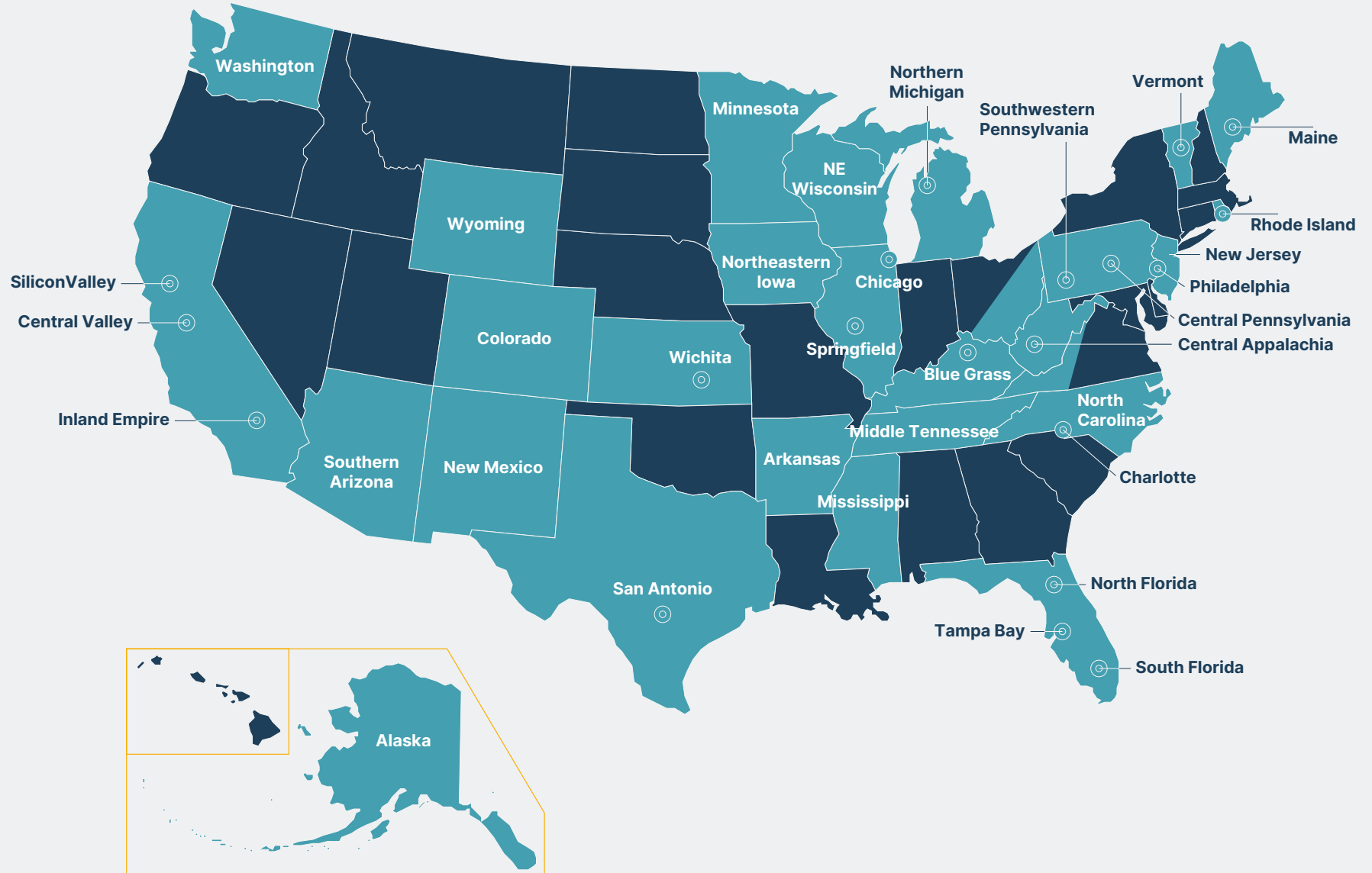
NORTH CAROLINA

When Hurricane Helene hit, the North Carolina Local News Lab Fund, home to Press Forward North Carolina and Press Forward Charlotte, mobilized expanded support for organizations serving in the disaster zone and helped funders navigate the early days of recovery. A wide network of grant partners in the mountains connected people with life-saving information, showing the need for investing before a disaster. Its capacity building grant partner, the NC Local News Workshop, rallied editors and support for news organizations in Western North Carolina while also helping them create text-only websites that people with limited Internet access could reach faster.

SOUTH FLORIDA

Led by The Miami Foundation, the South Florida chapter is convening partnering community foundations from Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe counties to take a collaborative, regional approach to strengthening local news and information.

Our 34 Local Chapters



Pooled Fund: Open Call on Closing Coverage Gaps

To ensure more communities get the coverage they deserve, Press Forward devoted its first open call to supporting the small local newsrooms that provide original reporting in underserved communities.

To level the playing field, Press Forward commissioned the Lenfest News Philanthropy Network to provide coaching to help interested newsrooms, many of whom were first-time grant applicants, craft proposals. Meanwhile, reviewers with deep experience in journalism and philanthropy drove the decision making.

Motivated by the extraordinary quality and number of proposals, Press Forward funded twice as many news organizations as it anticipated initially, supporting 200+ news outlets – including at least one in every state – with a total of \$20 million. The grant recipients are a bright mosaic of independent, non-partisan sources reimagining what local news looks like across America.

Our newly hired Grantee Engagement and Support Manager, Graham Ringo, will be working directly with grantees to provide them with access to resources beyond our funding that will help our network of newsrooms build their long-term sustainability.



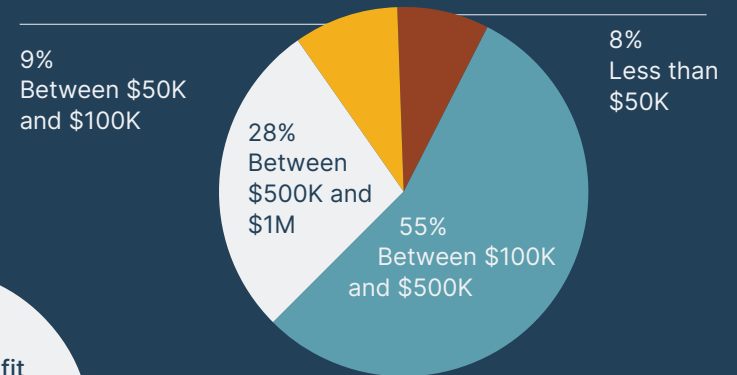
\$20 million in Pooled Fund support to local newsrooms

GRANTEE PROFILE

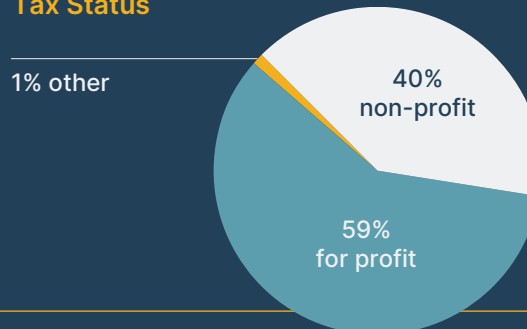
200+ Grantees
40% are led by people of color
25% serve rural communities

Most enduring
The Republican Journal (Belfast, ME), founded in 1829

Budgets



Tax Status



Grantee Spotlight: The Haitian Times

During the busy 2024 election season, The Haitian Times faced intense challenges after reporting on false rumors about Haitians eating dogs in Springfield, Ohio. The coverage put the 25-year-old publication in the national spotlight and turned its staff into targets.

Bomb threats forced a community forum online, a reporter resigned, and team members had to balance reporting the news with protecting their own safety.

Amid these threats, the publication worked to safeguard its website from hackers and shield reporters' personal information, said Editor-in-Chief Vania André. "What was really alarming to our team was just how quickly this all happened," she said.

With Press Forward funding, The Haitian Times plans to further strengthen its presence in the Midwest, continuing to tell the stories of Haitian immigrants and address their concerns about national issues impacting their local communities.

Macollvie Neel, Special Projects Editor; Vania André, Editor in Chief; Garry Pierre-Pierre, Publisher; Cherrell Angervil, Brand and Audience Engagement Director pictured at Banboch Kreyol, a community festival organized by The Haitian Times. Image courtesy of The Haitian Times.



Grantee Spotlights



Hola Carolina

An online news site and radio program, Hola Carolina brought critical news and information to Spanish speakers in Western North Carolina after Hurricane Helene struck.

Hola Carolina's updates ran hourly in Spanish on a local radio station, in addition to online, all while the team itself recovered from the storm's effects.

Now, with Press Forward funding, Hola Carolina plans to invest in resources, technology and outreach programs to ensure Spanish-speaking residents are well informed and connected.

Hola Carolina celebrates cultural diversity at its international events and festivals. Image courtesy of Hola Carolina.

Erin McIntyre and Mike Wiggins of the Ouray County Plaindealer. Image by William Woody.



Ouray County Plaindealer

At the Ouray County Plaindealer, a weekly newspaper serving a remote mountain community of 5,000 in Colorado, the husband-and-wife team of Erin McIntyre and Mike Wiggins have a mantra: "Even small places — especially small places — deserve quality journalism."

Their reporting on the former elected sheriff's arrest and troubles led to 93% of voters removing him from office in the county's first recall election.

Recently, the outlet was also awarded the "Friend of Freedom" award for its continued work for government transparency.

With Press Forward funding, the Plaindealer will increase efficiency by upgrading its technology and refining its editorial processes through training and software updates.

[Read more grantee stories.](#)

Pooled Fund: Open Call on Infrastructure

Community newsrooms should be easier to launch and sustain long-term. But rapid changes in the field have left many newsrooms short-staffed and challenged to keep up with the latest tools and processes for producing stories, reaching audiences, raising revenue and more.

Press Forward's second open call, which solicited proposals in Fall 2024, sought ideas for infrastructure solutions that could be game changers for the field. The selected projects, which will receive \$20 million from Press Forward's Pooled Fund, will be announced in late spring.

Press Forward funders, participating both through Aligned Grantmaking and local chapters, have already stepped in to provide funding for these vital, behind-the-scenes infrastructure projects. [Learn more.](#)



Trina Reynolds-Tyler, the Invisible Institute's Pulitzer Prize-winning Data Director, speaks with Press Forward funders. Image by Jamaal Simpson.

Aligned Grantmaking

Press Forward launched with a bold commitment to invest more than \$500 million in local news, and the bulk of that funding is going directly to local newsrooms and support organizations through Aligned Grantmaking.

To date, 17 of our Aligned Grantmaking funders have reported a total of more than \$170 million in direct grantmaking to advance our four investment priorities. Press Forward funders pledge not only to increase their funding for local journalism but also to prioritize public access to accurate, reliable, community-centered reporting and to preserve journalism independence, local autonomy and the First Amendment



Above: Claudia Rivera, political and immigration reporter at Enlace NC helps a Latina woman subscribe to a WhatsApp chat during a community listening session. Image courtesy ELNC. Below: The Indigenous Media Freedom Alliance started the first Indigenous-led Documenter's program in North Dakota at Buffalo's Fire, with MacArthur Foundation aligned funding. Image courtesy of Jodi Spotted Bear

Aligned Grantmaking

While the types of Press Forward-Aligned investments and grantees can vary as widely as our funder network's interests, here are some examples to date:

SUSTAINABILITY

Keeping Issue-Specific Local News Strong: As the parent company of Chalkbeat, Votebeat and Healthbeat, Civic News Company has a decade-long track record of sustaining local “beat” coverage of core civic issues in communities across the U.S. Its reporters work collaboratively with other local outlets to report, share stories and reach new audiences. Supporters include The Archewell, Skyline and MacArthur Foundations.

Preserving Trusted Community Brands: The nonprofit National Trust for Local News owns and operates 64 newspapers across Maine, Colorado and Georgia – critical sources of community news that serve nearly 40 counties and some five million people. Supporters include the MacArthur and John S. and James L. Knight foundations.

Growing Support in California's Central Valley: As part of its “Sunrise Strategy” to commit all of its assets by 2030, the James B. McClatchy Foundation is prioritizing local journalism sustainability as a core goal. Investments in community-based organizations such as Ivanhoe Sol, the Black Youth Leadership Project, Kern Sol News and the Central Valley Journalism Collaborative are strengthening a wide range of outlets.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Tech for Good: Glen Nelson Center at American Public Media's Horizon Fund makes impact investments in early-stage media companies that help build the newsrooms of the future. One example is Rolli, which creates new digital tools for local newsrooms. Rolli's products include an AI-powered expert database curated for journalists and social media tools designed to detect online disinformation. Other Horizon Fund investments include LeadStory, Pennant, Ad Fontes Media, and Hamlet.

Higher Ed's Role in Closing Local News Gaps: University of Vermont's new Center for Community News seeks to re-energize local coverage in underserved news regions by ramping up research programming, education and advocacy for student reporting programs. Supporters include: Knight and MacArthur foundations.

Shared Resources for Investigative, Data and Visual Journalism: ProPublica and The Trace are building national infrastructure for investigative reporting and partnering with local newsrooms to uncover stories, while Catchlight and the Video Consortium are helping local journalists tell stories in multimedia. Supporters include Arnold Ventures, Knight Foundation and others.



Santa Cruz Local hosted community listening sessions to understand residents' priorities for the November 2024 election. Image by Marcello Hutchinson-Trujillo.

EQUITY

Investing in Trusted Leaders: The Racial Equity in Journalism Fund and The Pivot Fund provide investments and customized technical assistance for local newsrooms led by and for people of color across the United States. Supporters include Democracy Fund, Heising-Simons Foundation, Henry Luce Foundation and Skyline Foundation.

Amplifying Rural Voices: Louisiana Community Journalism Center is equipping students to work in journalism and political communications with support from Henry Luce and MacArthur foundations, which are also supporting 100 Days in Appalachia and Mississippi Free Press in covering political issues in rural areas.

Closing News Gaps: Beyond our first Open Call which directed \$20 million to 200+ small newsrooms, Press Forward funders are investing millions directly in local news organizations that serve a wide range of underserved communities, including Capital B, El Tecolote, Borderless Magazine, Conecta Arizona, El Timpano, Buffalo's Fire, Outlier Media, and more.

POLICY

Protecting Press Freedom: Democracy Fund's Aligned Grantmaking includes support for pro-bono legal assistance from Lawyers for Reporters and Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, a new Policy Fellow for the Racial Equity in Journalism Fund at Borealis Philanthropy, and The Legal Clinic Fund housed at The Miami Foundation, to expand resources for legal support for local newsrooms around the country.

After the Bill Passes: Grants from The Joyce Foundation to the Illinois Press Foundation and Rebuild Local News Coalition will help ensure that Illinois newsrooms take advantage of new laws to strengthen local news.

Coalition-Building for Local News: Free Press and Rebuild Local News Coalition are partnering with local groups and individuals to advocate for strong policies that strengthen, modernize and sustain local newsrooms. Supporters include Democracy Fund and MacArthur Foundation.



Above: QCity Metro reporter Destiniee Jaram interviews a subject at an event marking the opening of a small business hub in one of Charlotte's historically Black communities. Photo credit: QCity Metro. Below: During a community event, Canopy Atlanta Fellow Genia Billingsley shares about the outlet's community engagement process. Photo credit Alyssa Pointer

Working Groups Fuel Strategic Grantmaking

Through peer-to-peer working groups, Press Forward national, regional and local funders navigate the rapidly changing field of local news, learn from local news innovators from across the U.S. and share insights on strategic grantmaking.

In 2024, our Public Policy working group exemplified how Press Forward can support rapid response grantmaking. Starting in the fall, a group of 40 funders led by co-chairs Jenny Montoya Tansey (Skyline Foundation) and Josh Stearns (Democracy Fund) and facilitated by Darryl Holliday (Commoner & Co.):

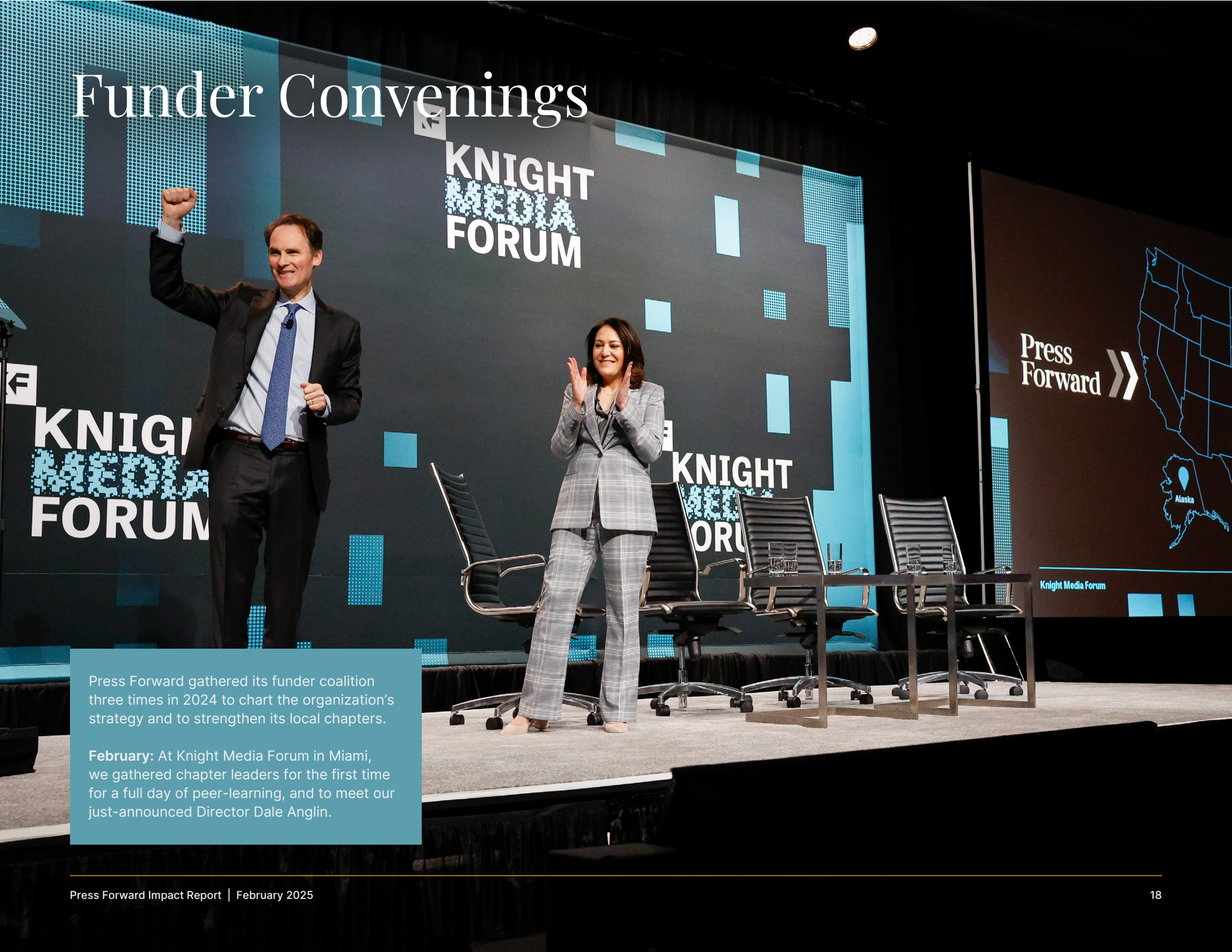
- Developed a set of [four principles](#) to guide Press Forward's public policy investments;
- Initiated a set of shared due diligence calls to learn from state-based and national advocates and field leaders;
- Made new contributions to Press Forward's Pooled Fund; and
- Recommended a slate of grants to receive strategic grants from Press Forward in early 2025 to advance public policy that increases access to reliable, original local news and information.

Learn more about Press Forward's approach to public policy [here](#).

David Rousseau, publisher and executive director of KFF Health News, and Press Forward's Melissa Davis talk about public policy at the Press Forward Funder's Summit. Image by Jamaal Simpson.



Funder Convenings



Press Forward gathered its funder coalition three times in 2024 to chart the organization's strategy and to strengthen its local chapters.

February: At Knight Media Forum in Miami, we gathered chapter leaders for the first time for a full day of peer-learning, and to meet our just-announced Director Dale Anglin.



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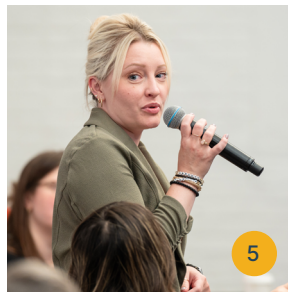
September: At the Funder's Summit in Chicago, local chapter leaders and national funders mingled for the first time, met with reporters and editors from three newsrooms, and explored what investing in Press Forward's four priorities looks like in practice.

1. Kayce Ataiyero of the Joyce Foundation speaks at the Funders Summit. Image by Jamaal Simpson.
2. Rebecca Fishman-Lipsey and Lindsey Linzer of The Miami Foundation with Andrea Saenz of Chicago Community Trust.
3. Jess Mullins Fullin, Press Forward Appalachia, and Misty Avila, Press Forward Central Valley at the Funder's Summit. Image courtesy of Jamaal Simpson.
4. MacArthur Foundation's Silvia Rivera and Press Forward's Dale Anglin at the Funder's Summit. Image Courtesy of Jamaal Simpson.
5. Ray Eller of Press Forward Appalachia and Press Forward's Christina Shih at the Funder's Summit. Image by Jamaal Simpson.

October: Press Forward also gathered local chapters in Cleveland for two days of learning, planning and knowledge sharing. With Press Forward toolkits on topics from fundraising to chapter governance, Locals leaders mapped out the next steps for their work to galvanize support for local news.

“Press Forward is the opportunity to amplify our investments, expand our reach and make connections,” Kayce Ataiyero, chief external affairs officer at The Joyce Foundation, said at the Funder’s Summit. “Together is key. We are just starting to see the potential. If we get this right, we can lift journalism and communities across the country.”

Resources: For local chapters, Press Forward has created a series of toolkits on fundraising, chapter governance, grantmaking to for profits and creating ecosystem research, [available for download](#).



1. Knight Foundation’s Duc Luu. Image by Jamaal Simpson. 2. Members of Press Forward’s Management Committee with staff. Left to right: Dale Anglin, Neha Gohil Singh, Jim Brady, Silvia Rivera, Jenny Montoya Tansey and Christina Shih. 3. MacArthur Foundation’s John Palfrey at the Locals Convening. Image by Kamron Khan. 4. Workshop participants at the Locals convening. Image by Kamron Khan. 5. Courtney Bengston of the Wichita Foundation at the Locals Convening. Image by Kamron Khan. 6. The Miami Foundation’s Nikisha Williams and Press Forward’s Melissa Davis. 7. Press Forward Chicago’s Tracy Baim (right) and Alma Martinez, Central Valley Journalism Collaborative, at the Locals Convening. Image by Kamron Khan.

Research

At Press Forward, we need data to guide our work and help local leaders, funders and journalists understand the roles that news and information play within the larger context of a community's civic health. That's why, as one of our first investments, we supported the development of the [Civic Information Index](#), which includes 21 data sets that help us view and evaluate communities holistically.

Created by The Listening Post Collective at Internews and the Information Futures Lab at Brown University, the Index allows users to see where their communities are excelling and where they face unique challenges.

By inputting the name of a town or a ZIP code, one can quickly see a range of factors and determinants, including volunteer rates, housing insecurity, medical debt and the existence of local news outlets, among others. Users can look at these specific data points both in isolation and together, to see a community's unique civic realities, opportunities and how they shift over time.

Democracy Fund and MacArthur Foundation are providing follow-up support to the Listening Post Collective. Funders have additional opportunities to support this work and use it in their regions.



THE CIVIC INFORMATION INDEX

Mapping drivers of engaged,
informed, equitable and healthy
communities

Our Team

The Press Forward team brings decades of experience in philanthropy and fundraising, journalism and communications, collaborations and collective impact. We partner closely with our network of funders to leverage our combined strengths and support reliable, community-based news and information across the U.S.



Dale R. Anglin

Director

Talk to me about: Our strategy and the impact we're creating in communities and local news.



Christina Shih

Associate Director

Talk to me about: Press Forward's strategy and our work developing our 34 local chapters across the country. I also have deep experience in news revenue models.



Melissa Milios Davis

Network Manager

Talk to me about: Connecting your foundation's priorities to opportunities in the field of journalism, knowledge sharing and strategizing with other funders.



Graham Ringo

Grantee Engagement and Support Manager

Talk to me about: How we're supporting our grantees so that they are sustainable long-term.



Caroline Merenda

Program and Operations Manager

Talk to me about: Press Forward Locals and the latest trends in the community foundation field.



Lindsey Linzer

VP of Community Investments, The Miami Foundation

Talk to me about: The Press Forward origin story and our big wins from the first year.



Sai Omkar Kandukuri

Data Scientist

Talk to me about: How data and research inform our strategy, and the data sets we are developing.



Kristina Kujawa

Grants Specialist

Talk to me about: How Press Forward approaches its open call and Catalyst Fund grantmaking.



Marika Lynch

Communications Lead

Talk to me about: Our approach to communicating with our network and the broader fields of philanthropy and journalism.

Press Forward is housed at The Miami Foundation. Pictured above are the teams of both Press Forward and the foundation at a recent retreat.

Management Committee

Thank you to our Management Committee, which oversees and advises on the strategic direction of Press Forward.



Jim Brady
VP/Journalism, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation



Silvia Rivera
Director, Local News, MacArthur Foundation



Vidya Krishnamurthy
Chief Communications Officer and Senior Adviser to the President, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation



Josh Stearns
Senior Director, Public Square, Democracy Fund



Jenny Montoya Tansey
Senior Program Officer, Just Democracy, Skyline Foundation

Funding Partners

Alaska Community Foundation
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
Annie E. Casey Foundation
Appalachia Funders Network
Arkansas Community Foundation
Arnold Ventures
Arthur Vining Davis Foundations
Atwood Foundation
Avis Family Foundation
Barr Foundation
Benter Foundation
Blue Grass Community Foundation
Blue Mountain Community Foundation
Carnegie Corporation of New York
Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies
Chicago Community Trust
Colorado Media Project
Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln
Community Foundation of Broward
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque
Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
Community Foundation of New Jersey
Community Foundation of North Florida
Community Foundation of South Puget Sound
Community Foundation of Southern Arizona
Community Foundation of Tampa Bay
Coral Gables Community Foundation
Coxe Family Fund
CREATE Foundation
Democracy Fund
Ford Foundation
Gates Family Foundation
Gill Foundation
Glen Nelson Center at American Public Media Group
Graham Household

Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation
Greater Green Bay Community Foundation
Greater Tacoma Community Foundation
Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation
Heising-Simons Foundation
Henry L. Hillman Foundation
Henry Luce Foundation
Inasmuch Foundation
Inland Empire Community Foundation
James B. McClatchy Foundation
Kaiser Family Foundation
Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust
Key Biscayne Community Foundation
Knight Foundation
Krishna Shah Foundation
Rachelle Lopp
Lorber Family Foundation
Lumina Foundation
MacArthur Foundation
Maine Community Foundation
McKnight Foundation
New Jersey Civic Information Consortium
New Mexico Local News Fund
North Carolina Local News Lab
Ocean Reef Community Foundation
Outrider Foundation
Rhode Island Foundation
Rose Community Foundation
Rita Allen Foundation
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
San Antonio Area Foundation
Scripps Howard Fund
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Skyline Foundation
Sawyers Family Fund

The Archewell Foundation
The Colorado Health Foundation
The Colorado Trust
The Heinz Endowments
The Joyce Foundation
The Lenfest Institute for Journalism
The Miami Foundation
The Pittsburgh Foundation
The Steinman Foundation
Thornburg Foundation
van Beuren Charitable Foundation
Walton Family Foundation
Whatcom Foundation
Wichita Foundation
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
Wyoming Community Foundation
Yakima Community Foundation
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation

What's Next for Press Forward

Infrastructure Open Call: Culminating a rigorous, two-step application and review process, we will announce the recipients of our second open call in June 2025.

Capacity Building for Grantees: Our Pooled Fund grantees are invited to strengthen their fundraising skills at the Lenfest News Philanthropy Summit in May. In addition, we will be connecting our grantees with the ideas, people and resources they need to be sustainable long-term.

Policy Investments: This winter, we will announce a series of strategic investments from the Pooled Fund to groups that advocate for local news policy at the state level.

Strategic Communications: We are contracting with a firm to test and develop messaging to encourage a wider swath of people to support local news.

Fundraising: A new fundraising working group will launch this spring to recruit more donors to local news.

Funder Convenings: Building on the success of our 2024 gatherings, we will convene all of our funders in the fall of 2025.



From left to right, Radio Indígena programmer Francisco Ulloa, journalist Miguel Hernandez, producer Bernardino Almazan, Zapotec weaver Eduardo Jimenez; and Radio Manager Jorge Rios in the station's studio. Image courtesy of Radio Indígena.