This year, the Fund for Investigative Journalism provided funding and other critical support for 120 new investigative projects in 44 states – more than at any time in our 54-year history. Stories published with our support sparked 34 changes to policies and practices, and other critical impact, this year.

---

2023 Impact Snapshot

Report exposes abuse by Utah therapist; leads to arrest

THE STORY: The Mormon church sent men to a therapist who allegedly sexually abused them

OUR HELP: A $5,500 grant for in-state travel to interview victims and to obtain and analyze data on the state’s licensing system

THE IMPACT: The therapist was arrested on several charges; Brigham Young University launched a review of referrals to him, and his business closed

2023 Impact Snapshot

Story on county home sales sparks audit and federal legislation

THE STORY: The City Attorney’s family buys homes from a county guardianship program and flips them for a profit

OUR HELP: A $10,000 grant to obtain records and a $2,500 follow-up grant; legal help from RCFP

THE IMPACT: The county froze sales and launched an audit; a U.S. Senate bill was introduced; families filed a lawsuit

---

We foster investigative journalism that has an impact – when and where it’s needed most
The journalists we’re supporting – and the impact of their work

We provide grants and other support directly to journalists to foster high-quality investigative reporting that has an impact.

New programs in 2023
We provided grants for investigations on any topic in any medium. We launched or expanded several programs:

• Seed grants for very early reporting
• Diversity Fellowships that embed reporters in state & local outlets
• Follow-up grants to extend the impact of initial reporting
• Emergency grants for stories on threats to democracy in the U.S.
• Stories in Chicago media, as the area’s journalism field struggles
• Grants for science stories, in honor of one of our early leaders

120 new grants to journalists or teams
62% also matched with free legal and editorial help
75% covered state and local stories
42% are journalists of color, or had a person of color in a lead role on the team
54% are women, or had a woman in a lead role on the team
68% are freelancers

2023 IMPACT SNAPSHOTs

2023 Impact Snapshot
Fellow exposes company using slave labor in China, sparks action from Congress and WalMart

THE STORY: A major manufacturer uses slave labor in China to make gloves
OUR SUPPORT: $30,000 to embed a full-time Diversity Fellow for six months to report the story
THE IMPACT: WalMart stopped selling the gloves and a U.S. Congressional Committee launched an investigation

2023 Impact Snapshot
Report shows EPA helped mine company attack scientists, triggers policy changes and new health research

THE STORY: Instead of regulating a potentially hazardous mine in Montana, the EPA helped the mine company attack scientists
OUR SUPPORT: A $10,000 grant to the nonprofit outlet that reported the story
THE IMPACT: The EPA changed how it reports hazards and hired new staff, the mine company funded research on its impact

2023 Impact Snapshot
Story documents plight of transgender prisoners in California, prompting fixes to new state law

THE STORY: Transgender prisoners in California face abuse from prison staff and other inmates, despite a state law intended to protect them
OUR SUPPORT: A $6,663 grant for freelancers’ time and expenses, and an editorial mentor
THE IMPACT: Within days of the story airing, the state senator who authored the bill to protect trans prisoners announced that he’s working to expand it

2023 Impact Snapshot
Investigation exposes universities using AI tool to monitor students’ political activity, leading 11 campuses to end the practice

THE STORY: An AI tool that was supposed to monitor social media to identify college students who might be suicidal was misused to track political activity
OUR SUPPORT: A $10,000 grant for two reporters
THE IMPACT: 11 of the 38 universities that used the tool have stopped using it, and the state of North Carolina launched an investigation

49 new stories or series have been published, from grants we made in the last 18 months (others are still in the field reporting)
34 of these stories have already led to impact
9 practice changes by governments or major corporations
8 official audits and/or investigations
5 policy changes
8 legislative actions
4 lawsuits
A growing network of supporters is helping us expand our work and impact at a critical time

The Fund for Investigative Journalism has nearly tripled the number of grants we provide to journalists in just the last four years. We’ve been able to do this because donations from individuals and foundations who support public-service journalism and democracy have nearly tripled. As more people stand up to support this work, we are able to foster more reporting that has an impact.

Major Supporters:
Arnold Ventures
FairWarning
Henry L. Kimelman Family Foundation
Inasmuch Foundation
Jonathan Logan Family Foundation
Lakeshore Foundation
Morton K. and Jane Blaustein Foundation
Nara Fund
NEO Philanthropy for the Gumshoe Group
Nicholas B. Ottaway Foundation
Park Foundation
Reva and David Logan Foundation
And hundreds of individuals who made donations ranging from $10 to $75,000 this year

Board of Directors:
President: Bill Marimow, former Philadelphia Inquirer
Vice-President: Anu Narayanswamy, Washington Post
Treasurer: Alan Berlow, freelance journalist and author
Daffodil Altan, PBS Frontline
Valeria Fernandez, palabra
Dianna Hunt, Indian Country Today
Lottie Joiner, Verite
Jennifer LaFleur, Center for Public Integrity
Amy Pyle, USA TODAY
Jim Steele, former Philadelphia Inquirer
Joe Stephens, Princeton University
Ellen Weiss, former Scripps

Grants to Journalists – 5 Year Growth

To learn more about our work or make a donation to support investigative reporting, please go to www.fij.org