

**About the Community News Fund**

The Wisconsin Newspaper Association Foundation (WNAF) is pleased to announce the availability of the **Community News Fund** to any interested state newspaper association.

The fund is an initiative that allows newspapers to quickly and easily begin fundraising and accepting tax-deductible donations.

The WNA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works to support newspapers and the communities they serve, launched the **Community News Fund** in May of 2020 to help ensure that newspapers have the ability to solicit financial support from their communities in order to continue fulfilling their critical mission of providing consistent, fact-based information to the public.

The program, is available to all newspapers upon approval of the WNA Foundation Board of Directors to solicit tax-deductible community donations to support coverage of public affairs and current events using individual campaign portals developed by the WNAF.

All participating news outlets are required per IRS requirements to submit quarterly reports on how funds are being used. All contributions will be managed and distributed by the WNA Foundation.

The WNA Foundation will retain a 7% administrative fee to be deducted from donations for the cost of managing the program.  The inclusion of the 7% administrative fee is standard and covers the administration of the fund.

**Community News Fund Donor Policy**

The **Community News Fund** is committed to transparency in every aspect of funding.

Accepting financial support does not mean the Wisconsin Newspaper Association Foundation or its grantees endorse donors or their products, services or opinions.

The **Community News Fund**, managed by the WNA Foundation, distributes grants to newspapers to help those organizations educate the public on substantive issues of public policy and report on public affairs and current events.

The news judgments of our grantees are made independently – not based on or influenced by donors or any revenue source. Supporters are not given the rights to assign, review or edit content.

The WNA Foundation avoids accepting charitable donations from anonymous sources, government entities, political parties, elected officials or candidates seeking public office. We will not accept donations from sources who, deemed by our board of directors, present a conflict of interest with our work or compromise our independence.