



University of Vermont  
Center for Community News

**IMPACT**

**REPORT**

**2025**

# MISSION

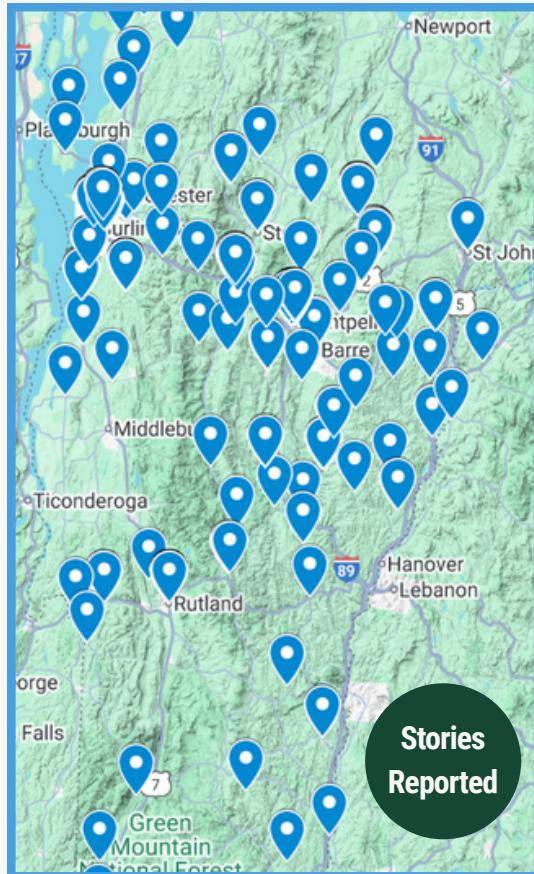
## IN VERMONT

Strengthen Vermont communities by providing trustworthy local reporting to news partners across the state as part of UVM's land grant promise to serve Vermonters.

## NATIONALLY

Grow and strengthen student-powered reporting at colleges across the country, helping to build a sustainable future for America's news and information ecosystem.

# 2025 BIG WINS IN VERMONT



## New: Arts & Life Reporting Initiative

CCN launched its first student reporting initiative dedicated exclusively to covering art, history, and culture in VT and across the country. The project provides new opportunities for student journalists to explore the under-covered stories of their communities and make them free to local outlets.

## New: Vermont Journalism Coalition

In partnership with the Vermont Community Foundation, CCN launched the Vermont Journalism Coalition this year, which will independently facilitate collaboration among local news outlets, marshal resources, and strengthen Vermont's information ecosystem.

# 2025 BIG WINS

## NATIONALLY

- ◆ Doubled the number of news academic partnerships in the CCN network since 2023.
- ◆ Hosted the first national conference of news academic leaders, with more than 140 faculty from 32+ states.
- ◆ Expanded the CCN Champions program to include one-on-one guidance and peer mentoring.
- ◆ Created dozens of new reporting assignments and free classroom materials for news academic faculty.
- ◆ Collaborated with partners to map 1100+ student news outlets and create the interactive [www.studentmediamap.com](http://www.studentmediamap.com)

Launched the **Spanish Language Reporting Initiative**

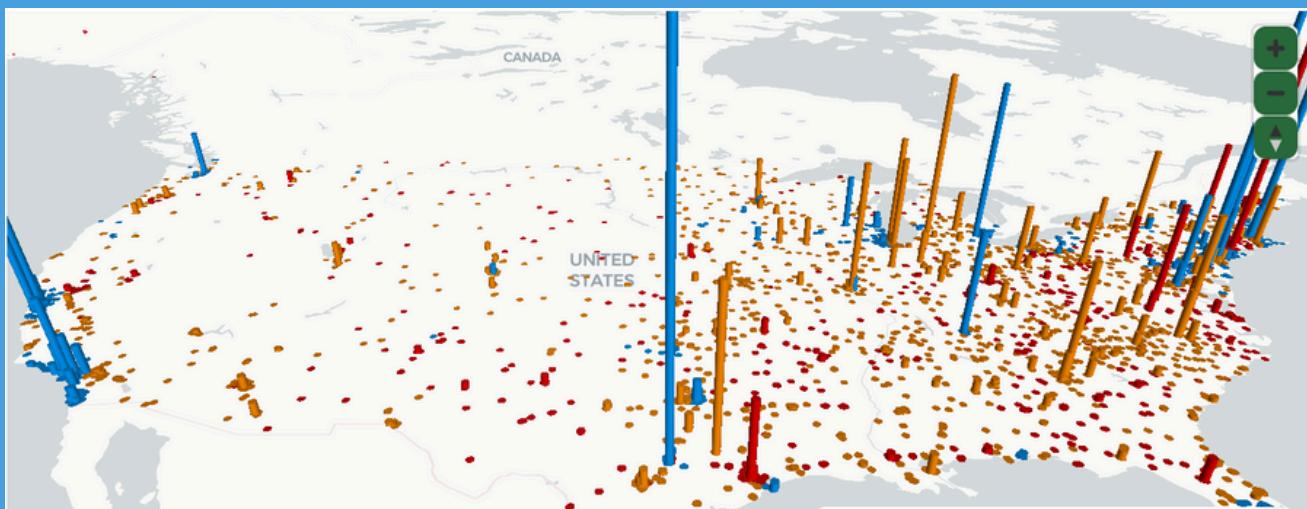
Launched the **National Arts & Life Reporting Initiative**

Grew the **SUNY Institute for Local News** to 18 campuses.

Launched the **California State University Collaboration**

# RESEARCH & DATA

In 2025, CCN conducted more original research and data visualization tools than ever, providing deeper insights on the state of student-powered news for the entire field.



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**News-Academic Faculty Profiles**  
Summary of Findings

August 2025

Contact: [Richard Watts, Center for Community News at UVM](#)

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**Bridging Campus and Community:**  
How Student Media are Filling Local News Gaps

October 2025

by Barbara Allen and Sora

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**2025 Statehouse Reporting Data**

April 2025

Researched and written by Sarah Gamard for the Center for Community News at UVM

Contact: [Richard Watts, Director, \[ccn@uvm.edu\]\(#\)](#)

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**The Surprising Breadth of Student Reporting in Public Media**

June 2025

Contact: [Scott Price, Center for Community News at UVM](#)

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**2025 Annual Impact Report:**  
News-Academic Reporting Programs in the U.S.

May 2025

Contact: [Richard Watts, Director, Center for Community News at UVM](#)

[Meg Little Reilly, Managing Director, Center for Community News at UVM](#)

# ABOUT US

## FUNDERS

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation,  
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur  
Foundation, Lumina Foundation, Lyman  
Orton and Janice Izzi, Henry Luce  
Foundation, Lintilhac Foundation, Andrew  
Heyward and Priscilla Panton, Vermont  
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III Fund, Jack & Dorothy Byrne Foundation,  
Hon. Robert A. Mello, Joyce Foundation,  
Arnold Ventures, Scripps-Howard  
Foundation, AARP, Gannett Foundation,  
UVM College of Arts & Sciences, and more.

\$8 MILLION+

Raised since 2019

## PARTNERS

Student Press Law  
Center  
Rebuild Local News  
Vermont Public  
VT Digger  
Vermont Community  
Foundation  
Lake Champlain  
Basin Program

CCN began as a small reporting internship in 2019. Today, CCN reports on communities across Vermont and supports a national network of 200+ schools and thousands of faculty.

# LOOKING AHEAD

Accelerating the growth of university-led reporting programs across the U.S., and strengthening our local news laboratory to serve more Vermonters.

In Vermont	Nationally
<p>Grow and strengthen the statewide newsroom at UVM, producing hundreds of community news stories about Vermonters and Vermont towns for news outlets across the state.</p> <p>Expand partnerships with faculty and departments across UVM and grow multidisciplinary opportunities.</p> <p>Help sustain a healthy information ecosystem in Vermont by facilitating collaboration, advocating for the local news sector, and cultivating public support.</p>	<p>Grow and strengthen the entire field of student news reporting by supporting faculty leaders and advocating for this emerging sector.</p> <p>Help to start and grow new student reporting programs through continued site visits, mentorship, free classroom resources, managed cohorts, and educational panels.</p> <p>Facilitate collaboration across schools and regions by managing issue-specific cohorts, hosting events, and forging new connections among peers.</p>
Produce more original academic research on the field of student news reporting across the U.S. and the local news landscape in Vermont.	
Supercharge existing partnership with Student Press Law Center, creating a one-stop-shop for student-powered news programs across the country, and consolidating news research and resources at UVM.	



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# JOIN US



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