

# Our Vision for the Future:

Fully realized, CCN will be a national resource for colleges and universities that provide student reporting to local news outlets. Building on the wisdom, relationships, and innovations of year one, CCN is the organization best equipped to meet the urgent needs of schools that are working to be part of the local news solution.

Here's how we plan to do it...

## **Kickstart More Academic-News Partnerships:**

There is still enormous untapped potential for local news partnerships in rural regions; at HBCUs; and with public media outlets. CCN can help colleges start those conversations and launch new programs to create a sustainable local news future for and by the communities they serve.



# **Build a Community of Peers:**

The dedicated faculty and staff running these programs shouldn't have to work in isolation. CCN is building a network of peers to facilitate ongoing conversations and support around what is working, when to coordinate, and how to share critical information. Connections include in-person events, online channels, and presence at all relevant journalism and academic events where local news is considered.

### **Provide Direct Resources:**

CCN has already created 68 case studies and 72 fact sheets on news-academic partnerships around the country, which are serving as templates for others who want to start or expand programs - and this is just the beginning. Our faculty resources pages is under development and, with additional resources, CCN can provide more direct guidance and blueprints to meet the demands of these ever-growing programs, ensuring that no one is reinventing the wheel and every program has the chance to succeed.



#### **Advocate For a Stronger System:**

It's not enough to support the individuals running news-academic partnerships around the country today. CCN will also advocate for systemic changes that will cultivate a thriving local news ecosystem for years to come. That can include direct advocacy for state and federal policies; working to make colleges friendlier environments for these programs; and the production of materials for anyone who wants to fight for a strong fourth estate.

### Year One Successes

130 news-academic partnerships documented in 41 states... 68 case studies and 72 fact sheets created about those programs... 138 interviews conducted with faculty, staff and students... 400+ registrants for 10 monthly brown bag discussions... 132 faculty and staff attendees at 11 local news training sessions... 2,861 subscribers to CCN monthly newsletter with 41% average open rate... 33 faculty champions and four HBCUs funded... built a collaborative cohort of 20 university-led statehouse reporting programs.