LOCAL IMPACT

A four-month journalism project focused on local reporting in parts of Indian Country that are being overlooked during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Launches in June 2020

OVERVIEW: Native News Online has received a grant from Facebook’s Journalism Project for a four-month journalism project about the impact of COVID-19 on tribes around the country. In particular, we are looking to provide coverage in regions of Indian Country that have been overlooked by the media. The coverage would include stories about how tribes and their citizens are handling important issues such as healthcare, food distribution, elder care, education, housing, tribal governance and other issues. We would also like to write stories about tribal culture, arts and entertainment.

To conduct this project, Native News Online will be hiring six freelance writers to cover different geographic regions of Indian Country. Each writer will be paid a stipend of $2,500 per month for a four-month period to report and write stories developed in conjunction with our editor and managing editor. Stories would appear on our website, in our daily enewsletter and on our social media channels.

We are seeking writers with at least three years of experience in journalism or freelance writing for publications. You must be detail-oriented, deadline-driven and able to work with editors to develop story angles. All writers selected must agree to:

- Work with editor/managing editor on story assignments, angles, sourcing
- Participate in brief editorial huddles via video conference 2-3 times per week
- Report and write 2-3 published stories per week (500-800 words), as assigned
- Ongoing research/data collection on COVID-19 statistics and impact for tribes in your region
- Report and write one published feature story per month (1,800 - 2,500 words), as assigned
- Work with editors on development of photography or art for stories
- Follow all policies and procedures for safety and journalism standards
Regional Coverage Areas

Native News Online will enhance its local coverage of Indian Country by supplementing staff resources with six (6) project reporters for the following regions (reservations, rural and urban) in Indian Country:


**Midwest** – Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois

**Great Plains/Rocky Mountains** - North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming

**Pacific Northwest** – Includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho

**Alaska** - State of Alaska

**Pacific** – State of California

**Southwest/Western** - New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Nevada

**Southwest Plains** – Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas

**To Apply**

If you would like to apply for one of these writing positions, please send an email expressing your interest with writing samples to bedwards@indiancountrymedia.com. Please indicate the region that you would like to cover and be sure to include any qualifications, including past work with tribes, tribal organizations or the media. Preference will be given to qualified American Indian or Alaska Native candidates. Deadline for applications is June 26, 2020.