

Friends of Wyoming Public Media—

Updated November, 2025

We're making it! But we have a challenging journey ahead of us.

On July 17, 2025, Congress voted to rescind forward funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, impacting local stations, NPR, and PBS. In Wyoming, this decision affected Wyoming Public Media and Wyoming PBS.

Residents of Wyoming were among millions of Americans who wrote, called, or emailed their Senators and Representative to advocate for the importance of public broadcasting in their communities. Unfortunately, during the voting process in both the House and Senate, we fell short by 2 to 3 votes. The votes were predominantly along party lines.

On August 1, we faced another setback when the Corporation for Public Broadcasting announced it would be shutting down its operations due to funding cuts. This was particularly challenging because it meant that federal funding for station operations was also eliminated.

After a brief period of grief, we are now focused and ready to face the future without CPB funding. WPM is committed to serving Wyoming, regardless of the political climate.

Your support has been incredible. You wrote letters, made phone calls, sent emails, and engaged with our legislators like never before. We are truly grateful for your efforts. Unfortunately, our legislators have taken a different stance. However, we believe that political attitudes can change over time, and we continue to remind them of the vital role public broadcasting plays in Wyoming.

We are committed to keeping Wyoming Public Media (WPM) operating in Wyoming! Early planning and careful budgeting have been key to our efforts. We shared our situation with our listeners and launched fundraising initiatives immediately. We are still fundraising, as we need to continue doing so to cover the annual \$400,000 shortfall.

Our main goal is to preserve the programming that makes WPM special for our listeners.

Thanks to hundreds of public radio fans who renewed or increased their donations, and to those who made substantial contributions that significantly helped our cause. We also want to thank new members who joined for the first time.

This is a group we are targeting heavily because we realize that for WPM to survive in Wyoming—a state with a population of just over 580,000—we need to expand our donor base and encourage hesitant listeners to become contributors.

Here's how you can help bridge the gap in CPB funding:

1. Donate if you haven't already.
2. Encourage others to support public broadcasting if they haven't yet.
3. Think outside the box. There are many ways to support public radio through planned gifts, designated gifts, tax-wise gifts, vehicle donations, and other giving opportunities.

This experience has highlighted an important truth: public broadcasting needs many more individual supporters at all levels of giving. We need to engage listeners who are potential donors but haven't yet been persuaded to support public radio.

Let's all advocate for the value of public broadcasting. Threats to the free press and the First Amendment alone encourage us to fight for a media free of external influences.

Join the statewide effort to help WPM not just survive, but thrive, in Wyoming!

You can follow updated developments on this issue at:

[General Manager Blog](#)

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