Describe your overall goals and approach to address identified community issues, needs and interests through your station’s vital local services, such as multiplatform long and short-form content, digital and in-person engagement, education services, community information, partnership support, and other activities, and audiences you reach or new audiences you engaged.

At NEPR, our mission is to provide our community with diverse, high-quality programming that informs, educates, and entertains. We accomplish this with a passionate staff in our newsroom, and with extensive national and international coverage from a wide range of programming provided by NPR, American Public Media (APM), Public Radio International (PRI), and other public media sources. It is also vital to our mission to connect our audience to the wealth of art and culture in western New England. We do this by providing locally produced classical, jazz, and world music programs, and in-depth coverage of local cultural resources by our news department. In addition to the on-air content we provide, NEPR offers a variety of non-broadcast resources, from an impressive line-up of podcasts produced in house and community outreach initiatives, to our Media Lab program for underserved high school students and a robust college internship program. We strive to meet the needs of our community, reflecting its diverse interests in our programming, creating connections and exploring the world – across continents with NPR reporters stationed in far flung corners, and right here in western New England where our reporters cover state and local politics, our eclectic arts and culture scene, exciting academic pursuits at our many local universities and colleges, and so much more.

In October 2014, NEPR moved into new headquarters on Main Street in downtown Springfield. We wanted to play a role in the city’s economic revitalization effort. We now occupy a very public space – inviting a new level of community engagement. The 15,350 square foot, state-of-the-art facility allows the staff of NEPR to do their best work; to continue to produce the caliber of radio that our listeners expect, to expand to new platforms like podcasting. In addition to hosting our own events at the station, we offer monthly tours of our headquarters to interested listeners, and host a gallery space as part of our local cultural district’s Art Stop art walk series of events. Other organizations and non-profits are also able to use our space for meetings.

In August 2016, NEPR in partnership with Berkshire Community College, opened a news bureau in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and hired a full-time reporter to cover Berkshire County. As part of the partnership, NEPR also offers three internship positions each year to Berkshire Community College students. This represents a significant expansion of NEPR’s news department and a major commitment to expand the station’s coverage of Berkshire County. In October 2016, NEPR completed renovations at our UMass Amherst location and officially opened the newly re-named Five College Studios on the campus. The Five College Studios
now houses a reporter, traffic coordinator/production assistant, space for interns and instruction of five college students.

The NEPR news department focuses on stories relevant to the station’s diverse listening area, a region that includes major urban centers, struggling post-industrial towns, a large rural area and a vibrant academic community. The local news service produces newscasts, long-form features, interviews, commentaries and three news-focused podcasts. In FY ‘18, commentators included writer and intellectual property lawyer, Lauren Ostberg; children’s book author Grace Lin; president and CEO of the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, Nick Donohue and a ninth-grader, Juliet Corwin, who is profoundly deaf.

The station regularly broadcasts stories about state government including a weekly segment with a reporter from the State House News Service, called Beacon Hill in 5. The Short List features a roundtable discussion with reporters and editors from the region’s publications examining the top regional stories of the past week. In FY ‘17, NEPR added a digital editor to its newsroom, and expanded its podcast offerings, making a wide variety of content available to new audiences, including a podcast based on our Valley Voices Story Slam Series; and a podcast created by the high school students participating in NEPR’s Media Lab program.

NEPR has long been a champion of classical, jazz, and world music. The station features a wide range of music throughout the week, including opera, classical, jazz, world, and Latin music. At a time when many public radio stations across the country are switching to an all-news format, NEPR remains committed to being western New England's source for high quality music programming. In addition to producing over 3,000 hours of local music programming each year, the station is actively engaged in promoting the region's vibrant music scene including broadcasting material by the Springfield Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Symphony Orchestra and from both the Marlboro and Yellow Barn Music Festivals. And for decades we have broadcast live concerts from Tanglewood, the summer home of the BSO. Our music hosts are out in the community throughout the year, hosting events like the Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival, pre-concert talks with the Hartford and Springfield Symphony Orchestras, at the UMass Fine Arts Center, and various venues throughout our listening area.

NEPR also manages the NEPR News Network, a seven-station network heard throughout western New England and in portions of New York State which offers 27/4 news and talk content to complement NEPR’s mix of music and news. In FY’17, we added WAIQ 91.9FM in Springfield, Massachusetts to the growing network. NEPR’s local news is heard on the NEPR News Network in addition to programs from NPR, PRI, APM and the BBC. In FY ‘16, NEPR became a partner in the CPB-funded New England News Collaborative and added the Collaborative’s new regional program, Next, to its line-up on the NEPR News Network and its podcast offerings.

Recently NEPR expanded its on-demand offerings on NEPR.net, on the station’s app and through the NPR One app. Listeners can hear past episodes of our classical music programming, Tertulia, Jazz Safari and Jazz a la Mode for a week following their original
broadcast. These on-demand offerings allow listeners to access our music programming whenever they like, not only during broadcast hours. Our podcast, *JazzBeat*, and our jazz blog have received praise from many in the jazz world. Our Spanish language program *Tertulia* features interviews with local artists, musicians, politicians and others and those interviews are archived at nepr.net as well. Our classical blog serves a growing number of classical enthusiasts, and this year, we expanded our classical music content with the launch of *Presto!* a classical music podcast hosted by one of the station’s classical music hosts.

In FY’17 NEPR completely revamped its online presence, moving its website to NPR’s Core Publisher platform. The move has enabled the station to offer more content to our online audience, and to put our content on NPR One, NPR’s news app. The number of NEPR listeners engaging with our content via NPR One, and via smart speaker is growing every day and we look forward to additional collaboration with NPR in the digital realm.

NEPR’s online archive contains more than 2,000 tapes of locally produced and performed music, primarily classical, as well as 1,500 tapes that document the cultural and political life of western Massachusetts from the 1960s through the 1980s. These tapes feature major poets and writers (E.E. Cummings, Robert Frost, Joseph Heller, Hugh MacDiarmid, James Merrill, Richard Wilbur), politicians (Hubert H. Humphrey, Ted Kennedy, Sargent Shriver, George Wallace), activists (Saul Alinsky, Noam Chomsky, Angela Davis, Gloria Steinem), and scholars (Henry Steele Commager, Severo Ochoa, Linus Pauling). With the help of a grant from the CPB American Archives Project and the work of archivists and students at the W.E.B. Du Bois Library at UMass Amherst, the tapes in the archive were inventoried and entered in a database in 2012. One hundred hours of recordings, representing a cross section of the collection were selected for digitization. These tapes are currently being added to our website.

NEPR hosts an annual celebration of our cultural community with its *Arts & Humanities Awards*. The community is invited to nominate their choice for the awards each year, and recipients are chosen by the New England Public Radio Foundation, Inc. Board and celebrated by the community at a special gala event in May. In FY ’18 we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the award with an outsized celebration to honor the 2018 recipients, poet and activist Magdalena Gomez, The Literacy Project and Carolyn Kuan, Music Director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. The NEPR Foundation Board also established a “lifetime achievement” award which went to David Tebaldi, the former Executive Director of MassHumanities.

Now in its third year, NEPR’s Media Lab is an after school program for young people, ages 14 to 18. Through basic journalism and audio production, participants learn to tell stories with sound. The curriculum includes learning how to interview, write and produce commentaries and features for radio and podcast. Fundamentally, it’s about providing opportunities to young people and encouraging their expression and exploration of issues that are important to them.

Media Lab has established several partnerships in the community including The Care Center in Holyoke, Massachusetts, which works with teen mothers and their families as they continue their education; the University of Massachusetts Amherst and the Springfield High School of
Commerce’s Community Journalism Project, Gardening the Community, WGBY-Public Television, Baystate Health and UMass Amherst’s Upward Bound Summer Institute.

Media Lab students’ work is featured on the Media Lab Podcast which can be found on Apple Podcasts and at nepr.net/medialab. The podcast offers an opportunity for listeners to engage with the students as they journey through a variety of commentaries, features and self-reflection.

In FY’17, NEPR embarked on a strategic planning effort to take stock of where we are as an organization and to look to the future. The station’s 2014 move to new, state-of-the-art headquarters in downtown Springfield, and the completion of a five year, $8.6 million 50th Anniversary Capital Campaign that helped to get us here, have been incredible accomplishments for NEPR. Now that we’re established in our new home, we are ready to turn our attention to what’s next. Recognizing the rapidly changing media environment, evolving audience behavior, and increased competition, our strategic framework outlines three essential goals for New England Public Radio over the next three years:

1. **Strengthen localism by significantly expanding capacity to produce high-quality news/talk programming.** Now more than ever, the role of public media in our region and around the country is critical. Compelling, in-depth journalism is at the heart of NEPR’s mission and will be at the core of what’s next for the station. We endeavor to build on the trust we’ve established with our community over the last 55 years by spending the next several years expanding our newsroom, becoming a multi-platform service and diving deeper into the stories that impact our community.

2. **Leverage our assets to expand our service through all platforms — radio, digital, video, and engagement.** Across the spectrum, quality journalism no longer is constrained to a single platform. NEPR will broaden its reach by being available when and where audiences want it by investing in multiple channels, including new broadcast frequencies, our own website, podcasts, apps and social media.

3. **Engage with the communities of our region.** NEPR endeavors to deepen our connection to the diverse communities of our region, most importantly those that are underrepresented in our listenership (notably people of color and younger people) by sharing new voices, developing new sources and inspiring new conversations. By bringing people together in new ways, we will grow our role as a convener of thought, news, culture and commentary, to serve as an authentic voice for our region.

Planning for the station’s expanded news focus, new cultural programming and community engagement is underway.

Describe key initiatives and the variety of partners with whom you collaborated, including other public media outlets, community nonprofits, government agencies, educational institutions, the business community, teachers and parents, etc. This will
illustrate the many ways you’re connected across the community and engaged with other important organizations in the area.

The NEPR news department is a member of the New England News Network Exchange, where material from public radio stations in the six New England states is shared through Public Radio Exchange (PRX). This partnership allows NEPR to broadcast more news relevant to our audience, and to share our content with other stations in the region. NEPR also shares stories with WBUR in Boston, WNPR in Hartford, and WSHU in Fairfield, Connecticut. Partnerships launched in 2013 with local newspapers, The Springfield Republican and The Daily Hampshire Gazette, have allowed NEPR access to the papers’ photo archives and encouraged their reporters to talk about their stories on the air. These partnerships allow the papers to share NEPR’s audio content on their websites, connecting our reporting to a new audience.

As mentioned elsewhere, NEPR also joined the CPB-funded New England News Collaborative, partnering with eight other public media stations in the region to produce multimedia coverage focusing on the region’s energy usage, climate, transportation infrastructure, and its people and immigration issues. This robust partnership produces dynamic reporting projects for on-air broadcast, digital and web presentations, and a series of public Town Hall-style meetings centered on issues facing New England and its residents. We also air Next, the program which features work from the collaborative on the NEPR News Network; and we host the podcast on our website. In FY’18, NEPR and the NENC hosted at public town hall event on a hot topic issue for our community – the legalization of casino gambling in our state, and the opening of the region’s first casino. The event included a round table discussion with local reporters hosted by John Dankosky, the executive director of the New England News Collaborative.

In FY’18 NEPR continued its partnerships with Amherst College and American International College which have had a major impact on the station’s ability to serve our region with news and talk programming. In 2015, NEPR began a partnership with Amherst College that allows NEPR to program the college’s WAMH with its NEPR News Network programming from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, providing Hampshire County with access to NPR programs like On Point, The Takeaway, Here & Now and much more on the FM dial. In 2016, WAIC 91.9 FM joined The NEPR News Network, providing Hampden County with a 24-hour public radio news service on the FM dial, thanks to a partnership between NEPR and American International College (AIC) which owns the frequency. The NEPR News Network can now be heard on seven stations throughout the region including 91.9 FM in Hampden County, 89.3 FM in Hampshire County, 91.7 FM in Franklin County, 89.5 FM and 98.9 FM in Berkshire County, 88.5 FM HD-3 in Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden Counties, and on AM 640 across western New England and into New York State. Listeners can also stream the station at nepr.net and through NEPR’s app.

NEPR brought our listeners coverage of major international, national and regional stories. Our newsroom closely tracked the state’s political scene, with major coverage of the issues facing
In addition, we continued our coverage of the opioid abuse epidemic in New England, airing stories that explored both the people affected by the crisis and the official response to it. We brought listeners extensive coverage of the casino which opened in Springfield this year, including the economic and social implications. Nearly every week, we aired conversations with a State House reporter about legislation under consideration on Beacon Hill in a segment by our Morning Edition host called Beacon Hill in 5. The Short List, our weekly round-table segment, in which a panel of journalists discusses the major regional news stories of the week, helped listeners explore key issues. Our newsroom won top honors at the PRNDI awards in the following categories:

Best Commentary for “A Son Reckons With His Father’s Hunger To Escape Poverty,” written by Gary Campbell, a graduate of New England Public Radio’s Media Lab program;
Best Interview for “Embedded In Harvard Forest For One Year, To Study One Tree,” reported by Carrie Healy
Best Soft Feature for “Millennial Magnum PIs: Recent College Grads Become Private Investigators,” Reported by Karen Brown

In addition, the station supports the work of more than 20 regional institutions through media partnerships. In 2018 NEPR was a media sponsor for the following organizations: 1794 Meetinghouse, Amherst Ballet, Amherst Cinema, Amherst College / Film Series, Amherst College Music Department, Amherst Leisure Services, Arcadia Players, Aston Magna Music Festival, Berkshire Bach Society, Celtic Heels School of Irish Dance, Chester Theatre Company, Close Encounters With Music, Community Music School of Springfield, Double Edge Theatre, Easthampton City Arts, Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, Mass MoCA, Mohawk Trail Concerts, Mount Holyoke Music Department Northampton Arts Council, Panopera, Pioneer Valley Ballet, Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra, Springfield Jazz & Roots Festival, Springfield Public Forum, UMass Department of Music and Dance, UMass Fine Arts Center, Valley Classical Concerts, Valley Light Opera Vermont Jazz Center, and Yellow Barn.

NEPR partners with several organizations each year on special events that seek to engage the community. We continued our partnership with the Berkshire Bach Society to bring their annual new year’s celebration, Bach at New Year’s, to a packed house at Northampton’s Academy of Music Theater, as well as Valley Voices, our live Story Slam event produced in partnership with the Academy of Music Theatre. Four sold-out slams were held over the course of the year at various locations in our region. The five-minute stories were recorded live and posted on our website and featured in a new Valley Voices Podcast. The partnership launched its fifth season in February 2019.

This year, NEPR hosted veteran journalist Ray Suarez for a conversation with Ilan Stavans, host of NEPR’s In Contrast Podcast at the UMass Springfield Campus across the street from our headquarters. The two spoke about the role of the media in today’s society and the exchange inspired a special seven-part special of the podcast featuring an extended conversation on the topic “What’s Wrong with American Media?” You can listen to this and
other episodes of the podcast at NEPR’s podcast hub nepr.net/podcasthub or wherever you listen to podcasts.

As mentioned elsewhere in this report, NEPR’s Media Lab program has enabled the station to expand its reach in the underserved high schools in our community. Media Lab has also engaged in partnerships with organizations as diverse as a program for teenage parents in Holyoke, Mass. to a lively community garden program in Springfield, in addition to more traditional partnerships within the various high schools Media Lab serves. The director of Media Lab, Carlos McBride, is actively engaged with the community and is regularly invited to speak at local high schools and colleges on a broad range of topics from media literacy, to hip hop culture.

What impact did your key initiatives and partnerships have in your community? Describe any known measurable impact, such as increased awareness, learning or understanding about particular issues. Describe indicators of success, such as connecting people to needed resources or strengthening conversational ties across diverse neighborhoods. Did a partner see an increase in requests for related resources? Please include direct feedback from a partner(s) or from a person(s) served.

Each week over 186,500 listeners tune to NEPR as a trusted source for local, national and international news, as an oasis of beautiful music during the day, for the latest author or artist interview, or to learn more about what’s happening in their community.

In FY 18, 529,315 unique visitors viewed nepr.net 1,411,469 times. Visitors came to stream our three services, listen to archived programs, follow up on a story they heard on the air, or get information about an upcoming event. We are particularly proud of our improved website statistics. Receiving the most “hits” these days is, not surprisingly, our “listen now” page, which gives listeners access to our live streams, to blogs written by our music hosts like Tom Reney, who is garnering national acclaim for his Jazz blog; and to our local news stories. Our social media presence continues to grow, and our newly hired digital news editor is making an impact on our website and on social, expanding audio stories for web. To date, NEPR has 4,766 Facebook fans, 5,270 Twitter followers and over 1,500 NEPR app users - up substantially from the previous year.

Our many event partnerships and media sponsorships allow NEPR to have an impact on the cultural community. Happily, these partnerships are mutually beneficial, and our partners are thrilled to have the backing of their local public radio station in their endeavors. We are able to offer underwriting and off-air promotion that has increased awareness about events and increased ticket sales for our partners.

Our internship program has graduated a number of individuals who have gone on to successful careers in public broadcasting, including Audie Cornish, now co-host of All Things Considered, Aaron Schachter, assignment editor and occasional fill-in host at The World, and Tina Antolini, who now works as a senior producer for Pop Up Magazine. Over the years our paid internship program has continued to grow. Thirty-eight students participated in the
program in 2018. Our internships offer experience for students interested in journalism, working alongside NEPR's news team; in production, recording and producing on-air testimonials and writing fund drive scripts; in non-profit and public media marketing, and in content creation, production, audio recording and more.

An Intern’s Reflection – Summer Kaeppel, UMass Amherst
NEPR Marketing Internship 2018

My name is Summer Kaeppel. I am a Communication and Political Science student at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. I served as a marketing intern at New England Public Radio (NEPR) from February 2018 through August 2018. My duties included creating the newsletter that got sent out to our thousands of subscribers throughout the region, updating our social media regularly, and helping out with our various community events. I was also tasked with helping out with NEPR’s Valley Voices Story Slam events and I revamped the podcast that went along with the event. Helping with the story slam’s and creating the podcast was my favorite and most rewarding part of my internship with NEPR.

Vanessa Cerillo served as my primary superior at NEPR, along with Burns Maxey. They were great bosses who took time to listen to my opinions and suggestions, which is something I feel is essential to a good experience as an intern. They were very helpful in showing me the ropes when I first got there and were always welcoming to my questions. The Valley Voices Podcast was something that had existed prior to my arrival as an intern, but Vanessa listened to my ideas to revive it and that became a major project for me throughout the months of my internship. I interviewed each winner from our story slam’s and then proceeded to produce and edit our conversations into a cohesive podcast. I got to meet and speak with so many interesting people from New England; that was a priceless experience. This opportunity to work on a podcast let me leave my internship with something unique to be extremely proud of.

I was a sophomore in college when I began my internship at NEPR and I am so thankful that it served as my first internship experience. It was amazing to intern for an organization and radio station that is so heavily involved in the community and region. I have many peers who felt they spent their summer internships sitting at a desk and were rarely ever tasked with responsibility. This was certainly not the case at NEPR. I was always working during the hours I spent there. I always had something to do and I was never given “busy work.” Everything that I was tasked with had a clear purpose and I felt important there as an intern.

Media Lab Participant Receives National PRNDI Award for His Commentary
In June of 2018, Media Lab student Gary Campbell received a first place PRNDI Award from Public Radio News Directors Inc., an independent organization of public radio news directors, for a commentary he produced while he was a student in NEPR's after-school program. The piece, “A Son Reckons With His Father's Hunger To Escape Poverty,” is about his father, who no longer lives with him.
"Gary is a wonderful young man who deserves to be recognized for his hard work," said Carlos McBride, NEPR Media Lab director. "I know it wasn't easy for him to take on some of the issues he experienced with his family. The vulnerability he allowed himself to embrace while working on his commentary is very present in the final piece. It underscores the importance of young people having a platform to tell their own story as an outlet to consider a way in which to heal and negotiate the adverse situations they are challenged with daily."

**A Son Reckons With His Father's Hunger To Escape Poverty**

*By Gary Campbell*

My name is Gary, first born of Sophia, and Gary senior. As a young boy, I had more stuff than the average kid. So did my brothers, Tyriek and Ke'naz. I never wondered why we got all these things. I just figured they were cool! My home was comfortable, clean, like the smell of OxiClean and Fabuloso. But at times there was also a different aroma. That other smell I’d been smelling all my life was weed. And the person smoking it was my dad.

My father, who was born in Saint Ann, Jamaica, was a weed dealer. He was also a block-party DJ. He’d play stuff he loved: hip-hop from Nas, Jay Z and Biggie, then reggae by Buju Banton, Garnett Silk and Bob Marley.

When I was around seven, everything changed. My father began talking to himself, seeing things that weren’t there. It turned out he’d developed schizophrenia. My mom says it was activated by a hard drug given to him by one of my family members. Sometimes, even though you think they are, family isn’t family.

After that, Dad moved to Chicago to live with my grandmother. Nobody told me why at the time. Or why we suddenly didn’t have Columbia coats, Timberlands and Polos to wear.

Life became difficult. Catastrophic is probably more like it. I didn’t know what welfare was until welfare hit us. My mom had four more kids with two other fathers. Sometimes they were not around either. I had to grow up — fast. I couldn’t afford to be reckless like other kids. I was too worried about how my family was going to make it.

My dream has always been to stay in school and write music. But in eighth grade I was invited to join a gang. The plan was to rob a Chinese-food delivery person. The money would help my mom. But I couldn’t stoop that low.

I wanted to be true to myself and live according to the law. And I have.

Sometimes I get to see dad in the summer. But even when I can’t, I talk to him on the phone and tell him I love him. I can’t see his face, but I know he’s smiling as he says, "I love you too, son."

There are times I look in the mirror and see in me my father's eyes and his hunger to escape poverty. It's frightening. But I take that hunger and I flip it to fuel my dreams.

Please describe any efforts (e.g. programming, production, engagement activities) you have made to investigate and/or meet the needs of minority and other diverse audiences (including, but not limited to, new immigrants, people for whom English is a second language and illiterate adults) during Fiscal Year 2017, and any plans you have made to
meet the needs of these audiences during Fiscal Year 2018. If you regularly broadcast in a language other than English, please note the language broadcast.

In July of 2018, NEPR launched a podcast called In Contrast with Ilan Stavans, which explores wide-ranging topics from art to politics through interviews with the people experiencing and defining the issues of the modern world. Recent guests included such diverse figures as American poet Wendy Barker, children’s book author Norton Juster, Washington Post journalist Wesley Lowery, political commentator for The Washington Post, NBC News and MSNBC, George Will, and author Min Jin Lee. The podcast’s host, Ilan Stavans, is the Lewis-Sebring Professor in Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College. He is an internationally known, award-winning cultural critic, linguist, translator, public speaker, editor, short-story writer, and TV host, whose New York Times best-selling work focuses on language, identity, politics, and history. NEPR is currently working with Stavans to create a radio program in addition to the podcast.

The Short List, NEPR’s week in review, also aims to serve diverse audiences by connecting listeners to reporters and editors of local news sources, El Sol Latino and African American Point of View. Listeners can hear The Short List every Friday afternoon on All Things Considered and it is available as a weekly podcast.

For four decades, NEPR has produced Tertulia, a program broadcast in both Spanish and English that features Latin and world music, and addresses important issues to the region’s Latino communities. Tertulia’s host, Raquel Obregon, has incorporated more interviews of late to better serve Latino audiences. Latino USA, Jazz a la Mode (aired Monday through Friday), and Jazz Safari (aired Saturday) serve audiences of diverse composition throughout our signal area. In the summer of 2013, we added The Moth Radio Hour and The Ted Radio Hour, and in 2014 The Takeaway to our schedule in an effort to provide programming to more diverse audiences. On the digital side, local music programs including our daily classical music shows, Tertulia, Jazz a la Mode and Jazz Safari are now available on demand, a significant development allowing listeners to hear programs again or for the first time.

NEPR’s Media Lab, which is mentioned elsewhere in this report directly engages high school students from underserved populations in Springfield and Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Also mentioned elsewhere in this report, NEPR is actively engaged in a strategic planning process that will enable the station to better serve our current audience, and reach new audiences in our community. The three major goals of our strategic framework include the expansion of our newsroom which will enable NEPR to dive deeper into the stories that impact our community; to expand our service on all platforms with a focus on digital (thus reaching new audiences where they are, online, via podcast, etc. in addition to traditional radio); and to build on our commitment to community engagement - deepening our connection to the diverse communities of our region, most importantly those that are underrepresented in our listenership (notably people of color and younger people) by sharing new voices, developing new sources and inspiring new conversations.
Please assess the impact that your CPB funding had on your ability to serve your community. What were you able to do with your grant that you wouldn’t be able to do if you didn’t receive it?

NEPR’s CPB funding has a direct impact on what we are able to accomplish in local programming in any given year. There is no question that a cut in this funding would have a dramatic effect on our listeners. Currently, NEPR uses its CPB grant to pay for NPR programs like Morning Edition and All Things Considered. If funding were cut, we’d be forced to pay for our most listened to programs with other funds at the expense of local programming and community outreach, two crucial tenets of our mission. We would of course make every effort to make up the difference through our own fundraising, but we rely on that grant annually as an important piece of our budget.