

Dear Leadership Circle Donors—

Thank you for your continuing support! Donor generosity fuels Wyoming Public Media's long-term goals to cover the state with substantive, locally targeted content. In July/August, two new initiatives launched that will help move us to our goal.

The Northeast Wyoming Reporter position has been posted nationally. It will provide stronger coverage for communities in Wyoming and bring WPM closer to northeast Wyoming issues. This position will do for northeast Wyoming what our Buffalo Bill Center of the West joint reporter has done for northwest Wyoming. You can review a portion of Kamila Kudelska's work on the [Kamila Kudelska story page](#).

Cultural affairs reporting will receive a boost, as we turn a part-time position into full time. This position will build awareness for community arts, humanities, and social fabric throughout Wyoming.

Both positions received University of Wyoming approval to open and are fully supported by a number of donor gifts and grants specifically designated for these initiatives.

Finding outside funding for positions has been the norm at WPM in the last 7 years, as other sources generated flat appropriations and experienced fiscal instability. Our donors became the champions, bringing passion, loyalty, and the desire to promote WPM to the forefront of public radio and digital media networks. I hope to fully report on these exciting developments as our searches continue.

In other events, our CPB funding is temporarily secure. The House Appropriations Committee approved the fiscal year 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Bill which provides level funding for public broadcasting, including:

\$445 million for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's (CPB) two-year advance funding.

\$20 million for interconnection and infrastructure.

In the near future, the Senate is expected to debate an appropriations measure that packages public broadcasting funding with Defense and Labor-HHS-Education. We are monitoring the situation carefully.

For Wyoming Public Media this means that our federal appropriation should remain static. CPB moneys make up 10% of our operating budget. The accompanying in-kind support equals about \$300,000 annually and covers the large legal fees for broadcast rights, digital operations, and other initiatives that require national negotiations. You can help preserve public broadcasting's federal funding by sharing your public radio experiences with our senators and representative. They all value the role of public radio and television in Wyoming, but it never hurts to refresh their awareness!

You can find more WPM information in the newsletter, including details on our new Powell/Cody signal. Enjoy, and feel proud for making it all possible!

Warmly--

Christina Kuzmych
GM, Wyoming Public Media

"I love Wyoming Public Radio because it is the best source for in-depth objective news coverage, entertaining music and variety shows and oral documentaries. It is also educational with shows such as TED Talks and Science Friday. It is the only radio station I need!" - Dale Strickland