



**Institute for
Nonprofit News**

Position: Midwest collaborations leader

The Institute for Nonprofit News (INN), a network of nearly 200 nonprofit news organizations, has an immediate opening for a part-time collaborations manager based in Chicago, for the Amplify Midwest News project.

Local nonprofit news organizations across the Midwest are covering several common issues and story lines. The Amplify collaborations manager will provide a framework and help newsrooms producing related coverage identify their common needs and a range of collaboration options, from shared reporting resources to potential joint projects. Our goals are to:

- Strengthen and expand the reach of coverage by individual outlets of common issues across the Midwest, including public health, rural living, equitable access to education, health care and a safe environment.
- Help local news outlets share regional and national context for issues so that communities know of and can learn from others in similar situations
- Establish a fabric of regional sharing habits to strengthen the ecosystem of nonprofit news across the Midwest
- Expand the impact of their reporting so that resources, knowledge and potential solutions are shared among noncompeting reporters coverage the same subject, thereby strengthening the journalism produced by each newsroom

The ideal candidate for this position is an experienced editor who has worked with both local and national/topic publications, who has managed collaborations across multiple newsrooms or news outlets. You're someone who can lead grassroots efforts, tease common benefit out of a range of participant needs and help guide participants toward identifying common threads and joint efforts that increase the impact of all of their journalism. Specific responsibilities will include:

- Working with some two dozen independent news outlets in Chicago and across the Midwest to support their common coverage needs and plans in a short list of common coverage areas or story themes. This could include shared resources, software, collaboration frameworks, convenings, up through support for specific story and project collaborations.
- Work will include budgeting, recruiting and supporting project leaders and participants, sourcing common resources and working closely with editorial project leads and editors
- The collaborations leader will also work with individual news outlets to understand their individual goals and track progress of the collaboration against their individual objectives as well as the overarching goals of increasing the reach and impact of coverage.
- Develop a set of recommendations for fostering meaningful collaborations or shared coverage resources across a region or in a city and satellite region

This is a part-time, temporary position of six months, renewable for up to 18 months. It is based in Chicago.

About INN:

INN supports and leads the fast-growing field of independent investigative and public service news, as the backbone organization for 200 nonprofit newsrooms across North America that are strengthening the sources of trusted news for thousands of communities. You can read more about us on our [website](#).

About the Amplify Midwest News Project:

The Great Lakes / Upper Midwest region is particularly important in solving the puzzle of how local and regional news can be shared and distributed. It is now home to nearly 30 nonprofit news organizations that are reinventing community-focused journalism and experimenting with new ways of reporting and distributing high quality journalism about public affairs topics. Amplify is an INN project to increase the impact of Midwest news by increasing its distribution to consumers, both directly and through partnerships and a variety of digital distribution channels, and fostering shared resources and collaborations that can strengthen individual reporting. The goal of this project — Amplify News Midwest — is to understand the dynamics and see how much a shared hub operation can increase the reach and impact of journalism pro 

Position specifics:

We are a distributed team and this is a field position based in Chicago, remote from the rest of INN operations and working with newsrooms spread over many states. Previous experience working with remote teams would be helpful, but we'll help and support your transition if this is your first remote job. We are committed to giving our employees and contractors the tools they need to do their job and supporting their professional growth.

INN is an equal opportunity employer and we are committed to creating a workplace where diversity is valued. In addition to federal law requirements, INN complies with applicable state and local laws governing nondiscrimination in employment in every location in which the company has facilities.

To apply, please send the following to sue@inn.org:

- Brief resume/portfolio
- Cover letter (an email is fine) telling us:
 - Why this collaboration project is perfect for you
 - What prior editorial collaboration projects have you worked on that involved news teams outside your direct management? What did they do or produce, and what part did you play?

We're excited to hear from you!