

# Building a Healthy Future— Reaching more children in the years ahead

Fall 2024

Dear Friend of Healthy NewsWorks:

I'm in constant awe of the classroom teachers who partner with Healthy NewsWorks to empower elementary and middle school students as health reporters in their schools and communities. Teachers like Melissa Morales at William Cramp Elementary School and Brianna Caillot at James Logan Elementary School in Philadelphia bring enthusiasm, dedication, and creativity to our efforts to educate kids about literacy, journalism, and health.

That's why it's so humbling to share some of their comments with you about their experience with the program and what it means to their students.

To help keep our school partnerships strong and growing, we set a three-year goal last year to raise \$1 million through our **Building a Healthy Future** campaign. We're deeply grateful that we've already surpassed \$560,000 in cash and pledges. Success will mean we can reach some 3,000 students annually by the 2027–28 school year.

We will work this year with 2,000 children in under-resourced communities in Philadelphia, Camden,

(Over, please)

## WHAT TEACHERS SAY



### Excitement:

"We have a lot of [school] partnerships. ... This is the most valuable program that comes into my classroom. ... Our students get excited for it. The value is in a real-

world application to all the stuff that they have to do every day in the classroom. It's priceless."

—Melissa Morales, fifth-grade teacher



### Engagement:

"Working with Healthy NewsWorks has added so much value to my classroom. It's a program that has set my class apart from the others. It allowed us to take

ownership over a piece of work that we developed as a team."

—Brianna Caillot, fourth-grade teacher



One of many student reporter interviews with community health leaders last school year.

Norristown, and the city of Chester—a 16 percent increase from 2023–24. We added three members to our team over the summer, and now have two full-time and seven part-time employees.

We hope you will join our fundraising campaign and help us meet our goal by June 2026. Your generosity means more children will learn to distinguish facts from misinformation, gain writing and multimedia skills, and develop healthy habits. Your impact doesn't end there. Because our reporters' work is shared in print and digitally, it benefits the lives of their peers, families, and communities.

Please know how much your support means to us and to our program. If you've already donated or made a commitment, **Thank You**. And to those yet to join us, we look forward to having you be part of it!

With gratitude,



Marian Uhlman  
Executive Director  
HealthyNewsWorks.org

## WHAT TEACHERS SAY

**Accomplishment:** “A lot of our students are English language learners who need to practice discourse and questioning and answering. Those interviewing skills are really important. And it's fun. And they have a tangible, finished product in the end.”

—Melissa Morales

**Relevance:** “It's an amazing feeling for them when they get to hand out their printed newspaper to the other students and their parents also read it. You can see the smiles and the pride. ... It gives other students in the school more insight on what's going on in their community, and it gets them excited.”

—Brieanna Caillot, fourth-grade teacher



Photo: A student working on a Healthy NewsWorks newspaper.

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