# Healthy NewsWorks®

Fall 2026

Dear Friend,

In a world saturated with social media influencers, algorithmic tracking, and AI slop, understanding where information comes from has never been more important.

Healthy NewsWorks teaches reporters how to identify accurate information and how to use and credit it in their articles and related work. One of their most effective strategies to cut through the noise is going straight to the source. **Through interviews with topic experts, our reporters quickly discover they can ask relevant questions of almost anyone—and receive thoughtful answers.**




*Among the people Healthy NewsWorks reporters interviewed in the past year are (clockwise from the top left) Mary Carpenter, ComedySportz Philadelphia; Quinn Sullivan, Philadelphia Union; Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Michael O'Bryan, Humanature; and Reet Starwind, Camden anime artist and poet.*

Among the interview highlights of the past year:

- Former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy sat down with student reporters and talked about his work to reduce loneliness and build community.
- Philadelphia Union soccer player Quinn Sullivan visited a Chester classroom and explained why building social connections matters on a team and in life.
- Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg, a Children's Hospital of Philadelphia pediatrician specializing in adolescent medicine, discussed with a Camden news team how empathy can bridge people's differences.

Our reporters also interviewed nurses and counselors in their schools; artists, musicians, and nonprofit leaders in the Philadelphia area; and, through a video exchange, students at a school in Nepal.

In year-end reflections, our students said the reporting process—including background research, interviews, and writing—helped them gain academic skills, develop confidence, appreciate teamwork, and feel inspired to take action in their own lives and on behalf of others. After interviewing Dr. Murthy, a seventh-grade reporter wrote: "I will try to be more aware of how my actions affect others and make more time to connect with friends and family."

*(Over, please)*

## What students gain



### Amelia, *Catholic Partnership Schools Healthy Courier*

For Amelia, Healthy NewsWorks opened the door to experiences she had never imagined. What began as an introduction to student journalism last year quickly became an opportunity to build confidence, discover new interests, and find her voice, said Amelia, who is now in sixth grade.

Amelia said she enjoyed brainstorming story ideas and seeing her work published in the school newspaper. Along the way, she learned the importance of verifying information, researching credible sources, and conducting thoughtful interviews. She also said she discovered that interviewing became easier with practice and gave her the chance to connect with people in meaningful ways.

"You get more information about the person and you get to know someone really, really well," she said.

The program also helped Amelia grow personally. She said Healthy NewsWorks encouraged her to step outside her comfort zone, meet new people, and try things she had never done before.

"I learned that I shouldn't be scared of things that I've never tried before because they could change my whole life," she said.

*(Continued from Page 1)*

**Every interview that helps children better understand themselves and others is made possible by friends like you, who believe in what our reporters can achieve**. In June, thanks to more than 300 generous individual donors, Healthy NewsWorks successfully completed our Building a Healthy Future Campaign: We surpassed our three-year goal to raise $1 million. That support helped us reach more students, hire additional staff, and strengthen our organizational capacity.

## How you can help

**We invite you to help keep this momentum going and enable us to deepen our impact**. Your gift will make a difference today and for future reporters as they build critical media literacy skills and health knowledge.

With deep gratitude,

Marian Uhlman
Executive Director



### Make a Gift

Healthy NewsWorks appreciates gifts of any amount to help keep our programs robust and growing.

# What students gain

## Benjamin, *Alexander Adaire Fit Fish*



When Benjamin joined his school's Healthy Newspaper team in sixth grade last year, he expected to learn how to write articles. He didn't realize how much the experience would build his confidence, communication skills, and curiosity about the world, he said.

Benjamin said his favorite part of the program was interviewing professionals such as a child psychiatrist who "gave really thoughtful answers." The experience showed him a new style of writing based on research, fact-checking, and credible sources.

"I learned to write in a whole different way," he said. "Not just 'once upon a time,' but actual news."



*Healthy NewsWorks reporters interview former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy.*

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