



Fund for
Investigative
Journalism

August 2019 NEWSLETTER
Next Grant Deadline: September 23, 2019
fundfij@fij.com

FIJ Seeks New Executive Director



Washington, August 29, 2019 – The Fund for Investigative Journalism is seeking a full-time executive director to succeed Sandy Bergo, (left) who will be retiring at the end of the year, after leading the nonprofit for ten years. A search committee is actively seeking candidates.

For more information and to apply please visit **Fij.org**

FIJ, NAHJ, and the Miami Herald Media Company Partner in Diversity Fellowship

The Fund for Investigative Journalism (FIJ), the National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ), and the Miami Herald Media Company are launching a fellowship project that seeks to expand investigative reporting opportunities for diverse journalists. The fellowship includes a \$30,000 grant financed by FIJ and NAHJ, plus editorial support from the Miami Herald Media Company. The fellowship will fund reporting expenses and travel, plus a stipend.

The content produced during a three-month period will be published by the Miami Herald Media Company's flagship publications – the Miami Herald and el Nuevo Herald – in both English and Spanish.

To apply go to **Fij.org**

**FIJ at the National Association of Black Journalists
Convention**

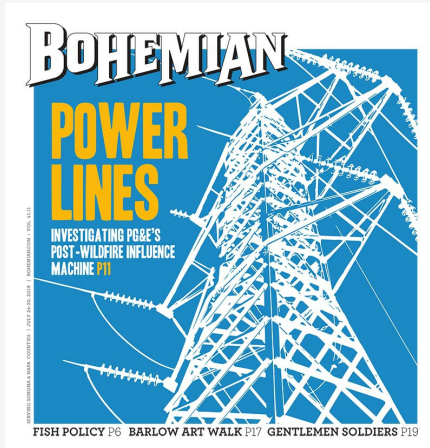


The Fund for Investigative Journalism organized a panel at the National Association of Black Journalists convention in Miami, on August 7 to talk about the nitty-gritty of grants for journalists.

FIJ board member Lottie Joiner and Director of Operations Ana Arana answered questions from journalists about the best way to get story ideas funded. Joiner encouraged journalists at the gathering to not be afraid to take the plunge and apply for grants to complete stories. Also participating in the session were the Pulitzer Center's senior editor Tom Hundley.

Ana Arana, left, Lottie Joiner, center, and Tom Hundley

Our Grantees' Work



The Power Brokers

“Juiced,” a report by Will Carruthers and FIJ grantee Peter Byrne, looks at how California power giant PG&E oiled political machinery after the 2017 and 2018 California wildfires that killed more than 100 people and caused vast destruction in residential communities. PG&E was found responsible for the most lethal fire and is implicated in others.

It is part of an investigative series by



We Know Female Genital Mutilation Has Been Happening in the US. How Do We Stop It?

Journalist Suman Naishadham, writing in VICE, reports on the first federal prosecution of a female genital mutilation case in the U.S., and traces the surprisingly vexed history of the tradition here.

The case has reignited a longstanding debate over what constitutes the practice and how best to handle it. Secrecy around the issue in America means there is little data on it, and there are few arrests. In 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that around

the North Bay Bohemian, a Northern California news site. The series called “The Power Brokers” focuses on the nexus of power, money, media, and politics in Sonoma County.

Artwork by the North Bay Bohemian

560,000 females had undergone or were at risk for genital mutilation.

Illustration by Lia Kantrowitz for VICE

Help Us Reach Our Goal



FIJ is pleased to announce that the Nicholas B. Ottaway Foundation has again approved a donation of \$25,000 to support our grants for domestic investigations.

We also received a \$5,000 donation that will go to a challenge grant of \$25,000, given earlier this year by the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation. That leaves \$20,000 to be raised before December 31. Please **donate**.

News About FIJ

FIJ will be attending the National Hispanic Journalism Association annual convention in San Antonio

FIJ staffer Ana Arana and two former FIJ grantees, Johnny Magdaleno and Jenni Monet, will participate on a panel on how to apply for journalism grants at the NAHJ conference in San Antonio, Friday, September 6. Arana and former FIJ Board President Ricardo Sandoval-Palos will advise attendees on grant proposal writing.

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