IMPACT REPORT

2026



Feet in 2 Worlds

LETTER FROM MIA WARREN, MANAGING DIRECTOR



In 2026, immigrants in the United States are confronting threats of surveillance, detention and deportation, family separation, and emotional trauma. Along with political attacks from a hostile government, they are also navigating misinformation, climate disasters, and the daily economic struggle to survive.

At this moment, what is the role of Feet in 2 Worlds (Fi2W), a small newsroom that centers immigrant voices?

As the leader of our organization, I sometimes wonder if we are doing enough. I realize that Fi2W cannot react to every crisis. But we can respond by investing in reporting that reveals and documents the difficulty of these times. In fact, our longform journalism, which requires time and resources, is an asset. We prioritize stories about immigrants demonstrating resilience and innovation: building their own community and cultural spaces, developing their own economic opportunities, and creating moments of joy and celebration. This approach distinguishes our coverage from the breaking news stories of bigger newsrooms.

The way we accomplish this is by honoring our mission. As we close out the year, I keep coming back to two principles that have characterized our work for more than 20 years: 1) it matters who tells the story and 2) mentorship is integral to the journalism we produce.

This spring, Fi2W's investigative reporting fellow Narimes Parakul published Surveilled and Sold, a five-part multimedia series on how surveillance technology is impacting immigrant communities. As a first-time reporter, Narimes struggled with imposter syndrome when she first joined our team. But over the course of eight months, with deep mentorship and coaching, Narimes gained confidence, learned new skills, challenged herself — and produced an ambitious project.

For more than two decades, Fi2W has created spaces for immigrant journalists like Narimes to be recognized for their potential and to flourish. That deeply relational work has always been rare in the media industry, and I see it as even more critical now. Job opportunities are scarce, generative AI tools threaten the process of learning, and many journalism organizations are wondering how they'll survive into the next year, let alone thrive.

Fi2W was built for this moment. In 2027, we will continue to train immigrant journalists and help them reach the next stage of their careers. As a versatile newsroom, we will experiment with format, distribution, and partnerships to ensure we are teaching our fellows and interns the foundational principles of immigrant-centered journalism along with the latest skillsets. And alongside Fi2W's Board of Directors, I look forward to articulating a new strategy for public programming that will deepen our engagement with immigrant journalists across the country.

Our latest project, City of Possibility, highlights how New York City is forging a path of its own, distinct and apart from the federal government's crackdown on and dehumanization of immigrants. A young immigrant mayor is one visible symbol of a broader hope many New Yorkers are expressing — for a city in which immigrants are treated not as merely peripheral to its story but central to its civic life, culture, identity, and future.

As New York enters its next chapter, immigrants must be among those documenting and defining this moment. By supporting us, you will strengthen a lasting pipeline of immigrant journalists whose work will shape how New York — and the whole country — understands immigrants.



FI2W BY THE NUMBERS



Number of fellows since our founding:

56



Number of workshop attendees:

188



Number of interns:

40



Number of stories published or broadcast since our founding:

6,900+



Number of partnerships with media outlets, colleges, and universities since our founding:

40+



Stipends and scholarships paid to fellows and workshop attendees

$250k+



Spending ratio:

90 cents of every $1 raised goes to Fi2W programs



An investigative series on surveillance, data, and immigration

How everyday digital traces can become tools for immigration enforcement.

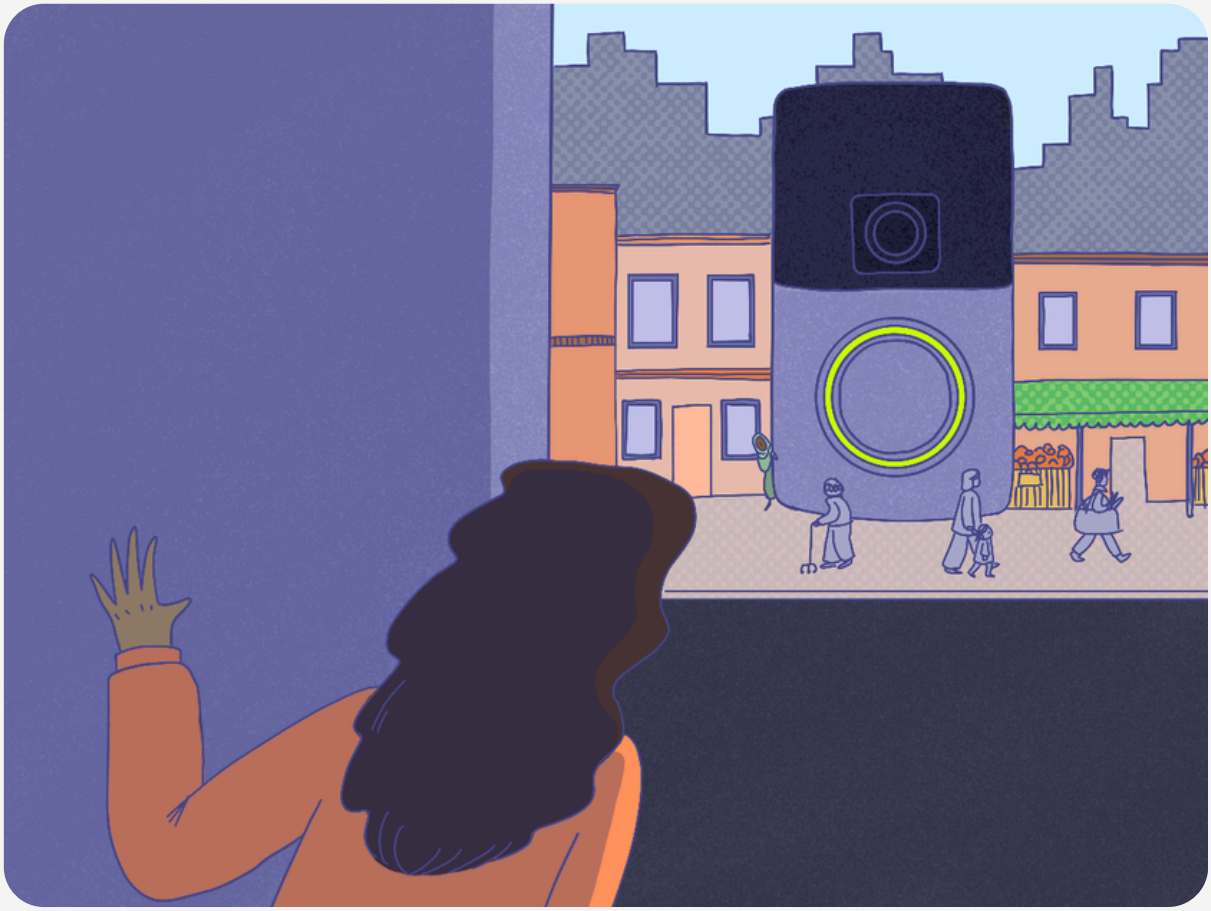


Illustration by Dabin Han



"My fellowship gifted me with four original investigative stories that I can now use to showcase my reporting and research abilities to future job opportunities."

—***Narimes Parakul***, *researcher at Type Investigations / Fi2W Fellow, 2026*

EXPANDING ACCESS TO JOURNALISM TRAINING

Fundamentals of Interviewing

- 2-day virtual workshop
- Recording + interviewing techniques
- Live feedback on participant interviews

Fundamentals of Writing for Audio

- Writing into and out of tape
- Narrative structure + pacing
- Real newsroom examples from Fi2W editors



I loved meeting everyone — it was only two days of workshops but I felt a sense of community. I also thought there were lots of pragmatic tips for recording and interviewing that I could immediately apply to my reporting.

— Jinny Kim, Workshop Participant, Spring 2026

6 Workshops hosted

30 Participants from across the U.S.

SAFETY IS PART OF THE WORK

- **Legal Support**

  Access to legal guidance through ProJourn, Lawyers for Reporters, and the Cornell First Amendment Clinic.

- **Risk Assessment**

  Project-specific evaluations and planning before field reporting.

- **Safety Training**

  Physical and digital safety preparation through IWMF trainings and related resources.



Sharing Our Safety Practices

In June 2026, Managing Director Mia Warren joined leaders from the International Women's Media Foundation, LA Public Press, and WWNO/WRKF at INN Days to discuss how nonprofit newsrooms can better protect journalists reporting on immigrant communities.

Fi2W shared its approach to risk assessment, safety planning, and editorial decision-making — practices developed through years of supporting immigrant journalists.

INVESTING IN LEADERSHIP

Leadership Development

- AAJA Executive Leadership Program
- ONA Women's Leadership Accelerator
- Poynter Essential Skills for New Managers
- Center for Nonprofit Management Leadership Training

Field Engagement & Recognition

ONA Community Award recognized Fi2W's long-standing commitment to training and supporting immigrant journalists.

Shaping the Conversation

In March 2026, Managing Editor Quincy Surasmith published a widely shared essay outlining values and practices for reporting on ICE. Drawing from Fi2W's editorial approach, the piece encourages journalists to center immigrant communities, protect sources, and make thoughtful decisions about risk when covering ICE.



"The goal is not just to document harm, but to report in a way that respects the people most affected."

— Quincy Surasmith,
Managing Editor, Fi2W

THE RIPPLE EFFECT



Paulina Velasco

2024 Investigative Reporting Fellow

"Fi2W gave me the opportunity to lead a high-impact reporting project that became a cornerstone of my portfolio. It strengthened my commitment to reporting on immigration with nuance and empathy."



Ahmed Ashour

2026 Reporting Intern

"I graduated from journalism school with a sense of dread about the future of journalism. Fi2W reminded me what makes this work matter: the human voice, the communal experience, and journalistic rigor. It gave me hope."

Their experiences are reflected across our alumni community:

86%

say Fi2W gave their work a new sense of purpose.

83%

say Fi2W helped clarify their professional and/or educational goals

65%

say they got a new job in journalism because of their experience with Fi2W

OUR FUNDERS:

Fi2W is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The Ford Foundation, The Fernandez Pave the Way Foundation, The Elizabeth Bond Davis Foundation, an anonymous donor, contributors to our annual NewsMatch campaign, and individual donors.

Our 2025 NewsMatch campaign was our most successful of all time. We saw a 283% increase in our grassroots donor base, proving that Fi2W's mission continues to resonate.

FI2W IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:

Institute for Nonprofit News

Lion PUBLISHERS

ONLINE NEWS ASSOCIATION

Reach out to mia@feetin2worlds.org to support our work today.