



Editorial Independence Policy

Our Commitment

Impact.Edition is an independent, nonprofit publication dedicated to producing solutions-focused journalism that informs, connects, and inspires communities.

Founded in 2019, *Impact.Edition* was created to make visible the people, ideas, and collaborations shaping a more just, resilient, and sustainable future in South Florida. Today, we convene a growing ecosystem of changemakers by documenting the work, leadership, and innovation that often unfolds beyond the spotlight.

Our editorial work exists to serve the public interest, not advertisers, donors, sponsors, or any special interest. Editorial independence is essential to our credibility and to the trust our readers, contributors, partners, and community place in us.

Our Mission

Our mission is to amplify the voices of local changemakers advancing climate action, social justice, and community well-being through rigorous, solutions-focused journalism.

We believe the news agenda should be shaped not only by institutions and those in positions of power, but also by the underrepresented voices of community champions, people who are working every day to build a more just, resilient, and sustainable future.

Our reporting explores innovative responses to today's most pressing social and environmental challenges through four editorial pillars:

- Climate Impact
- Social Justice
- Art for Impact
- Business for Good

Across each of these areas, we seek stories that demonstrate collaboration, creativity, and long-lasting impact. We intentionally highlight work happening across sectors, bringing together nonprofit organizations, businesses, artists, researchers, educators, government agencies, philanthropists, and community leaders — to show how collective action can drive meaningful change.



By documenting their work, fostering cross-sector collaboration, and sharing evidence-based solutions, we aim to strengthen our communities and inspire lasting positive change in Miami and beyond.

Our Editorial Philosophy

Impact.Edition practices solutions-focused journalism, a rigorous approach to reporting that investigates credible responses to social and environmental challenges.

Rather than celebrating good intentions alone, we critically examine how responses work, what evidence supports them, what lessons can be learned, and what limitations remain.

Our reporting follows the four core principles of Solutions Journalism.

1. Response

We investigate credible responses to significant community challenges.

2. Evidence

We examine available evidence, including research, measurable outcomes, expert analysis, and lived experiences, to understand whether a response is making a meaningful difference.

3. Insights

Our reporting seeks to uncover lessons that others can apply, helping communities learn from one another and strengthen collective impact.

4. Limitations

Every solution has challenges and trade-offs. We report on limitations honestly because balanced reporting builds trust and strengthens public understanding.

How We Select Stories

At *Impact.Edition*, we do not select stories based on advertising, sponsorships, donations, organizational size, or influence.

Instead, we look for people and organizations whose work contributes meaningful insights into solving real community challenges.

Our editorial focus is on cross-sector collaboration and long-lasting solutions. We believe lasting change happens when nonprofits, businesses, artists, educators, researchers, government



agencies, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, and residents work together. Our coverage intentionally reflects this diversity of voices.

Our Editorial Process

Story ideas come from many sources.

Throughout the year, our editorial team:

- conducts original research;
- attends community events, conferences, and exhibitions;
- interviews local leaders and residents;
- visits organizations and project sites;
- analyzes emerging trends and initiatives;
- builds relationships across Miami's civic ecosystem.

Our reporting is rooted in original interviews with people leading change in their communities, complemented by independent research, data, and expert perspectives.

We seek to understand:

- What challenge are they addressing?
- What response are they implementing?
- What evidence exists that it is making a difference?
- What lessons can others learn?
- What limitations or challenges remain?

Open Calls for Community Voices

Not every story begins with an editorial assignment.

Impact.Edition regularly invites community participation through open calls for submissions, creating opportunities for new voices and lived experiences to shape our coverage.

One example is our *Why Not Us* campaign, which invited young people across South Florida to submit stories and perspectives through an open call. Selected contributors became part of a special editorial project highlighting youth leadership, innovation, and community impact.

We also welcome proposals from nonprofit professionals, researchers, artists, entrepreneurs, students, educators, community organizers, and others working toward a more sustainable and equitable future.

Every submission is evaluated according to the same editorial standards.



Editorial selection is based on public value and journalistic merit—not financial support, organizational prominence, or personal relationships.

What We Look For

When evaluating a potential story, we ask:

- Does it address an important community challenge?
- Does it present a thoughtful or innovative response?
- Is there evidence of meaningful progress or impact?
- What can others learn from this work?
- Does it contribute to broader conversations about sustainability, equity, or community resilience?
- Does it elevate perspectives that are often underrepresented in mainstream media?

We intentionally feature organizations of all sizes, from grassroots initiatives and student-led projects to established nonprofits, universities, public institutions, and businesses creating positive impact.

Editorial selection is based on public value and journalistic merit, not financial support or organizational prominence.

Being featured in *Impact.Edition* is not an endorsement. It reflects our editorial judgment that a story contributes meaningfully to public understanding and offers valuable insights for our readers.

Editorial Independence

Editorial decisions are made solely by *Impact.Edition's* editorial leadership.

Our editors independently determine:

- what stories to pursue;
- which sources to interview;
- how stories are reported;
- headlines and visual presentation;
- publication schedules;
- corrections and updates.

Editorial decisions are never influenced by financial contributions or external interests.



Independence from Donors

As a nonprofit organization, *Impact.Edition* is supported by grants, memberships, individual donations, sponsorships, and community partnerships.

This support sustains our mission but it does not influence our journalism.

Donors:

- do not review stories before publication;
- do not approve editorial content;
- cannot influence story selection or reporting;
- are not guaranteed coverage.

When financial support directly funds a reporting initiative or editorial series, we disclose that support whenever appropriate.

Independence from Advertisers and Sponsors

Impact.Edition occasionally partners with mission-aligned organizations to produce sponsored stories that advance public understanding of important social and environmental issues. These stories typically represent less than 10% of our annual editorial coverage.

All sponsored stories are clearly labeled and disclosed to readers.

While sponsors may financially support a story or suggest a topic for editorial consideration, *Impact.Edition* retains full editorial independence. Our editorial team alone decides whether to pursue a story, how it is reported, which sources are interviewed, and how the story is written and presented.

Sponsors and advertisers:

- do not influence our editorial standards or reporting priorities;
- do not determine our reporting, findings, or conclusions;
- do not review or approve stories before publication, except when our editors request factual verification of information directly related to the sponsoring organization.

Every sponsored story is produced according to the same standards of accuracy, fairness, transparency, and solutions-focused reporting that apply to all of our journalism.

Financial support enables our work, but it never determines our editorial judgment.



Board Governance

Impact.Edition's Board of Directors provides strategic oversight, governance, and financial stewardship.

The Board does not direct individual editorial decisions or influence newsroom coverage.

The Board does not review, approve, or influence individual editorial content. Editorial authority rests exclusively with the editorial team.

Contributors and Guest Authors

We welcome contributions from journalists, researchers, nonprofit professionals, entrepreneurs, artists, students, educators, and community leaders.

Submissions are evaluated solely on editorial merit.

Contributors are responsible for:

- ensuring factual accuracy;
- providing citations for quotations and significant claims;
- submitting original work;
- disclosing potential conflicts of interest.

Editors may revise submissions for clarity, style, structure, accuracy, length, and legal considerations.

Final publication decisions remain with *Impact.Edition*.

Conflicts of Interest

Editors, writers, photographers, interns, freelancers, and contributors are expected to avoid conflicts of interest that could compromise — or reasonably appear to compromise — the integrity of our journalism.

Potential conflicts should be disclosed promptly. When appropriate, assignments may be reassigned or disclosures included in published stories.

Accuracy and Accountability

We are committed to journalism that is:

- accurate;
- fair;



- evidence-based;
- transparent;
- thoroughly researched.

If we discover a significant factual error, we will correct it promptly and transparently.

Readers are encouraged to contact our editorial team if they believe an error has been published.

Diversity of Voices

Our reporting intentionally amplifies perspectives that are often underrepresented in mainstream media, including nonprofit organizations, immigrant-powered ventures, youth leaders, artists, social entrepreneurs, researchers, educators, neighborhood organizations, and community advocates.

We believe stronger communities emerge when diverse experiences and ideas are represented in public conversations.

Community Partnerships

Impact.Edition regularly collaborates with nonprofit organizations, universities, cultural institutions, businesses, foundations, and civic organizations on public events, educational programming, exhibitions, and community engagement initiatives.

These partnerships strengthen our connection to the communities we serve but do not grant editorial influence over our journalism.

Transparency

Whenever appropriate, we disclose:

- funding relationships;
- editorial partnerships;
- sponsored initiatives;
- relevant conflicts of interest.

Transparency allows readers to evaluate our reporting with confidence.

Our Promise to Readers

At *Impact.Edition*, we believe the most meaningful stories are often found where sectors intersect, communities collaborate, and people work together to create lasting change.



Whether we are reporting on a neighborhood nonprofit, a student-led initiative, an artist, a social entrepreneur, a research institution, or a global organization, our editorial decisions are guided by the same principles: independence, evidence, fairness, curiosity, and service to the public.

Our first responsibility is — and always will be — to our readers and the communities we are privileged to serve.

Approval and Review

This Editorial Independence Policy was reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors of *Impact.Edition*.

The Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing this policy and ensuring that it continues to support the organization's mission, journalistic integrity, and editorial independence.

This policy will be reviewed periodically and updated as needed to reflect evolving best practices in nonprofit and solutions-focused journalism.

Approved on: 07/20/2026 _____

Signatures

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