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| Dear TMC members,  The Media Consortium was founded in 2006, when the digital revolution was just dawning. The big questions facing the TMC founders back then were existential--would print magazines survive? How would outlets pay their bills in an era when "information wants to be free"? would there be a role for critique from the left in a country that seemed to have moved firmly to the right?  Over the past decade, Media Consortium members have found answers to those and other questions. We have grown to 60+ members, demonstrating society's need for non-partisan analysis from a progressive point of view. Our members have been on the cutting-edge of digital, innovating in digital fundraising, live-feed video, and editorial collaborations. We are stronger than ever!  Despite having come so far, we know we can't stop innovating and incubating change. Like all of you, the Media Consortium also has to grow and adapt with the times. That's why the Coordinating Committee has decided to commence a six-months long strategic planning process, culminating in an all-day planning session on March 2 following our annual meeting.  **The big question now facing the Media Consortium is this**: is our primary role to serve as a trade association for independent news outlets that happen to be progressive, or do we best serve as an explicitly progressive organization that aims to amplify the impact and reach of independent news outlets?  How we answer that question will determine the types of projects we do, the type of funding we get, the number and type of new members we can recruit, and much more.  I expect that every TMC member will become involved in some way in the strategic planning process, either by answering a survey, attending our meeting in March, or serving on a sub-committee.  **If you are passionate about the Media Consortium, and want to play a deeper role, please consider serving on the strategic planning steering committee. This group will play an integral part in shaping the future direction of the Consortium.** If you are interested, **contact me now at [joellen@themediaconsortium.com](mailto:joellen@themediaconsortium.com" \t "_blank)**  I and members of the Coordinating Committee will keep you updated as to our progress.  Sincerely, |  |  |