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Independent Media Outlets Launch *Who Counts?* A Reporting Project Centering Immigrant Voices on Voting Rights

The Media Consortium, a network of progressive independent media organizations, announces the launch of ***Who Counts?*** – a project that centers the voices of marginalized immigrant communities who seek the same rights as all other U.S. citizens. The project will focus on these fundamental questions:

- Who counts as an American?
- Whose vote counts?
- And just as important, *Who* is doing the counting?

While the dominant media narrative has amplified the voices that inflame nativism and racism during this charged election season, independent media is harnessing the transformative power of journalism to tell stories by the people most directly impacted by the political debate on immigration.

“The current political conversation falsely casts recent immigrants as “Others” who want to take away “our” life, liberty or property. By centering the voices of immigrants seeking to participate fully in US political life, we aim to shift this conversation away from immigrants to focus on those who are undermining the American dream: those working hard to deny citizenship and take away voting rights from the newest Americans.”—Jo Ellen Green Kaiser, Executive Director, The Media Consortium

As part of this project, the Media Consortium will hold a series of town halls that will put journalists from our network in conversation with immigrant advocates, local leaders in voting access and racial justice, and the media that serve immigrant communities.

Follow **#WhoCounts** on Twitter, Facebook and Tumblr to find stories from this project. Contact Manolia Charlotin to learn more about our upcoming town halls.

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