How Can I Get Involved with Chicago Indymedia?

Lots of our grassroots contributors — photographers, writers, videographers and audio reporters — simply post directly to our website. We often feature the stories and content of people who've never come to one of our meetings, workshops or film screenings. That said, there are a wide range of ways you can get more directly involved: in radio, writing, video, tech work, photography, organizing, outreach, and more. We have lots of ways you can build your skills, access resources and share your abilities.

Working Groups and Partner Projects:

Video
Shoot and produce video for screenings on a range of issues, from the local to the global. Or help produce our monthly cable news show. Videos are screened regularly at spaces on Chicago’s north and south sides, on cable access and in other cities.

Radio
Chicago Indymedia produces From the Trenches, a monthly radio show on WLUW. Some of our collective members also produce feature stories for independent radio projects and produce live streaming audio content for Chicago-area events.

Photo
Document street actions, government hearings, neighborhood gatherings and more. Don’t know how to shoot or scan your images or need access to computer equipment? We can help.

News and Editorial
Learn how to write a news story in your own voice — without a degree from a journalism school — and how to get that story out to the public. Help coordinate coverage of issues and events and manage the content of the Chicago Indymedia website.

Print & Web Design
Sharpen your design skills by helping to create posters, flyers and other print collateral and our ever-changing website.

Technical Support
The backbone of Indymedia is tech support. Network computers, program our site, participate in coding for our open source software, troubleshoot and more.

Our General Collective
It’s the nuts and bolts of Indymedia, grounded in the spirit of progressive political change, committed to organizing democratically by consensus, built on the pledge to embrace diversity in race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation, and staked to covering the issues that matter to working class people across the planet. Chicago Indymedia's general collective needs people to who want to work on organizational tasks that range from volunteer outreach to program development — and everything in between.

Get involved. Join us.
BE THE MEDIA

Labor donated. With thanks to Melbourne Indymedia/ Australia and DC Indymedia, whose outreach brochure inspired this document.
What is Chicago Indymedia?
Across the world, Indymedia is busting down the walls of conventional journalism by giving everybody the ability to become the media. Here in Chicago, we run by the motto of one of our sister projects in Melbourne, Australia: “Everyone is a witness; everyone is a journalist.” Chicago Indymedia is dedicated to building media democracy and increasing community access to information and technology that lets ordinary people “BE THE MEDIA.”

The Chicago Independent Media Center (CIMC, or Chicago Indymedia) is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit group of media producers who work as part of an international network of more than 100 Indymedia centers to provide a viable alternative to the corporate media’s profit-driven agenda.

We are a collaborative news organization committed to covering struggles for social and economic justice. We welcome people of diverse backgrounds and perspectives and encourage all of our volunteers to build and share their skills and knowledge.

Chicago Indymedia Online
Chicago Indymedia has a website full of news and information. At the heart of Indymedia online is an open publishing newswire where you can self-publish your stories, photos, video or audio.

Simply click on the ‘PUBLISH YOUR NEWS’ button at the top of the right-hand column and fill in the form. Then click on ‘submit article’ and your material appears on our newswire, which includes space for stories of local interest as well as outside of the region. The center section of the website showcases our feature stories, which we draw from our newswire. The left-hand side of the webpage links you to dozens of other indymedia collectives across the world.

Bookmark ‘chicago.indymedia.org’ and publish your news. What’s newsworthy? You’re the reporter, and you decide, whether it’s a neighborhood fight with a landlord or alderman, a school organizing project, a police issue, a community garden program, so bookmark chicago.indymedia.org and publish your news! Don’t hate the media — BE the media.

Projects and Working Groups
Chicago Indymedia works with a network of projects and working groups, from video and photography to radio, outreach and writing. Get involved in an existing project or start a new one. Flip this brochure over for a list of our projects and working groups.

Trainings
We coordinate trainings and skill-sharing workshops on topics that range from how to edit your video to how to write a news story. If you or a project you work with is interested in media trainings, please contact Chicago Indymedia at 773-384-8544 or email us at IMC-Chicago@indymedia.org.

Chicago Indymedia is located at 3411 W. Diversey on the second floor. Our general meetings are held at 4:00 PM on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Join us!

Support Chicago Indymedia!
Chicago Indymedia is supported by the community - the people who attend our video screenings, listen to our radio show, and support our participatory media work.

We’re committed to building a sustainable grass-roots supported project — and because we are non-commercial, we take no corporate ads or donations. Please consider joining our base of grassroots funders. Your tax-deductible contribution will support our efforts to provide space and resources for people to become the media.

☐ Yes! Here’s my contribution to support Chicago Indymedia:
☐ $15  ☐ $25  ☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ Other

Please make checks payable to Chicago Indymedia. We also welcome donations of equipment and other resources. Call us at 773-384-8544 or email us at IMC-Chicago@indymedia.org to find out more.

☐ Please send me or my organization updates about Indymedia events, meetings and trainings.

Name___________________________________________________________
Organization Name_____________________________________________
Address________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip___________________________________________________
Phone/Fax_______________________________________________________
Email___________________________________________________________
Website________________________________________________________

mail to: Chicago Indymedia  
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