



## **News Director, KLZR, Westcliffe, CO**

December 14, 2021

### Background

KLZR's mission is to inform, entertain and connect all who care about the Wet Mountain Valley. KLZR is looking to hire its first News Director, a half-time position, with the goal of bringing high-quality local news and community programming to listeners/readers on multiple platforms.

The ideal candidate is a superb communicator with excellent organizational and writing skills. The News Director will be responsible for the vision, strategic development and production of all news content and its distribution on KLZR's FM broadcast and digital platforms with the goal of engaging, retaining, growing and diversifying KLZR's audience in/near the Wet Mountain Valley.

### Position Summary

KLZR is seeking a half-time News Director who will manage the creation and direction of KLZR's locally focused news including the production of KLZR's Wake Up Call (WUC) program and special reports, as well as the overall direction, and day-to-day operations of all news and community information programming.

### Preferred Experience, Skills and Abilities

- Communications/writing experience and/or a Bachelor's degree in a related field
- Highly developed organizational, interpersonal communications and time management skills
- Brings an objective, non-partisan approach with critical thinking skills
- Programming experience with community radio
- Strong knowledge of digital media and audio production
- Demonstrated ability to learn and troubleshoot new technologies
- Radio interviewing experience
- Demonstrated ability to work independently
- Familiarity and interest in covering local news and events
- Knowledge of and/or interest in issues relating to the Wet Mountain Valley

The News Director will lead KLZR's daily local news coverage across all platforms: radio, web, social media, and e-news with a combination of creativity and consistency. The News Director will ensure that news coverage and community information reflect the highest standards of ethics, audio production and public service to the KLZR audience and the communities it serves.

### Responsibilities

- Ensure all news and information is accurate, unbiased, apolitical, and complies with applicable laws and regulations
- WUC: daily gather information, write it up and disseminate it, supervising volunteer and contractors as needed to support production and broadcast.



- Special Reports: (periodic) organize and expand topics, gather information or work with volunteers/contractors who do so; edit and finalize.
- Create liaisons and communication channels with community organizations and news sources
- Develop collaboration opportunities with nonprofit and civic organizations to produce local content
- Manage recruitment, training of volunteer and part time news broadcasters
- Lead a team of volunteer/contract broadcasters in creating meaningful and informative content with a focus on local concerns and issues
- Manage the content production budget and provide direction for grant requests
- Foster a creative, positive and collaborative work environment
- Maintain Mailchimp email list and produce the daily e-news
- Attend community meetings when necessary to gather news

#### Attributes Required/Desired

- Familiarity with software/social media tools: TeamViewer, Mailchimp, Google Suite, Facebook
- Roots in the community
- Interested/excited by the KLZR news concept
- Management skills, team player
- Friendly, outgoing, able to engage news sources
- Desire to grow news department that covers and collaborates with partners

#### Compensation

20 hours/week @ \$20/hour

#### To Apply

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. For best consideration, apply by January 7, 2022. To apply, please submit the following to KLZR Board Vice President, Kathy Blaha, at [Kathy.Blaha@klzr.org](mailto:Kathy.Blaha@klzr.org)

1. Cover letter demonstrating your interest and passion for this role; use the cover letter to answer the question: As News Director, what do you see as community radio's role in this rural community over the next 3-5 years?
2. Resume
3. At least three professional references
4. Two writing samples, ideally news stories, articles or interviews that you worked on.

*KLZR is an Equal Opportunity Employer and actively seeks diversity of the workforce.*