

From: Bob Gans <bobgans7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 8:34 AM
To: Miriam Raftery <info@eastcountymedia.org>
Subject: J.M. Kaplan Fund Innovation Prize,

Greetings.

I write to you to voice my strong support for East County Media's request for a J.M. Kaplan Fund Innovation Prize, to fund the creation of its proposed Social Justice News and Resource Center on its on-line news site.

I am currently out of the country, in transit, and so this note will necessarily be brief. That said, please do not mistake the relative brevity of this note for anything less than "a full throated endorsement" of East County Media with regard to the nature and quality of its work and productions, and in particular its wonderful proposal which could (and with your help, no doubt will) be of such great importance to so many individuals who need the information that East County Media could thereby provide ... as well as the awareness that the community should, and must have of some understandable, significant needs that should be fulfilled.

Fyi, I have become familiar with East County Media in two capacities:

(i) as Cochair of Welcome Home, a San Diego-based volunteer group which provides micro grants to refugees legally residing in San Diego county, to enable our new American neighbors to pursue effective, much needed educational and vocational training; and

(ii) as the son of Holocaust survivors who were graciously provided an opportunity to begin a new, productive life in America.

(I am now retired from my former full-time profession, practicing law in California; for the last 20 years of my career I was General Counsel of a publicly traded (Nasdaq) company.)

Please know that I have been extremely impressed with the quality and content of the East County Media's online and on-air publications, and the professionalism of Miriam Raftery.

Please enable East County Media, Ms. Raftery and her colleagues to continue their very important, and excellent, journalism and related endeavors — in particular, reporting on issues impacting vulnerable communities and connecting those in need to resources and organizations in our region.

Respectfully,

Robert M. Gans