

In regard to the issue of localism in broadcasting I have a few comments from an active local broadcasting point of view. At a glance we run more than 45,000 public service announcements in one years time on four radio stations. From a modest inventory value it's a local contribution of better then one-half million dollars. A great share of the benefactors are local, regional, and some national clubs and public interest groups such as American Red Cross, Big Brothers and Sisters, Boys and Girls Club, March of Dimes, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Eagle Mount, and Benefis Health Care. We support local events such as Food Drives for the local Food Bank, Breast Cancer Awareness, Free Health Clinics, Fundraising events for local landmarks and improvements. In the last three years we have raised closed to \$80,000 for St Judes by holding a two day radio-thon. We provide two annual affairs for the local public with dancing, food, and fun with a financial donation to random local non-profit entities. In our area we support agriculture by holding one of the largest Agriculatural Tradeshows in the northwest. We frequently provide aid in broadcasting and otherwise to the local FFA and 4H clubs in our area including small scholorships for the kids. We occasionally hold spur of the moment aid to families who have experienced local tragedies such as losses due to house fires and support local citizens in auctions for families who need funds to fight diseases such as cancer. We trade services with Easter Seals to support the mentally and physically disabled. We hold the Colgate Country Showdown encouraging local musicians and talent to compete for a chance to go to the national talent competition. We've have provide many hours of free air time to aid our advertisers who experience loss of business due to fire and loss of life. We provide free traffic update and advertising to many who have suffered business losses due to local contruction. Our stations as well as the broadcasters of Montana and elsewhere have banned together to quickly put into operation the Amber Alert System. These are just some of the things we provide to benefit our local community and it's local citizens. It makes me ask the question why are broadcasters so scrutinized for the efforts that are made to give back to our local communities. Think how much easier our jobs would be if we did not provide all of these service of which most are non-revenue generating events. Corporate radio has forced broadcasters to operate on much skinnier budgets than ever before in the history of radio and rest assured the local aspects and benefits provided to the listeners and business of our area has not suffered. The FCC should be proud to let us do our jobs. I'm confident that most of us are doing them well.