

LISON JOSEPH

Empathetic leader with 10 years of editing experience at local and national newsrooms in America and India with a track record of executing ambitious enterprise stories and mentoring journalists of color covering marginalized communities.

WORK HISTORY

SENIOR EDITOR July 2020 to December 2022

The GroundTruth Project, Boston, Mass.

- Served on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee; recommended pay equity study to ensure women and staff of color were being paid fairly and urged the leadership to diversify the board of directors.
- Helped launch Report for the World, and expand it to multiple countries by recruiting independent newsrooms in India, Nigeria, and Brazil.
- Led a multi-newsroom reporting collaboration that brought together Black-owned newsrooms in different states for the first time in decades to examine “food apartheid” affecting Black communities.
- Mentored Report for America early-career journalists, many of them people of color, stationed at local newsrooms across the country.
- Coached young journalists in narrative story-telling techniques so they could tell compelling stories from under-covered communities.
- Established co-publishing partnerships with national outlets such as Mother Jones, The Washington Post, Fortune, PBS and USA Today.

DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR December 2018 to June 2020

The Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia, Penn.

- Co-led team of nine journalists that included industry veterans and early-career reporters covering the local economy including health care, energy, cannabis and labor.
- Guided reporters to execute in-depth stories through public records requests, data analysis and sensitive sourcing, on topics including: closure of the East Coast’s oldest oil refinery, illegal lobbying by Amazon, quality issues at nursing homes and group homes for adults with intellectual disabilities, and the bankruptcy of Hahnemann Hospital, the de facto public hospital in America’s largest poor city.
- Increased audience for business news by 30 percent by making headlines search engine optimized, and by utilizing niche audience channels like newsletter, LinkedIn and Reddit.

ASSISTANT BUSINESS EDITOR April 2017 to November 2018

The Dallas Morning News, Dallas, Texas

- Led a team of 5 journalists who wrote about aviation, energy, economy and real estate in Dallas-Fort Worth, the fourth largest U.S. metro.
- Assigned and edited a series that exposed how Texas towns were spending billions of tax dollars in a race to attract corporate relocations in the name of economic development, but without clear returns.
- Guided reporters to produce a steady stream of accountability stories including on sexual abuse allegations by an American Airlines passenger, the demise of a coal-mining town amid Trump’s coal tax breaks, and allegations of investor fraud by a faith-based oil company popular among evangelicals.

- Successfully ran a pilot to demonstrate how to increase subscriptions by doubling down on real estate, an area of reader interest.

ENTERPRISE EDITOR February 2015 to March 2017

Lancaster Newspapers, Lancaster, Penn.

- Led a team of seven journalists covering education, county government, agriculture, and business.
- Coached veteran journalists to transfer their skills to meet the needs of a demanding digital audience.
- Led the coverage of allegations of sexual abuse against an elected sheriff who eventually resigned.

NATIONAL EDITOR, TECHNOLOGY 2011 to 2014

The Economic Times, Mumbai / Bengaluru / New Delhi, India

- Managed sharply focused and insightful reportage on India's fast-growing technology industry.
- Led a geographically dispersed team of reporters in India's major cities and significantly raised the technology news reporting profile of the newspaper among the competition.

STAFF WRITER 2008 to 2011

Mint, Mumbai / Hyderabad, India

- Covered as lead reporter one of the largest corporate accounting scandals in India involving an outsourced technology services company listed on NYSE.
- Led coverage of technology, telecommunications, and pharmaceuticals.

STAFF WRITER 2003 to 2005

Times Of India, Hyderabad, India

- Wrote on urban issues, politics, environment, and technology.
- Exclusive reports on unsafe practices in uranium mining resulted in regulatory actions.

EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, U.S.

Master of Arts, International Conflict and Peace Studies, 2007

Asian College of Journalism, Chennai, India

Post Graduate Diploma, Journalism, 2002

Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala, India

Bachelor of Arts, Economics, 2001

SKILLS

- Empathetic leadership
- Cross-cultural communication
- Team Management
- Business Journalism
- Audience analytics
- Editing
- News Writing
- AP Style
- Feature Articles
- Storytelling
- Narrative Writing