

LWC Studios Invites Pitches for New Investigative Podcast about Latina Health and Lifetime Outcomes in Greater Chicago Area

<u>LWC Studios</u> will begin production on its next investigative narrative podcast in early 2023. The series will be an open-source investigative podcast that takes a close look at the health, wellness, and lifetime outcomes of Latinas in the United States using the greater Chicago area as the central reporting location. The documentary-style episodes will chronicle girls' and women's lives from 0-100+, with each featuring in-depth reporting, birthday celebrations, and significant life milestones that illustrate how Latinas' health is intrinsically tied to the health and well being of the entire country.

By 2050 Latinas will make up 33% of all women in the U.S. By 2043, Latinos overall will be the largest ethnic group in the country. They are gaining in education, labor-market participation, wealth acquisition and entrepreneurship, in 2021 declared the fastest-growing segment of US business founders, with over 2 million Latina-owned businesses today.

In short, the future of the U.S. is irrevocably tied to the health and well being of Latinas. And this podcast will show us exactly how.

Creator and executive producer Juleyka Lantigua and the entire LWC Studios team are eager to hear your ideas for immersive audio reporting that beautifully illuminates the personal stories and analyzes the systems that impact health and wellness for Latinas in greater Chicago–and that can also reflect what's happening nationally. The show's long-form narratives will: explore solutions; weave stories in and out of neighborhoods with varying levels of resources; introduce compelling characters; and immerse listeners in sound and scene-rich audio storytelling.

Below are some initial topics we've been thinking about. Feel free to expand on any of these in your pitch, or send us something you are already working on or want to be working on. Reporters will pitch, report, field record, script, and track their own stories. Mixing will be handled by LWC Studios audio designers, but reporters will be responsible for using their own professional-quality recording equipment and delivering professional and organized audio files. Travel expenses available if needed.

Target Topics

- Latina maternal health: childbirth experiences, prenatal care in an underserved community
- A baby being diagnosed with a medical condition at birth
- A toddler in preschool and the health impacts of their zip code
- Young girls joining sports teams and the impact on their changing bodies
- Young teens having their first periods, becoming sexually active

- Mental health for Latina college students, Afro-Latinas advocating for themselves at a PWI; Latina students navigating health diagnoses in college
- A comparison of healthcare between Latinas in two different neighborhoods of Chicago who both find out they are predisposed to a genetic disease
- An immigrant seeking health insurance
- An uninsured Latina navigating heart disease, the #1 killer of women in the country
- Women organizing running clubs, and other health groups
- Women overcoming addiction and/or homelessness; healing and relationships after violence.
- A woman seeking alternative (or folk) medicine or home remedies before going to the hospital
- Hospital experiences depending on if one speaks Spanish or English or is from a certain country
- Going through menopause while working or taking care of family
- The spiritual/cultural aspects of healing and Illness
- Handling grief and loneliness into old age

SEND 500-WORD PITCHES TO HELLO@LWCSTUDIOS.COM

Pitches should include: Link to your website/work portfolio/LinkedIn; Link to 1-2 long-form reported audio pieces; How the local angle reflects a national issue; Who you would feature in the piece; Why you are the best person for this story; Your expected fee, based on experience.

Ideal Reporters:

Live in and report in the greater Chicago area Report on their own communities or those they are highly familiar with and knowledgeable about Have previously reported on relevant issues in the pitch Have experience with long-form narrative audio Can think in sound Love meeting deadlines Work well with editors Fact check their work thoroughly Speak Spanish, if needed for the pitch