### **Center for Media Justice**

# ■ GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR FRAMING AND MESSAGING

## **Big Idea Framing**

- 1. What question is currently being asked about your issue?
- 2. What new question do you want to ask about your issue?
- 3. Why does this issue matter? What's really going on and why should people care?
- 4. What values are at the heart of this issue?

## **Story Framing**

- 1. What specific place, trend, or scene best illustrates your frame?
- 2. What is the conflict at hand?
- 3. What's the historical, social, and/or political context?
- 4. Who are the good guys and bad guys?
- 5. What's the moral of the story?

#### Messaging

- 1. What is the problem? What stereotypes are associated with this problem?
- 2. What institution or decisionmaker is responsible for this problem?
- 3. What's your vision and solution?
- 4. What action do you want your target and/or audience to take?
- 5. What will happen if they don't take this action (e.g., what's at stake)?

#### **Soundbites**

- 1. What short, catchy statements can you pull from your frame and messages?
- 2. How can you use rhyme, alliteration, metaphors, and clever comparisons in your soundbites?