



Impact: Second Quarter 2021

Cross-Pollination: Through solutions journalism, a community learns about something happening elsewhere, which sparks discussion and/or action.

Idaho Education News [April 2021] After reading the newsroom's solutions-oriented series about [new approaches to providing mental health support](#) to children, Eric Studebaker, director of student engagement and safety coordination at the Idaho State Department of Education, invited a school district employee who had been featured in the reporting to speak to a group of stakeholders. This group, in turn, made recommendations for improving access to mental health in schools that the Department of Education is now considering.

Fifty-plus publications [Nov. 2018-present] Starting in 2018 with a story in the Wall Street Journal, [more than 50 publications have written solutions stories about CAHOOTS](#), a mobile crisis team in Eugene, Oregon that, in cooperation with that city's police department, responds to 911 calls related to mental health, resulting in fewer shootings and deaths. While it's difficult to pinpoint exactly how the idea jumped from one point to the next, many of the reporters learned about CAHOOTS from other solutions stories and the growing coverage has launched CAHOOTS into national recognition. CAHOOTS-inspired efforts are now underway in San Francisco and Denver as well as Olympia, Washington; Portland, Oregon; and Rochester, New York. And there are many more in the pipeline.

Public Discourse/Civic Engagement: Solutions coverage leads to a change in the tone of public discourse.

The Real News Network [mid-2021] Reporting from The Real News Network (TRNN) that focused on how worker cooperatives can rebuild local communities was picked up by seven other news outlets within a month of publication. Six of these news organizations interviewed Real News Network reporter Jaisal Noor, who discussed his approach, his

findings and his [26-minute documentary](#) that examines how worker cooperatives persevered through the pandemic. In less than 60 days, the solutions documentary had over 6,000 views.

Northeast Ohio Solutions Journalism Collaborative [May 2021] After it was featured in [a solutions story produced by the Northeast Ohio Solutions Journalism Collaborative](#), an organization hosting COVID-19 vaccination clinics in historically Black churches in Cleveland [received a \\$250,000 grant from a local funder](#). The head of the initiative attributed the timing of the funding to the story, saying it raised the initiative's profile. The story was republished by several local media organizations in the collaborative.

United Nations, European Union, Nigerian Ministry of Information and Culture, and UNICEF [June 2021] For the first time, the European Union, the United Nations and several other organizations featured solutions journalism prominently in their outreach programs. In [a four-day media dialogue](#) they organized for 30 journalists on eliminating violence against women and girls in Nigeria, the organizations emphasized solutions journalism along with ethical reporting practices, strategic telling of survivors' stories, protection of privacy, a better understanding of stereotypes, and common mistakes to avoid. The initiative also involves the Child Rights Information Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Revenue: Increased income for news organizations related to solutions journalism activities, verticals, campaigns, etc.

The Narwhal [June 2021] The Narwhal, a Canadian-based publication that features solutions stories related to climate and the environment, is opening a new bureau in Ontario with help from a \$300,000 grant from the McConnell Foundation. In announcing the grant, the foundation said research suggests that "more nuanced and complex journalistic narratives, which feature and elevate the voices and experiences of those most affected by climate change, can enable richer understanding between relevant actors and help us move towards solutions-oriented actions."

The Seattle Times [June 2021] The Seattle Times added a fourth reporting project on behavioral and mental health modeled after its very successful Education Lab, Traffic Lab and Project Homeless initiatives, each of which has a small team supported with grants and sponsorships. All include solutions-focused coverage as part of their work. The new project is supported by a grant of nearly \$1.1 million from Ballmer Group, a national philanthropic organization.

Northeast Ohio Solutions Journalism Collaborative [April 2021] [Several local organizations and the nonprofit Black Environmental Leaders together granted \\$10,000](#) to news partners in the Northeast Ohio Solutions Journalism Collaborative, including The Land, the Collaborative NewsLab @Kent State University, Ideastream Public Media, La Mega Media and WKSU. According to a press release, the purpose of the funding is to “leverage the power of the Greater Cleveland news ecosystem to spotlight environmental justice narratives, stories and solutions led by BIPOC leaders, organizations and residents.” The six media outlets involved will use two-way texting, in-person interviews and community listening sessions to expand coverage of, and public engagement with, environmental issues in the region.

The Modesto Bee [April 2021] Drawing on a model from The Sacramento Bee and other McClatchy newsrooms in California, The Modesto Bee launched an Economic Mobility Lab with support from local and national funders as well as more than 250 individuals. The Lab has three reporters and an editor, and focuses on underserved communities, education and economic development in Stanislaus County, according to [editor Brian Clark](#). Community engagement and solutions-based journalism will be central to the Lab’s success, he said.

Outriders [first half of 2020] Outriders, a Poland-based digital publication covering global issues, generated \$8,000 in sponsorship revenue from Santander Bank to support a solutions-driven reporting package. Jakub Górnicki, CEO of Outriders, said pitching solutions-focused projects to businesses increases the publication’s chances of garnering support, because companies see value in associating their brands with coverage of responses to social issues.