

2019-2020 Story Fellowship

The Story Fellowship is a paid, 13-month long (January 2019-January 2020) opportunity to join the Solutions Journalism Network in spotlighting high-calibre solutions stories, and engaging communities with the key insights drawn from these stories. Our Solutions Story Tracker is a digital archive of solutions stories and a distinctive knowledge asset that can provide high value to journalists, citizens, and actors across society. Through analysis, indexing, and curation of solutions journalism stories through this database, our 2019 Fellows will be equipping society with the information it needs to tackle today's most pressing social problems, while acquiring valuable experience in the growing field of the digital humanities.

About SJN, the Solutions Story Tracker, and SolutionsU:

The Solutions Journalism Network (SJN)'s mission is to spread the practice of solutions journalism: rigorous reporting on responses to social problems. We seek to rebalance the news, so that every day people are exposed to stories that help them understand problems and challenges, and stories that show potential ways to respond. SJN trains journalists how to report on responses to problems in the world and continues to serve the journalism community.

The success of SJN's outreach has yielded a growing critical mass of solutions stories that needs archiving. In 2016, we launched a curated database of solutions journalism called Solutions Story Tracker, which now contains over 4,400 stories, tagged by issue and problem-solving approach and mapped by the location of the reported effort. We believe the Story Tracker is a distinctive knowledge asset that can provide high value to journalists, citizens, and actors across society.

Powered by the Story Tracker, the SolutionsU platform aims to accelerate the dissemination of solutions stories into society and, in turn, building demand for more of these stories. These stories produce immediate value for the people who come across them, and we understand anecdotally that solutions journalism generates different sorts of conversations that can strengthen citizenship. They also form a distinctive, higher-value asset: a real-time view or "heat map" showing how society is adapting to major social challenges. These stories can help journalists, policymakers, academics, philanthropic institutions, and citizen-sector actors bridge the gaps between what is broadly understood about problems and what is usually not understood about emerging responses to those problems.

Time Commitment:

13 months (January 2019 through January 2020)

10 hours per week at \$15 per hour

Your Responsibilities:

- Vet stories based on solutions journalism criteria
- Tag stories using the issue area and success factor taxonomies (strategic insights that emerge as patterns)
- Be resident expert of solutions journalism stories on a particular issue (e.g. Health, Education, Environment)
- Source examples of solutions journalism for an assigned beat topic
- Curate collections of relevant and interesting solutions journalism for various audiences
- Select and update one featured story per month for an assigned SolutionsU topic.
- Review and oversee the quality of the story database
- Reflect on your learnings through presentations and projects
- Keep updated with the latest news and developments happening at SJN
- Engage with other Fellows through Slack
- Attend three web-based Fellowship Summits (January, late May, early December)
- Reflect and present your learnings to the SJN team
- Mentor the next cohort of Fellows

Required and Preferred Qualifications:

- Avid and critical reader by habit
- Attention to detail
- Excellent self-organization and time-management
- Ability to succinctly summarize others' writing
- Write well without the need of an editor
- Interest in and knowledge of current events
- Passion for SJN's mission of using the power of solutions journalism to build a better world

From Megan Kamerick, 2018 Story Fellow:

"I love my work as an SJN fellow because I get to discover amazing journalism from around the world that's bringing to light solutions to some of the world's most intractable problems."

[Click Here to Apply by October 15](https://goo.gl/forms/LnbcOromcecW4zH83)

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