

# 5 GUIDELINES FOR SOLIDARITY REPORTING

## 1 Develop a Story Topic

- Go beyond a single individual's personal circumstances and look at the bigger picture
- Communities experiencing exclusion, systematic violence, or disenfranchisement are examples of potential solidarity stories

## 2 Identify & Contact Potential Sources

- Talk to people who are experts because they've lived the issue
- Sources may not have titles, institutional affiliations, or official status
- Take a look at what's already been written on the topic in your coverage area and in other places that may be experiencing the issue

## 3 Interview Sources

- Add context, give background information, and link to previous coverage
- Ask sources "what do you think?" and "what needs to change?"
- Identify common threads, concerns, and phrases that sources use
- Amplify sources' perspectives, not just their pain

## 4 Frame Story & Reflect on Word Choice

- Solidarity stories are framed as community-wide issues
- Provide the backdrop of what contributed to this issue
- Pay attention to how people self-identify, the significance of the labels your story uses, and the norms in the communities you're covering

## 5 Reflect on Story Impact

- Consider the impact of solidarity reporting in terms of representation: solidarity reporting includes people who may otherwise remain excluded
- Reflect on impact in terms of the kind of service your reporting provided