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Editorial

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Editorial

Sara Smock Jordan

Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Solution Focused Brief Therapy*

The world has changed dramatically since the journal's last issue. COVID-19 moved into our world impacting everyone. Despite the devastation of a pandemic, I'm proud to celebrate the journal's changes and accomplishments.

After the last issue, the editorial board voted to change the journal's name to *Journal of Solution Focused Practices (JSFP)*. This change reflects our commitment to publishing solution focused *practices* around the world. We are excited about this shift (for more details, tune into episode #103 of Simply Focus <https://www.sfontour.com/?s=103>). Also, please join us July 28th for our first ever journal party launch. The launch will occur in 3 time zones featuring contributors to this issue of *JSFP* (for more details, please email sarasmockjordan@gmail.com).

JSFP can't exist without our sponsors and donors. The Australasian Association for Solution-Focused Brief Therapy (AASFBT) and the Solution Focused Brief Therapy Association (SFBTA) made commitments to co-sponsoring *JSFP*. Their contributions are invaluable. Donors across the globe, such as China Zhong Yuan, Fondazione Franceschi Onlus, Austrian Solution Circle, Academy of Solution Focused Training, Swedish Solution-Focused Practice Organization, have contributed. The European Brief Therapy Association (EBTA) committed to raising funds for *JSFP* and other groups and organizations are willing to support *JSFP* in other ways (i.e. future translating services). A few donors have contributed statements in this issue as to *Why* they've chosen to support *JSFP*. Thank you everyone for your support, especially during a pandemic.

Several structural changes have also occurred. We welcome Mark McKergow as our new book review editor. You will find several book reviews in this issue. We are excited about including these papers in *JSFP*. If you have suggestions for books to review, please reach out to Mark (mark@sfwork.com). We are also in the process of increasing our ad hoc reviewer pool, as well as diversifying our editorial board. *JSFP* now has a management committee, led by David Hains, that oversees the financial management and accountability of the editor for *JSFP*. All sponsors and donors are invited to serve on this committee. As mentioned in my first editorial, David's commitment to the journal has been instrumental to its revitalization. Lastly, *JSFP* is now free, open access for all readers. This platform allows everyone access to our papers. Other advantages of an open access journal include unlimited page limits for manuscripts, an electronic review process, author copyright privilege, and unlimited papers per issue. We are very excited about this distribution opportunity.

In a continued effort to support our diverse global community, *JSFP* created a diversity statement in January. In this statement we acknowledged the diversity (i.e. various disciplines, backgrounds, experiences, etc.) that exists in our SF community. Most notably, social privilege and inequities. We stated our aspirations of creating a community that respects and values our differences, as well as creates opportunities to diversify the *JSFP* editorial board and its contributors. We also provided our plan to revise our efforts as needed to accomplish our aspirations. In June, the *JSFP* editors created and distributed a statement in response to ongoing issues of inequality around the world. *JSFP* stated that we will "create a space for the publication and promotion of articles which are useful and relevant to everyone who practices and is interested in learning more about solution-focused practice." We provided three action steps to accomplish this goal:

1. The *JSFP* is working to improve representation of black people, indigenous people and people from post-colonial countries in all parts of the journal from seeking contributions, throughout the editorial process to publication.
2. The *JSFP* Board are undertaking a process of reflection and education in order to improve our understanding of how to make the journal one which serves our entire community and not just those with privilege. We are committed to this process and willing to be challenged and to listen and act on that challenge.
3. The *JSFP* editors are undertaking to decolonise this process and to change the way we encourage submissions and review them to ensure that alternative methodologies and knowledge are welcomed and fairly treated.

JSPF's editorial board was asked to take an active role in these action steps. As editor, my best hope is to create a culture of inclusion and equity to further the solution focused approach around the globe. This best hope includes: a) providing translated versions of manuscripts (see Shennan article in this issue) in several languages; b) encouraging non-academics and students to submit and publish their work (see Thomas & Bloom article in this issue); c) publishing opinion/experience/historical pieces (see both Miller and Wheeler articles in this issue); d) providing free open access to all *JSPF* (including *JSFBT*) issues; e) soliciting papers from Black, Indigenous, and other marginalized practitioners; and f) furthering the evidence-base of solution focused practices.

Change is always occurring. Just as the pandemic and social injustices impacted our world in a devastating manner, hope continues. The core solution focused principle of *hope in the future* has never been more essential. I challenge everyone to focus on the possibility for positive change in an ever -evolving world. Its never been more important to come together as an international community furthering the message of *hope in the future* through our conversations, practice, and promotion of the solution focused approach.

A heartfelt THANK YOU to EVERYONE reading this issue!

Sara

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