The first two hours of our national talk show are in the books!

Yesterday’s America Amplified Live! Community Engagement Special was a productive partnership with local stations.

We welcomed: KGW (Portland, Oregon), KUNR & AFPN (Reno, Nevada), WUSF (Tampa, Florida), and KCUR (Kansas City, Missouri).

From production headquarters at KCUR, the energy was high. We had several groups of listeners with good questions, including from a woman in Reno who chose to use Zoom instead of Facebook Live, because of disability.

The Kansas City team, pictured above, are (clockwise from center): Stephen Showalter, Mina Kim, Chris Neff, and J. Patric Schneider.

KCUR is starting a new series called “The Next Normal,” in which the station is asking audience members to share stories about how their lives have been changed by the pandemic. People can email or leave a voicemail with their stories, and soon, they will be able to connect with others who have similar experiences.

The episodes were posted afterward to the America Amplified website.

We’re Engaged! Did you stumble upon this newsletter and find it awesome? So far, 22 NPR affiliates have picked up the show. Have you seen any shows with your station?

WABE held a virtual roundtable with members of a church in Albany, Georgia, on Saturday, April 25. The pastor of the church and 6 members joined WABE reporters on a Zoom call to talk about the effect of COVID-19 on their community. Albany is a hot spot in the U.S. with 70% African-American. During the call, church members expressed a lot of sadness, yet they also talked about the vulnerability in the community including poverty. “The meeting was recorded and elements of it will come back. They also talked about the factors that may have contributed to the vulnerability in the community including poverty.” The meeting was recorded and elements of it will come back. They also talked about the factors that may have contributed to the vulnerability in the community including poverty.”

The episode is posted elsewhere on the America Amplified website and the next day, a story came out of our local partners on the church. To listen, check out "To Cross the Street: "In the Heart of a Black Community" and "A Long Road Ahead: "Georgia Community ‘at the Brink’ of the Pandemic.

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Thoughts from Mina: “This was the kind of experience we can now be getting to hear from stations all over the US, and it’s amazing. Bring more of these stations to our American Radiance Loops.”

Thoughts from Rose: “With all the parts of the experience I can’t be getting to hear from stations all over the US, and it’s amazing. Bring more of these stations to our American Radiance Loops.”

The episode is posted elsewhere on the America Amplified website and the next day, a story came out of our local partners on the church. To listen, check out "To Cross the Street: "In the Heart of a Black Community" and "A Long Road Ahead: "Georgia Community ‘at the Brink’ of the Pandemic.

Next Normal: WABE plans to go back to this community for future interviews, asking audience members to share stories about how their lives have been changed by the pandemic. People can email or leave a voicemail with their stories, and soon, they will be able to connect with others who have similar experiences.

For stations interested in hosting a talk show or participating in America Amplified, please email reporter@americaamplified.org.

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