**IRISE 2.0**
Interdisciplinary Research Incubator for the Study Of (In)Equality

---

**A Proposed Framework for Community Inclusion Toward Racial Equality and Social Justice in Response to DU 2025 IMPACT and the Grand Challenges Call To Action**

---

**Build On The Excellence of IRISE 1.0**
The establishment of IRISE has placed DU as a leader in Diversity and Inclusion work in Denver and beyond. In its five years at DU, IRISE has hosted 9 postdoctoral fellows, provided support for students through programs like the Roger Salters Institute, and supported faculty and student research, conferences, and symposia focused on issues of (in)equality.

**Bring Together a Community of Thought Leaders**
Building on the reputation as a center of excellence, IRISE 2.0 will create collaborative networks of community leaders, government agencies, institutions of learning, and grassroots organizations to work together generating innovative solutions to the persistence racial inequalities faced by communities of color in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain West.

**Establish a Model for Community Inclusion**
DU will become a hub of critical and community based thought leadership. Through coalition building, engaged partnerships and design thinking, IRISE is building a methodology of community inclusion, centering the areas of health and education. In its search for five Postdoctoral Fellows, IRISE received 130 applications from scholars doing cutting edge community-engaged work.

**Produce Measurable Areas of Impact for Sustainable Change**
IRISE 2.0 will yield four levers of impact 1) Policy & Practice, 2) Research & Scholarship, 3) Leadership & Development and 4) Curriculum & Teaching. In each area IRISE will establish a community impact assessment allowing us to identify innovative, meaningful, and readily applied solutions to deep rooted racial disparities in education and health in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain West.