RISING FROM THE RUBBLE

Re-imagining a more equitable news and information ecosystem in Boulder County, CO
The Reality of Journalism Today

- The journalism world in Colorado – and nationally – has been turned upside down in ways we never anticipated:
  - The Rocky Mountain News closed 10 years ago
  - The Denver Post has 70 journalists in a newsroom that once had 275
  - Since 2010, the number of reporters or correspondents working in all media in Colorado has plummeted from roughly 1,000 to fewer than 600
  - Since 2004, the state has lost 21 newspapers – almost one out of every five
  - Boulder County’s newspapers have been consolidated and cut significantly
So what’s next?

Are we just trying to roll back the clock to a bygone era?
... Or can we re-imagine the way we cover news in Boulder County, Colorado?

Population: 322,698
Since 1996, our TRENDS Report has tracked the social, economic and environmental health of our community

- Relies on 150 community indicators
- Local journalists provide in-depth community reporting

View TRENDS Video Trailer
Our findings

- We are aging
- We are becoming more diverse
- Our skyrocketing home prices are driving families out
- We have some of the state’s widest educational achievement gaps
- Vaping, mental health loom large
- Environmental preservation efforts are challenged by growth and climate change
- Arts organizations are working toward a more inclusive future
- Our goal of connected, inclusive communities remains elusive
Who will cover these issues?
Our Response: An Equity Reporting Initiative

- TRENDS Podcast
- Equity Reporting Lab
- Solutions Fund
TRENDS Podcast

Episode 1: Mobile Home Residents Face Water Quality and Infrastructure Issues
Equity Reporting Lab

Additional reporting on our community’s most pressing social, economic and environmental needs will focus on the voices and experiences of our neighbors.
Solutions Fund

Together, we will discover community stories, connect about challenges, and engage on community-driven solutions.
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