


THE 2GEN APPROACH

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The **Two-Generational (2Gen) approach**, or whole family approach, focuses on creating opportunities for and addressing the needs of both *children and adults together* so that families get the supports they need to secure economic stability that passes from one generation to the next.





CHILD-FOCUSED



CHILD-FOCUSED WITH PARENT ELEMENTS

e.g., early childhood development, parenting skills, family literacy, and health screenings



PARENT-FOCUSED WITH CHILD ELEMENTS

e.g., child care, workforce programs, food and nutrition, and supports for student parents



PARENT-FOCUSED

SOCIAL CAPITAL ▶
peer and family
networks
coaching
cohort strategies



◀ **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**
Head Start
Early Head Start
child care partnerships
preK
home visiting



HEALTH & WELL-BEING ▲
mental, physical, and
behavioral health
coverage and access
to care
adverse childhood
experiences
toxic stress



▲ **ECONOMIC ASSETS**
asset building
housing and public supports
financial capacity
transportation



◀ **POSTSECONDARY &
EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS**
community college
training and certification
workforce partnerships

PARENT VOICE

- Moves beyond research/focus groups
- Parents equipped as civic leaders, engaged as equal partners in policy + practice
- A mechanism for racial and socioeconomic equity
- Structure for parent engagement (CT, CO, WA)




2GEN PRACTICE INFORMS POLICY

- 2Gen “Learning Communities” established through Sec. 401 of Public Act No. 15-5
 - Meriden, Norwalk, New Haven, Bridgeport
- Connecticut Working Cities Challenge cities
- Hartford Region Early Childhood Collaboratives

P.A. 19-78: AN ACT CONCERNING A TWO-GENERATIONAL INITIATIVE

As required by P.A. 19-78, OPM is developing an interagency plan to coordinate and align delivery of services to assist families in overcoming barriers to economic success.

1. Promote data sharing opportunities within and between state agencies to the degree legally permissible.
 2. Coordinate and leverage existing resources to assist families in overcoming barriers to economic success.
 3. Consider innovative approaches based on input of parents and other community members to increase impact.
 4. Identify goals for interagency collaboration to achieve measurable and demonstrable systems change to disrupt cycles of intergenerational poverty and advance family economic self-sufficiency and racial and socio-economic equity.
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2GEN INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

Based around the Family Economic Success Cabinet concept (developed during the Governor's transition), a core group of agencies are identifying programs that employ the 2Gen "whole family" approach.

- Office of Early Childhood (OEC)
- Department of Labor (DOL)
- Department of Children and Families (DCF)
- Department of Social Services (DSS)
- Department of Housing (DOH)
- State Department of Education (SDE)
- CT State Colleges & Universities (CSCU)

CT OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

- 2017: P.A. 18-19 designates OEC as 2Gen “coordinating agency” of executive branch
- Example OEC 2Gen service delivery strategies:
 - Outcomes Rate Card
 - Family Homeless Diversion Rate Card
 - OEC-UConn Workforce Demonstration Projects
 - OEC-Department of Corrections Projects
 - App-Based Technology - Sparkler

STATE BEST PRACTICES

- Colorado
- Minnesota
- Tennessee
- Washington

QUESTIONS?

