Two-Generation “2Gen” Approach

2Gen: An Overview

The Two-Generation (2Gen) approach to policy and programs disrupts generational cycles of poverty and poor outcomes by taking the whole family into account – focusing on the needs of the entire family, rather than on children or parents separately. Any policy, program, or service for parents or children, including those for early care and education, health, child welfare, and juvenile justice, can use a 2Gen approach.

The Two-Generation Continuum

- child-focused
- child-focused with parent elements (e.g. early childhood development, parenting skills, family literacy, and health screenings)
- whole family
- parent-focused with child elements (e.g. child care and workforce programs, food and nutrition, and supports for student parents)
- parent-focused

2Gen policies address multiple areas that allow the whole family to change and thrive.

Impact of 2Gen Approaches

- Improving access to childcare could address an estimated $1.75 billion economic loss to the state by reducing missed work and increasing economic opportunities for parents of young children. Two
- A $3,000 increase in a parents’ income when their child is young is associated with a 17% increase in their child’s future earnings.
- Children with college savings between $1 and $499 are 3 times more likely to go to college and 4 times more likely to graduate.

*Household income below 100% of the federal poverty level. See HHS Poverty Guidelines for more info.

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2Gen Models in Georgia*

Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL)
DECAL’s Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program:

- Provides access to high-quality and affordable early learning for families with low incomes
- Helps young learners achieve school readiness for greater academic gains in the long-term
- Assists families in achieving stability and self-sufficiency by providing financial support for childcare

DECAL also supports select technical colleges with Two-Generation Innovation Grants, which connect children from low-income families with quality early learning and helps their parents receive the training and education they need for well-paying jobs.

Quality Care for Children
Quality Care for Children’s Boost Child Care Initiative aims to increase the success of low-income parents and their children. Boost Child Care Initiative includes:

- Increasing state investment in child care subsidies to improve Georgia’s workforce
- Eliminate the Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) eligibility gap
- Extending subsidy eligibility to parents attending college
- Promote healthy moms and babies
- Increase mother’s self-esteem
- Increase rates or school attendance and graduation

Note: The Quality Care for Children’s Boost Child Care Initiative is not affiliated with the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network BOOST Grant.

Network of Trust School Health Program
The Network of Trust school health program in Albany works with pregnant teens and young mothers to:

- Promote healthy moms and babies
- Increase mother’s self-esteem
- Increase rates or school attendance and graduation

The Network of Trust also works to decrease the rate of child abuse.

*This is not a comprehensive list of 2Gen models in Georgia. Other examples include Home Visiting, Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS), and Nana grants.

Rev. 07/2022
Sources for Two-Generation “2Gen” Approach


