Trying on a Two-Generation Approach

Where is your work on the two-generation continuum?

child-focused → whole family → parent-focused

child-focused with parent elements e.g., parenting skills or family literacy

parent-focused with child elements e.g., child care, workforce programs, and food and nutrition

Which of these core components of a two-generation approach do you address?

social capital
peer and family networks, coaching, and cohort strategies

early childhood education
Head Start early learning

postsecondary & employment pathways
community college training and certification workforce partnerships

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

http://ascend.aspeninstitute.org
Guiding Questions

• First, turn the page over and mark where you are today on the two-generation continuum and which of the core components your work currently addresses.

• Next, imagine that it is July 2024 (5 years from today).

• You are reporting out on a two-generation initiative you designed and implemented beginning in 2019 to achieve better outcomes for children and families. How might you respond to the questions below?

What are the CHALLENGES facing the families you serve?

Who are your PRIMARY PARTNERS?

What OUTCOMES are you seeking for children and the adults in their lives? Which results do each of your partners drive?

What has been the BIGGEST OPPORTUNITY you encountered and how have you taken advantage of it?

What has been the BIGGEST CHALLENGE you faced in designing and implementing this effort? How have you addressed it?