

COMMUNITY GUIDE TO TWO-GENERATION APPROACHES

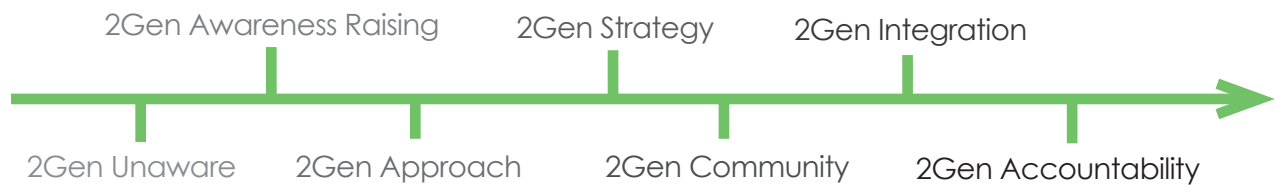
Two-generation approaches (2Gen) provide opportunities for and meet the needs of children and the adults in their lives. The Community Guide to 2Gen Approaches helps communities understand how they deliver services to their populations and how they can become more efficient and effective at achieving lasting outcomes. This brief community guide is designed to help leaders:

- Identify where their community currently is on the 2Gen community continuum; and
- Explore concrete steps and roles in advancing 2Gen efforts in their community and the state.

PART I: Where is your community on the 2Gen Community Continuum?

Communities may be at various stages in implementing a 2Gen approach. Implementation of 2Gen programs and policies often occurs in the stages listed below. This continuum can be useful for assessing the status of a program, policy, organization, or community related to 2Gen approaches and help organizations delivering services understand how to move to the next stage and achieve lasting outcomes. [Circle where your community falls on the continuum below. See descriptors below.]

2GEN COMMUNITY CONTINUUM



Guiding questions to discuss in your small groups:

- Does your community know about the 2Gen approach?
- Are cross-sector stakeholders working collaboratively to align and/or provide services?
- Is there a sustained, coordinated effort to evaluate outcomes for families?

2Gen Community Continuum Descriptors:

2Gen Unaware: Fragmented programs and systems due to limited understanding of the 2Gen framework.

2Gen Awareness Raising: Stakeholders beginning to learn about 2Gen and engaging others to learn more. Primary activities centered on 2Gen framework education and training.

2Gen Approach: Stakeholders aware of and support existing 2Gen organizations, and move on to “development” if there are any gaps.

2Gen Strategy: Cross-sector stakeholders working collaboratively to align and/or coordinate programs, policies, organizations and systems to reflect the 2Gen framework and ingrain it in their mission. Primary activities centered on alignment and coordination across sectors to meet the needs of all family members.

2Gen Community: Cross-sector stakeholders working collaboratively to provide services to both children and adults simultaneously. Primary activities centered on the provision of services and the ongoing evaluation of outcomes for both parents and children, or the family as a whole.

2Gen Integration: Both children and adults are being simultaneously served in multiple programs across multiple sectors. Shared public will leads to more organizations that have an underlying mission and values conducive to serving the whole family comprehensively.

2Gen Accountability: Sustained understanding of the 2Gen framework; sustained development of 2Gen organizations, programs and policies; sustained alignment and/or coordination of programs, policies, and systems; sustained provision of services to children and adults simultaneously; and sustained evaluation of outcomes for both parents and children to support improved outcomes for families.

PART II: Advancing 2Gen Approaches in Your Community and the State

The chart below is broken down into five objectives with activities, action steps, leads, and progress indicators. Its purpose is to help state and community leaders track, measure, and achieve their 2Gen strategies. The five objectives are: policy and practice; collaboration and integration; data, data system, and evaluation; funding; and communication. Choose 1-2 of the objectives on the following pages and read through the associated activities. A sample is provided at the end of the exercise.

Guiding questions to discuss in your small groups:

- Are these the right activities for the corresponding objective? What is missing? What roles would you play?
- Are there barriers to completing these activities? If yes, how would you overcome them?
- What partners or resources would be necessary to accomplish these activities?

OBJECTIVE: POLICY AND PRACTICE		
Tactic	Activities	Notes
Map Current Policy and Develop Policy Agenda	Identify barriers to 2Gen approach	
	Identify places to embed 2Gen into existing policies	
	Emphasize family as well as children	
Within Organizations	Inclusion in mission and vision	
	Develop written policies and rules regarding implementation of 2gen practices	

OBJECTIVE: COLLABORATION AND INTEGRATION		
Tactic	Activities	Notes
Promote Multi-Disciplinary Participation to Maximize Resources and Avoid Duplication	When possible, services are streamlined and bundled to provide a more holistic approach	

OBJECTIVE: DATA, DATA SYSTEM, AND EVALUATION

Tactic	Activities	Notes
Data Collection	Assess current ability to collect and use data to support 2Gen	
	Provide an assessment or mapping of what is currently being collected by whom (evidence-based examples and common tools)	
	Oversampling of surveys and data to reflect target demographics	
	Data development agenda	
Sharing, Linking, and Use of Data	Mechanisms for automatic data-sharing/interoperability across agencies and counties; collect similar data (and definitions) across organizations and agencies; both aggregate to evaluate systems and at family level	
	Sharing successful examples of how to use data to implement 2Gen approaches	
	Education on sharing data across families	
	Family definition inclusive of 3Gen (grandparents, parents, children)	
Measuring Outcomes	Develop evaluation strategy	
	Families exiting system/families demonstrate self-reliance	
	Identify benchmarks and indicators	
	Measure social network	
	Reports presented in a way that is reflective of families and children	

OBJECTIVE: COMMUNICATION

Tactic	Activities	Notes
Tools for Education and Awareness	Consistent messaging	
	Annual reports	
	Conferences	
	Website and social media	
	Communications materials	

OBJECTIVE: FUNDING		
Tactic	Activities	Notes
To Best Serve the Needs of Families and Children, Organizations Have Flexibility to Deliver Funding Across Multiple Generations	Identify barriers to allowing this to happen across funding sources and what needs to be changed	
	When possible, services are streamlined and bundled to provide a more holistic approach	
Advocate for 2Gen Approaches as a Funding Priority	Build family economic security platform to coordinate with/ complement early childhood programs	
	Fund organizations as well as programs; fund administrative efforts to blend and braid funding	
	Funders provide thought leadership on 2Gen strategies	
	Educate insurers to allow providers to provide for families as a unit	
	Educate legislators to look at multiplier effect	
	Give priority to 2Gen in grant funding	
	Blend and braid funding to streamline use	
Direct capital investment to 2Gen		

SAMPLE

OBJECTIVE: POLICY AND PRACTICE						
Tactic	Activities	Action Steps	Responsible Organization	Leads	Measures of Progress	Progress Update
To Best Serve the Needs of Families and Children, Organizations Have Flexibility to Deliver Funding Across Multiple Generations	When possible, services are streamlined and bundled to provide a more holistic approach	Submit federal waivers and advocate for changes in federal policy	Department of Human Services	Director of Office of Early Childhood	- 2 waivers for XXX approved - Policy guidance on XXX modified to support a 2Gen approach	1 waiver approved. Second waiver submitted and pending review / Sept. 2017