

CROSS AGENCY CHILD COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Preschool
Development
Grant
Birth through Five

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TWO-GENERATION INNOVATION GRANTS

In 2016, Georgia was selected as one of five states to receive the Parents and Children Thriving Together (PACTT) grant from the National Governors Association and the Center for Law and Social Policy. With this grant, Georgia began to advance a two-generation (2Gen) approach to support children from low-income families with high-quality early learning, while supporting their families in attaining the education, training, and, ultimately, the jobs that lead to economic self-determination.

Since this time, the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) has funded 21 2Gen Innovation Grants to organizations across the state of Georgia. The goals of these grants are to build whole-family pathways to economic prosperity by connecting parents currently pursuing workforce training or postsecondary education with child care and family supports, and connecting parents of young children in child care with workforce training and postsecondary education. Simply put, these grants encourage community partners to collaborate to better meet the needs of current and future student parents and their young children.

TWO-GENERATION INNOVATION GRANTS CONT.

Recognizing that communities vary in their experience with this type of whole-family approach, DECAL offers two types of 2Gen Innovation Grants. Capacity-building grants of \$10,000 enable partner organizations to increase their knowledge of the unique needs of student parents in their own communities, and develop strategies to address the issues they uncover. Implementation grants of \$25,000 are reserved for collaborative organizations focused on executing a well-defined project or policy which merges child- and family-serving activities in their area.

During May DECAL will announce its newest set of 2Gen Innovation Grantees. Funding for the 2022 grants has been made available from the Child Care and Development Fund Grant and the \$11.2 million Preschool Development Renewal Grant that Georgia received in January 2020 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Education.



2GEN GEORGIA EXPANSION

DECAL and the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) received a \$150,000 Policy Acceleration Partnership grant from Ascend at the Aspen Institute and the Liz Blake Giving Fund of the Blake Family Foundation. The goal of the grant is to expand current 2Gen Georgia initiatives to improve and strengthen coordination across child care, post-secondary education, and state benefit services resulting in a strong alignment between programs and initiatives funded through Child Care Development Funding (CCDF), Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The target population for the grant is single mothers and student parents seeking or participating in secondary and post-secondary adult education programs (adult basic education, adult secondary education, and English language learners). Activities associated with the grant include convening state and community leaders and student parents through the implementation of a State 2Gen Leadership Advisory Council, a Parent Advisory Council, and three Community Advisory Councils in Cobb County, Metro Atlanta, and Lowndes County.

The goals of the Councils are to:

- Define shared goals and opportunities for cross-agency policy alignment at the state and community level;
- Identify strategies to increase access for single mothers and student parents for state, community, and educational supports and opportunities;
- Ensure parents are included in conversations and strategies to reduce and eliminate barriers to needed services and inform new practices and policies; and
- Strengthen coaching and case management skills for state and community-level staff through Family-Centered Coaching training.

2GEN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Georgia Children's Cabinet will conduct a 2Gen Leadership Academy, the purpose of which is to develop agency leaders who can execute an interagency strategy using a 2Gen approach to improve outcomes for Georgia's children and families. The Academy includes ten sessions over 12 days that will advance strong leadership principals, provide training in interagency cooperation, and build knowledge in 2Gen approaches.

Participants:

For the first cohort, state agency members of the Georgia Children's Executive Cabinet will select one or two participants each, choosing individuals who are strategic to implementing the 2Gen approach in their respective agencies. Participants will have at least five years work experience in a program directly serving children.

Capstone Project:

Leadership Academy participants will form teams during the first session. Each team will be paired with a Capstone Project Sponsor designated by the Cabinet. Capstone projects are an integral part of the Leadership Academy because they assist the Cabinet with implementing 2Gen approaches, including whole family and system approaches to policy and service delivery; identification of barriers to program eligibility, access and participation; and making frontline staff better informed of state programs and services., Teamwork will also strengthen collaboration across agencies.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

09/07/22 CACC MEETING	05/12/22 CAFC MEETING
11/14/22 CACC MEETING	11/03/22 CAFC MEETING