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DECAL Awards Community Impact Grants

Atlanta, GA (August 8, 2025) The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) has awarded 15 new Community Impact Grants to organizations and communities across the state to address critical needs, including access to child care, literacy, and food insecurity. Grants were awarded in three categories: 2Gen Innovation Grants for Student Parent Success, 2Gen Community Literacy Grants, and Community Transformation Grants. All grants are funded by Georgia's Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) and will run for two years.

Five organizations received 2Gen Innovation Grants for Student Parent Success of up to \$75,000 each. These grants are designed to support the implementation of two-generation (2Gen) strategies that enhance children's access to high-quality early education while also improving parents' ability to secure family-supporting jobs, thereby fostering greater economic security. The grantees are:

- APEC Learning Center
- Columbus Technical College
- Dalton Public Schools
- Kennesaw State University Research and Service Foundation
- Lowndes/Valdosta Commission for Children & Youth

Four organizations received 2Gen Community Literacy Grants of up to \$75,000 each. These grants will fund initiatives that focus on improving literacy skills across generations, often incorporating adult education, early childhood education, and family engagement strategies to create a supportive learning environment. The grantees are:

- Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority
- Dalton Public Schools
- International Rescue Committee Atlanta
- Scottdale Early Learning

Six communities received Community Transformation Grants of up to \$125,000 each. These grants, which DECAL has awarded since 2021, are designed to address the unique needs of local populations by building partnerships that will create and implement innovative, responsive projects that address specific early childhood gaps and challenges faced by families in their areas. Recipients are required to create cross-sector collaboration among community organizations that serve both adults and children. The grantees are:

- Black Child Development Institute-Atlanta
- Brooks County Board of Commissioners
- Bulloch County Schools
- Cook County Family Connection
- Georgia State University
- Quality Care for Children

“We congratulate these grantees and thank them for developing thoughtful and creative initiatives that address critical local needs,” said DECAL Commissioner Amy M. Jacobs. “Through these grant awards, DECAL is helping community partnerships improve future outcomes for young children and families across Georgia.”

About the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning: The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) is responsible for meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia’s children and their families. It administers the nationally recognized Georgia’s Pre-K Program, licenses child care centers and home-based child care, administers Georgia’s Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program and federal nutrition programs, and manages Quality Rated, Georgia’s community-powered child care rating system. The department also houses the Head Start State Collaboration Office, distributes federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and works collaboratively with Georgia child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state to enhance early care and education. For more information, go to www.dec.al.ga.gov.