Creating Space for the Whole Family: Two Generation Approaches to Health and Well-being

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Two-generation approaches provide opportunities for and meet the needs of children and the adults in their lives together.
Principles to Guide 2Gen Efforts

- Measure and account for outcomes for both children and their parents
- Engage and listen to the voices of families
- Ensure equity
- Foster innovation and evidence together
- Align and link systems and funding streams
- Prioritize intentional implementation
Core Components of the 2Gen Framework

- Social Capital: networks, friends, and neighbors
- Early Childhood Education
- Postsecondary & Employment Pathways
- Economic Assets: asset building, bundled services and housing
- Health & Well-being: mental health, toxic stress, access to health care

Ascend at the Aspen Institute  •  http://ascend.aspeninstitute.org
Health and Well-being for Two Generations

2-Gen Health Platform

Aligning food assistance with TANF and child care services

Facilitating maternal and infant mental health interventions

Advancing home visiting as employment path and screening mom and baby

Research investments

Piloting whole family coverage models for parents and children
Phase I: Learnings in Health

- Social determinants of health impact economic well-being

- Key human services levers – **food assistance, case management** – connected to health coverage policies and measures

- *Children’s healthy development* approaches are informed by research in brain development, stress and mental health, parents’ access to care and paid family leave
ACA: Affording 2Gen Approaches to Health
Health coverage and organizing health care systems to promote children and families well-being. Outlines ways to better coordinate health and human services and behavioral and primary health care with a 2Gen lens - and more.

Top 10 for 2Gen
10 policies federal and state policymakers can pursue immediately to help parents and children break out of the cycle of poverty. **Top Ten for 2Gen** also outlines six principles to guide the design and use of two-generation approaches in any sector.

Emerging State 2Gen Policy Innovation – New York, Connecticut