Implementing Two-generation Approaches in Human Services Programs

State Human Services Commissioners Webinar
September 7, 2016
Webinar Agenda

• Speakers
  – Mark Greenberg, Acting Assistant Secretary
  – Monica Barczak, Senior Advisor to ACF
  – Susan Golonka, Acting Director of Office of Family Assistance
  – Jeannie Chaffin, Director of Office of Community Services
  – Vicki Turetsky, Director of Office of Child Support Enforcement
  – Marrianne McMullen, Deputy Assistant Secretary for External Affairs

• Q & A
A Two-Generation Approach
Meets the Needs of Children and Parents Together.

ACF brings a two-generation philosophy to its efforts, and works to support and advance two-generation approaches through its research, technical assistance, and program and policy guidance.
Our Commitment

ACF is committed to:

• identifying opportunities to apply these principles to programs we administer,

• identifying the best ways to support their adoption in state, tribal, and local efforts, and;

• advancing a research agenda that will enhance our understanding of effective two-generation approaches and their impacts for children, parents, and families.
ACF Promotes and Supports...

- linkages between high quality educational services for children and workforce development services for their parents;

- programmatic efforts to help parents gain the skills, knowledge, and resources to support their child’s development;

- ensuring that families have access to the economic and social supports needed for stability and resilience and healthy child development, and;

- helping families build social capital that can support both resilience and upward mobility.
Two-Gen Research at ACF

• **Buffering Toxic Stress Consortium**
  - launched in 2011
  - six projects to evaluate promising parenting interventions in Early Head Start settings, seeking to reduce risk of children experiencing toxic stress.
  - studies expected to be completed in late 2016, practitioner-friendly products expected in 2017

• **Head Start-University Partnerships**
  - launched in 2013
  - four projects to rigorously test two-generation approaches to promoting family well-being and children’s school readiness within the context of Head Start
  - studies expected to be completed in late 2018
Two-Gen Research at ACF

• **Goal-Oriented Adult Learning in Self-Sufficiency (GOALS)**
  - launched in 2014
  - explores how emerging insights from psychology, including those relating to socio-emotional and cognitive development and executive functioning, can be integrated into programs aimed at helping families achieve economic success.
  - expected products include a synthesis of existing research, available Nov 2016, and a final report including summaries of site visits, available fall 2017.

• **Two-Generation Approaches to Improving Family Self-Sufficiency**
  - launched in 2015
  - examines evidence and provide options for how two-generation models might be evaluated
  - expected products include 3 short briefs describing study findings and a final report including a literature review and discussion of evaluation options, available mid-2017
The Two-Generation Approach
The Goal: Better Outcomes for Families

PARENT OUTCOMES

• Less parental stress
• Stronger parenting skills
• Parent confidence as child’s first teacher

CHILD OUTCOMES

• Child is ready for school
• Improved social and emotional development
• More positive high-quality interactions with parents

FAMILY OUTCOMES

• Increased family income and financial security
• Ability to meet basic needs
• A stable and secure environment
Examples of Services

**Parent centered:**
- Occupational training
- Post-secondary education
- Adult Basic Education / GED
- English as a Second Language
- Financial coaching
- Parenting skills
- Home visiting
- Health & Well-Being

**Child centered:**
- Early Head Start / Head Start
- High-quality child care
- Home visiting
- Health & Well-Being
Social Capital – the Secret Sauce
Two-Gen as a New Way to Do Business – Not a New Program

• It is an approach not necessarily a specific model
• It is not asking a single system or program to do it all
• It is putting the burden of alignment and coordination off of parents and onto programs, systems and policies
• BUT, it is about inviting families into the system design process
• Intentionally linking high-quality services is what makes two gen different
Two-Gen Opportunities in TANF

Current Flexibility

Build upon Existing Efforts

Technical Assistance & Guidance
TANF Block Grant Use of Funds

TANF and MOE Spending and Transfers by Activity, FY 2015: United States

Total Funds = $31.7 Billion

- Basic Assistance: 24%
- Child Care (Spent or Transferred): 17%
- Program Management: 10%
- Refundable Tax Credits: 8%
- Pre-Kindergarten/Head Start: 6%
- Child Welfare Services: 7%
- Work, Education, & Training Activities: 7%
- Authorized Solely Under Prior Law: 2%
- Other: 4%
- Fatherhood & Two-Parent Family Programs: 0.4%
- Out-of-Wedlock Pregnancy Prevention: 3%
- Transferred to SSBG: 4%
- Non-Recurrent Short Term Benefits: 3%
- Services for Children & Youth: 2%
- Work Supports & Supportive Services: 3%
- Other: 4%
Two-Gen Opportunities: TANF & Workforce Development

• There is sufficient flexibility within the Work Participation Rate to provide vocational educational training.

• The TANF agency can create or partner with employment programs that:
  - Offer contextualized adult education (e.g. short-term trainings within career pathways).
  - Work around the child’s school day.
  - Ensure access to child care and transportation services.
  - Promote social connections among parent participants.
Two-Gen Opportunities: TANF & Early Childhood Development

- The TANF agency can partner with high-quality childcare providers, Early Head Start / Head Start, and Home Visiting programs.
- The TANF agency can create opportunities for parents of young children to build connections with each other.
Technical Assistance and Guidance

• “Strengthening TANF Outcomes by Developing Two-Generation Approaches to Build Economic Security,” TANF-ACF-IM-2016-03

• Community of Learning on Two-Generation Strategies across all OFA grantees

• 2017 National TANF Summit
Two-Gen Opportunities in the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

- About half of State Human Service Departments have responsibility for CSBG.
- States and the Community Action Agencies they fund already spend nearly half of their CSBG funds on services related to economic security.
- The challenge becomes how states use CSBG to intentionally link and align services in a way that promotes better outcomes for children, parents, and families.
- CSBG affords sufficient flexibility for States to promote two-generation approaches via incentive programs, technical assistance, and strategic collaboration.
Two-Gen Opportunities in CSBG

Planning & Coordination

Supporting Economic Security

Two-Generation Innovation

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Building Two-Gen into CSBG

• Planning and Coordination
  - Community Needs Assessment and Community Action Plan
  - Coordination and Alignment of Services
  - Using Data to Identify Service Gaps

• Supporting Economic Security
  - Employment
  - Income
  - Asset Building

• Two-Gen Innovation
  - State Discretionary Funds
  - Learning Communities
  - Social Capital
# Rural IMPACT: Reduce Child Poverty in Rural and Tribal Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Backbone Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oakland, MD</td>
<td><strong>Garrett County</strong> Community Action Committee &amp; <strong>Allegany County</strong> Human Resources Development Commission, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berea, KY</td>
<td>Partners for Education at Berea College <em>(Knox County)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshalltown, IA</td>
<td><strong>Mid-Iowa Community Action, Inc.</strong> <em>(Marshall County)</em></td>
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<td>Jackson, MS</td>
<td><strong>Friends of Children of Mississippi, Inc.</strong> <em>(Sharkey, Issaquena, Humphreys Counties)</em></td>
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<td>Hillsboro, OH</td>
<td><strong>Highland County</strong> Community Action Organization, Inc.</td>
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<td>White Earth, MN</td>
<td><strong>White Earth Reservation Tribal Council</strong> <em>(Mahnomen, Clearwater, Becker Counties)</em></td>
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<td>Machias, ME</td>
<td>Community Caring Collaborative <em>(Washington County)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Blytheville, AR</td>
<td><strong>Mississippi County</strong>, Arkansas Economic Opportunity Commission, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blanding, UT</td>
<td>The San Juan Foundation <em>(San Juan County)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hugo, OK</td>
<td>Little Dixie Community Action Agency, Inc. <em>(Choctaw, McCurtain, Pushmataha Counties)</em></td>
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Two-Gen Opportunities in Child Support: Economic Security

• Family Income
• Nonresident Parent Employment
• Financial Coaching, Debt Management, and Child Savings Accounts
• Family Health Care
Two-Gen Opportunities in Child Support: Family Stability

- Engaging Both Parents
- Strengthening Nonresident Parent-Child Connection
- Parenting Skills
- Co-Parenting Skills
- Domestic Violence Services
- High School Family Life Training
- Building Social Networks through Peer Support
- Addressing the Effects of Incarceration on Families
Two-Gen Opportunities with ACF Office of Regional Operations

• Central Office and 10 Regional Offices with ACF Regional Administrators (RA)

• Regional offices facilitate and advance partnerships with national, regional, state and local stakeholders

• Two-Gen Coordination efforts between Central and Regional Offices:
  – two-gen partnership agreement with OFA
  – two-gen intensive boot camp with key program partners
  – joint call with RAs and TANF Regional Program Managers

• RAs are reaching out to state commissioners to provide support for developing two-gen approaches
Advancing 2-gen and Whole Family Approaches Webinar Series

• Fall 2016 through Summer 2017
• Highlight innovative state and local policies and strategies to promote peer learning and sharing
• Sample of topics to be addressed:
  – Leading Edge State Case Studies and cross-system partnerships
  – Promoting Economic Self-Sufficiency through TANF and WOIA Partnerships
  – Spotlight on Community Action Agencies
  – Leveraging TANF and CCDF funding for early childhood
  – Addressing the Needs of Families Impacted by Opioid Abuse and TANF, child welfare, behavioral health partnerships
  – Two-gen Data Systems: A Shift
Questions & Discussion
Resources


Resources


