2Gen and Braiding Supports for Student Parents

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Two-generation approaches provide opportunities for and meet the needs of children and their parents together.
Building Stakeholder Support for 2Gen Implementation

“Whole Family”  “Multi-Gen”  “Gen Plus”
“Intergenerational”  “Two-Generation”
“Multi-generational”  “Family Economic Mobility”

child-focused  child-focused with parent elements e.g., parenting skills or family literacy
 whole family  parent-focused with child elements e.g., child care subsidies or food assistance

ASCEND
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2Gen Core Components

- **Social Capital**: peer and family networks, coaching, and cohort strategies
- **Early Childhood Development**: Head Start, Early Head Start, child care partnerships, preK, and home visiting
- **Health & Well-being**: mental, physical, and behavioral health, coverage and access to care, adverse childhood experiences, toxic stress
- **Economic Assets**: asset building, housing and public supports, financial capacity, transportation
- **Postsecondary & Employment Pathways**: community college, training and certification, workforce partnerships
Just a $3,000 increase in income for parents with young children can translate to a 17 percent increase in their children’s future earnings.

Source: Stanford University
About 1 out of every 5 college students is parent to a young child.

17% of single students who are parents attain a degree/certificate within 6 years and 39% of married students who are parents.

Students who were raising preschool-age children had about 10 hours per day to dedicate to academics, sleeping, eating, and leisure activities, compared to the 21 hours available for childless students.

Students who are parents must often address challenges with affordable child care, stable housing, finances, institutional racism, and trauma.
STUDENT PARENTS ARE ON EVERY SINGLE CAMPUS

MORE THAN 1 IN 5 STUDENTS IN ALL INSTITUTIONS ARE PARENTS

45% OF PRIVATE, FOR-PROFIT COLLEGES
26% OF PUBLIC, 2-YEAR COLLEGES
20% OF PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT 4-YEAR COLLEGES
12% OF PUBLIC, 4-YEAR COLLEGES
STUDENT PARENTS ARE OFTEN MOTHERS OF COLOR

- **Black Women**: 40% of mothers have children under age 5, compared to 48% of mothers of other races.
- **Native American Women**: 36% of mothers have children under age 5, compared to 49% of mothers of other races.
- **Pacific Islander Women**: 35% of mothers have children under age 5, compared to 46% of mothers of other races.
- **Hispanic Women**: 26% of mothers have children under age 5, compared to 56% of mothers of other races.

(Statistics based on data from ASCEND, The Aspen Institute and the Schuster Institute for Women's Research.)
Policy Recommendations for Federal and State Leaders

.expand financial aid policies to better account for the needs of students raising children and their families.

Provide financial resources for whole-family services on campus.

Integrate language and modify guidance within current policies to name students who are parents as special or target populations, allow coursework to count toward benefits eligibility, and incentivize better data collection.

Allow for blending and braiding of federal and/or state funds to incentivize cross-sector partnerships and two-generation approaches in postsecondary education and workforce development.
In the proposed 2019 budget in **California**, Governor Newsom has proposed a significant expansion of Cal Grants for students with dependent children. Per the language: “To expand opportunities for low-income student-parents and increase their graduation rates, and to reduce child poverty, the Budget proposes ... to increase or provide access awards for students with dependent children attending the UC, the CSU, or the CCCs.” $96.7 million was committed in Newsom’s May Revise.

In his proposed 2019 budget in **New York**, Governor Cuomo “will launch a pilot program providing customized supports for single parents attending participating SUNY and CUNY community college campuses. This innovative program will support up to 400 parents a year for three years. Participants will receive on-campus childcare, intensive personalized advisement, educational supports including tutoring, career counseling and assistance in transitioning to a 4-year school.” $3 million was appropriated in final NYS budget.

**Pennsylvania** set aside $5 million in a recent budget to implement up to seven robust support models across the state, akin to Family Scholar House, that provide subsidized housing, child care, and other financial supports to students who are parents. A request for models to fund released in late 2018 received over 60 applicants. In support, the state’s Department of Human Services and Education hosted a summit in late April 2019 with applicants focused on 2Gen and postsecondary supports and pathways for parents.