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MARYLAND

Lessons Learned in Developing Shared Performance Measures:

Maryland's 2Gen Approach



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Maryland's Two-Gen Approach

The 2Gen approach seeks to end multigenerational poverty and build whole family well-being by intentionally linking programs, policies, and systems to **serve parents and children together.**



Result: Parents work. Children thrive.

Start with the right questions

- What doesn't the data show us?
- If we don't have the information that we need, how do we go get it?
- What do we learn when we disaggregate?

42% of Maryland Temporary Cash Assistance (TANF) recipients received benefits as children.
(UMD School of Social Work study)

Executive Leadership is Essential

- Gov. Hogan signs Executive Order 01.01.2017.03
 - Establishes the Two-Generation Family Economic Security Commission and Pilot Program.
 - Lt. Governor Rutherford chairs Commission

- Lt. Governor's Commission “investigates policy challenges, opportunities, and recommendations” regarding adopting a Two-Generation approach.

Share Accountability

Who decided to take a statewide Two-Generation approach? Commission made of state agencies, local government, state legislators, community-based organizations, citizens.

Examples of interagency initiatives that followed:

Community action agency/local Social Services pilot

Next Step community college/youth development pilot for families receiving cash assistance

Refugee Family Education pilot (early childhood education for young children and English language learning/peer supports for their non-working parent)

Sobriety Recovery and Treatment Teams (Department of Health/Human Services coordination for pregnant people and their children)

MD PROMISE (coordinated services for youth 14-17 with SSI)

Engage family voice and lived experience

- Qualitative interviews (tell the story)
- WEX intern career pathway
- Family Engagement specialists (systems navigators)
- Building feedback loops into state systems

Incorporate program and process measures

Program Measures

% of long-term disabled engaged in community-based partnership (*2020 State TANF Plan*)

% foster youth completing financial literacy education (*2020 SNAP E&T Plan*)

Process Measures

staff trained to provide family-centered coaching (*vendor contract*)

% of families receiving 2Gen assessment at intake (*state-local agreement*)

Lessons Learned

1. Start with the right questions
2. Executive leadership is essential
3. Share accountability
4. Engage family voice and lived experience
5. Incorporate program and process measures