



FAMILY VOICE



TOOLKIT

RECOGNITIONS

This toolkit was created as a capstone project by a cross-agency group as part of the Georgia 2Gen Academy, a collaboration between the Georgia Children's Cabinet and the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government. Institute of Government faculty and staff provided editing and design assistance.

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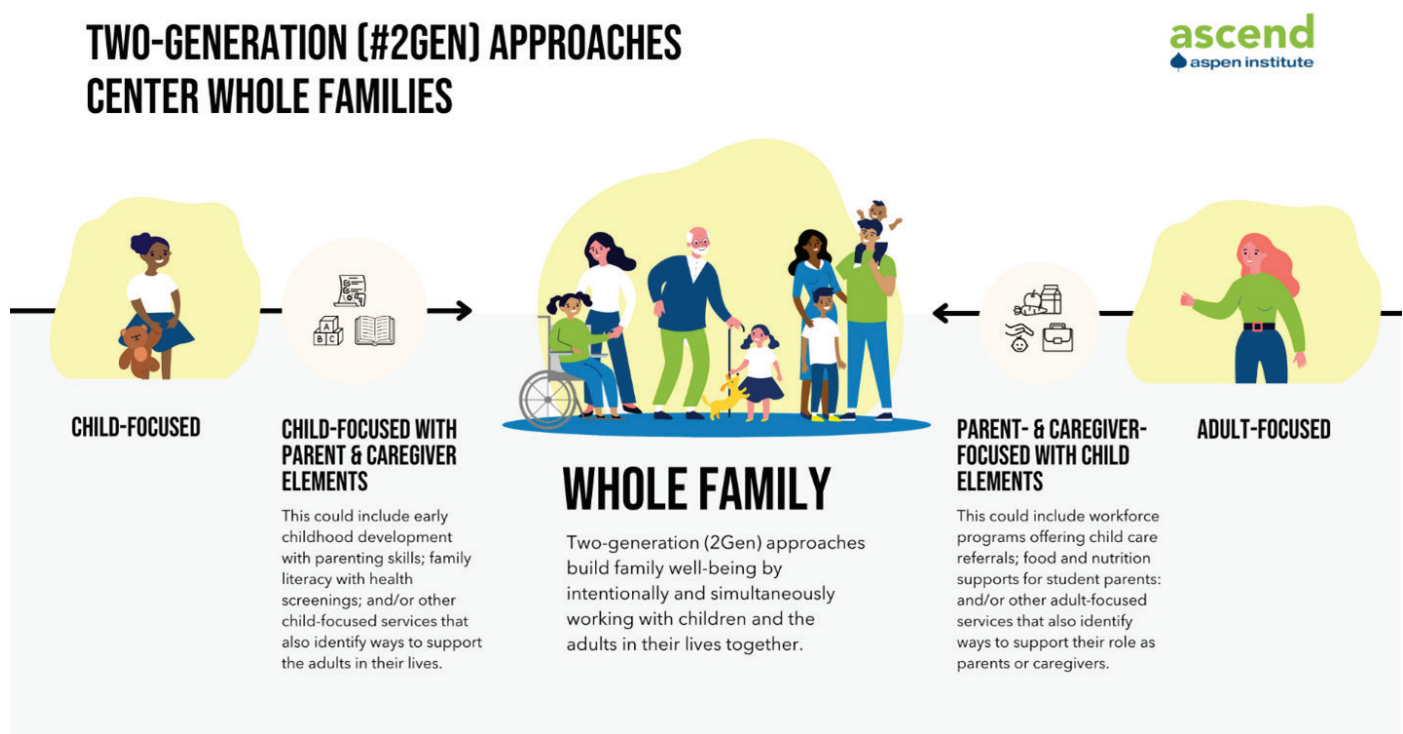
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This Family Voice Toolkit is a practical resource designed to help Georgia’s state agencies and organizations meaningfully engage families at every stage of policy and program development. Grounded in the two-generation (2Gen) approach and guided by principles of human-centered design and continuous quality improvement, this toolkit supports leaders in creating more responsive and effective systems.

WHAT IS 2GEN?

The 2Gen approach promotes the well-being of both children and the adults in their lives through holistic, coordinated strategies. By addressing the needs of the whole family, 2Gen strategies help to break cycles of poverty and foster educational and economic success across generations.



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF ASCEND AT THE ASPEN INSTITUTE
<https://ascend.aspeninstitute.org/2gen-approach/>

This toolkit was developed as a capstone project of the Georgia 2Gen Academy, an initiative of the Georgia Children’s Cabinet that trains leaders on how to use a 2Gen approach to improve outcomes for Georgia’s families. Participants from six state agencies, in partnership with a family project advisor, co-created this resource to support cross-agency collaboration and family-centered innovation.

WHAT IS FAMILY VOICE AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Family voice means centering the lived experiences, perspectives, and ideas of families in the design of policies and programs that affect them. To incorporate family voice, it is important to think beyond customer satisfaction and instead build authentic partnerships to create space for families to generate and shape solutions.

When agencies and organizations actively listen to families and incorporate their voice, they can better align services with real needs, identify service gaps, reduce fragmentation, and improve outcomes. Centering family voice allows agencies and organizations to structure their work and programs around family needs, building trust and helping families reach better outcomes.

Examples of family voice in action:

- Creating space for families to brainstorm about challenges and needs and co-create solutions for those needs.
- Encouraging families to ask questions and share feedback if a service or resource does not fit their needs.
- Establishing family advisory councils and community work groups.
- Measuring success from a family perspective with strategies like focus groups and surveys.



To be effective, programs and policies must be shaped by the voices of those most impacted by them. Treating families like the experts in their own lives both signals respect and results in better services.

WHAT'S INSIDE THE TOOLKIT?

The Family Voice Toolkit is a simple and effective resource offering practical strategies and tools to help organizations embed family voice into their work at every stage. Start with the organizational assessment to understand how your agency or organization currently utilizes family voice. Then, explore the Family Voice Journey, a framework with phases aligned to policy and program development, providing strategies and resources for how to integrate family voice in your organization. Finally, check out the tips for running an effective family advisory council to partner with families on an ongoing basis.

Whether you are launching a new initiative or enhancing an existing one, this resource provides actionable guidance to help you create meaningful opportunities to collaborate with families.

ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT

This assessment is a starting point for understanding how your agency currently centers family voice in its programs and practices. Note that while this resource has not been endorsed by any specific state agency, all child-serving agencies in Georgia are represented on the Children’s Cabinet, which is sponsoring this toolkit.

Use this tool to reflect on your agency’s current approach to family voice and identify opportunities for growth.

HOW TO USE THIS ASSESSMENT

1. Invite staff from different departments and roles to complete the assessment individually to determine to what extent family voice is currently centered in their work.
2. Circle responses in each section. The scoring rubric and interpretation guide at the end of the assessment helps to understand perceptions of your agency’s approach to family voice.
3. Come together to share and discuss results. Where are there similarities or differences in responses? How do perspectives vary by role or program?
4. Use the results to identify strengths, gaps, and tools needed to strengthen your family voice practices.



ASSESSMENT SECTION 1: FAMILY VOICE

Family voice means centering the needs and experiences of families in the design and delivery of programs and policies that affect them. Organizations can center family voice by treating families as partners and experts in their own lives, not just recipients of services. Circle your responses to reflection questions 1–3. Then refer to the scoring guide on the next page.

Reflection Questions

1. Does your agency center family voice in its work?

- A. Yes – Family voice is consistently centered across the agency’s work.
- B. Somewhat – Family voice is considered in some areas but not consistently.
- C. No – Family voice is not currently centered in the agency’s work.

2. To what extent is family voice integrated across your agency’s work?

- A. Fully integrated – Family voice is consistently embedded across agency policies, programs, and decision-making processes.
- B. Somewhat integrated – Family voice is present in some areas but not consistently applied across the agency.
- C. Not yet integrated – Family voice is rarely or not currently considered in agency-wide work.

3. When thinking about the programs you are directly involved in, does family voice play a role?

- A. Consistently – Family voice is actively and regularly incorporated into program design, delivery, and evaluation.
- B. Occasionally – Family voice is considered at certain points, but not consistently across the programs.
- C. Rarely or not at all – Family voice is not currently a part of program planning or implementation.

4. In what ways is family voice currently embedded in your work? (Open-ended, not scored)

ASSESSMENT SECTION 2: ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

Instructions: Circle or select one response per row. After completing all sections, total your scores and review the interpretation guide.

Fully Family-Centered	Somewhat Family-Centered	Not Family-Centered
Working with the whole family is central to the agency's mission	Mission includes families but does not explicitly focus on the whole family	Focus is on one family member (usually child or adult)
Leadership prioritizes whole-family approaches and provides tools and support to implement them	Leadership supports whole-family approaches but has not implemented necessary supports	Leadership is unaware of or not focused on whole-family approaches
Staff reflect the makeup of the communities served and receive cultural competency training and support	Staff reflect the makeup of the communities served, but lack support in understanding different cultural contexts	Staff do not reflect the makeup of the communities served and lack support in understanding different cultural contexts
Families are seen as the drivers of the work; the approach is strengths-based	Families are included in planning; case workers or staff lead the work	Case workers or staff drive the work without family leadership
Organization collects and uses data on the whole family to assess effectiveness and share data with partners	Data are collected on the whole family but not regularly reviewed or shared	Data are not collected on the whole family and are not shared across departments or partners

SCORING INSTRUCTIONS

Section 1: Family Voice

- A = 2 points
- B = 1 point
- C = 0 points

Section 2: Organizational Culture

- Fully Family-Centered = 2 points
- Somewhat Family-Centered = 1 point
- Not Family-Centered = 0 points

SECTION 1 - MAX SCORE: 6 POINTS

SECTION 2 - MAX SCORE: 10 POINTS

TOTAL MAX SCORE: 16 POINTS

INTERPRETATION GUIDE

How well does your organization engage with family voice?

Total Score	Description
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13-16	Strong integration
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Family voice is meaningfully integrated across the organization in both individual practice and organizational culture. The organization has structures and mindsets in place to scale innovation, document impact, and support other organizations in promoting family voice.

8-12	Moderate integration
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Some structures are in place, but more consistency is needed. Training or systems-level changes may be needed to elevate family voice.

4-7	Emerging integration
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Family voice is acknowledged but not yet embedded. Reflect on gaps, identify strategies for engaging families, and identify action steps to better incorporate family voice into practices.

0-3	Minimal integration
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Foundational shifts are needed to center family voice. Consider attending training, providing leadership engagement opportunities, and integrating pilot family feedback structures.





Now that you have a grasp on how your organization currently centers family voice in its programs and practices, explore the Family Voice Journey. Each phase is aligned to policy and program development, identifying key questions and strategies for how to integrate family voice in your organization.

CONCEPT	<p>What problem are you trying to solve? How can you understand it from a family’s perspective?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listening sessions ● In-person meetings ● In-home (or on-site) observations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exploratory data analysis ● Demographic and landscape analysis
PLANNING	<p>What solutions will work best for families and are feasible for your organization to implement?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workflow mapping ● Business planning ● Mission and vision review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brainstorming sessions ● Service journeys
IMPLEMENTATION	<p>How can you put your plan into action with families involved at every step?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family councils ● Family ambassadors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Accessible communication ● Prototyping
MONITOR & ADJUST	<p>Are you on track with your goals? What adjustments need to be made?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Real-time feedback tools ● Data sharing with family councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Observations ● Surveys
EVALUATE & ITERATE	<p>How did we do? What else needs to be done?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify the right metrics ● Focus groups ● Heat maps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Involve families in presentations ● Feedback to families

CONCEPT

What problem are you trying to solve? How can you understand it from a family's perspective?

The concept phase of the Family Voice Journey is rooted in curiosity, empathy, and open-mindedness. It is about listening first, validating or challenging assumptions, and ensuring the problem you have identified aligns with what families actually experience and prioritize. At this stage, you have identified a challenge facing Georgia's families and may already have ideas for addressing it.

Before moving forward, pause to explore the problem through the lens of the families you aim to serve.

- **How might families define this problem differently?**

The way an agency frames a challenge may not reflect how families experience it in their daily lives. Listening to how families describe the issue can reveal overlooked dimensions and lead to more relevant, effective solutions.

- **Have we engaged families with diverse backgrounds and experiences?**

Needs can vary widely based on geography, family structure, cultural background, or past interactions with agencies and organizations. Engaging a broad range of voices helps ensure your understanding reflects the full spectrum of family experiences.

- **Who have we not heard from yet?**

If you already have a group of families you regularly consult, consider who might be missing. Are any voices underrepresented, such as rural families, non-native English speakers, or those with limited program access.

What is the family's role in this phase?

Families help define and validate the problem. Their lived experience provides essential context and clarity.

Strategies to Incorporate Family Voice

- **Listening sessions** – Host informal forums where families can share their experiences in a safe and supportive environment.
- **In-person meetings** – Build rapport and trust while gathering rich qualitative feedback through face-to-face conversations.
- **In-home (or on-site) observations** – Bring assessments to the family's environment, observing daily routines to understand how programs align (or do not) with real-life needs.
- **Exploratory data analysis** – Collect and analyze feedback to identify patterns and themes that inform your understanding of the problem.

FEATURED STRATEGY: DEMOGRAPHIC AND LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Demographic and landscape analysis is a data-informed strategy that helps center family voice by examining the lived environments of families through a contextual lens. This approach includes analyzing racial, economic, gender, and family structure dynamics alongside barriers to policy and service access.

Understanding the social and economic realities families navigate is essential to authentically engaging their voices. This approach brings those realities to the forefront, using both data and personal stories as a foundation for action.

Implementation steps:

1. **Disaggregate data** – Use available datasets to map family characteristics such as parenting status, income, language, and employment. This step helps identify underrepresented or high-need groups who may benefit from targeted engagement or services.
2. **Identify disparities** – Map services and resources by zip code or region to uncover gaps in access, such as child care, housing, transportation, or employment. This step can help prioritize areas for outreach or investment.
3. **Compare assumptions with lived experiences** – Conduct interviews or surveys to understand how families experience the issue. Ask about challenges with applying for benefits, enrolling in programs, or accessing services. These insights can challenge assumptions and reveal new priorities.
4. **Disseminate findings** – Summarize your analysis in a brief or report. Highlight strengths, gaps, and recommendations for adapting your approach. Sharing findings promotes transparency and builds trust with families, allowing them to see how their perspectives were reflected.

“This 2Gen toolkit is the first step in us stirring up parent engagement, cultivating leadership, recognizing parents as partners, and putting the entire family on a path to permanent economic security as thriving ambassadors.”

- Samantha Valentine, 2Gen Parent Advisor

PLANNING

What solutions will work best for families and are feasible for your organization to implement?

In the planning phase, organizations create a structured roadmap for incorporating family voice alongside planning their intervention. This includes setting clear goals, identifying strategies, and defining roles for integrating family voice into programs and policies.

A key first step is conducting an organizational assessment to evaluate current family engagement practices. This tool helps identify where family voice is already present and where there are gaps. It also provides a baseline for measuring progress. If you have not already, complete the organizational assessment at the beginning of this toolkit to determine your organization's integration of family voice.

This phase is an opportunity to reflect on your organization's mindset:

- **How do we currently view and connect with families?**
Your organization likely already engages with families, so you have an existing strength to build on. Consider whether families are treated as experts and holders of knowledge, or as passive recipients of services.
- **Are we approaching our work through a 2Gen lens that considers the whole family's well-being?**

Whether your agency serves primarily adults, children, or both, consider how your programs and policies affect the entire family unit. A 2Gen approach encourages collaboration across systems to support all generations, even if your agency doesn't directly provide every service. Consider potential partnerships that could strengthen your approach to family well-being.

Based on insights from the assessment, organizations can begin setting short- and long- term goals, identifying internal stakeholders, and outlining initial steps, such as forming a family advisory council or planning staff training on best practices in family engagement.

Most importantly, this is the time to partner with families to co-create solutions. Their input ensures that strategies are grounded in lived experience, making them more likely to succeed. At this stage, try working together to generate ideas and keep an open mind. Not every idea will be actionable, but the process of listening and exploring possibilities builds trust and may uncover new, innovative solutions.



Ultimately, the most effective and sustainable solutions often come from the people most affected. Partnering with families in this phase helps avoid the pitfall of implementing well-intentioned solutions that do not actually work for those they are meant to serve.

What is the family's role in this phase?

Families partner in brainstorming solutions and provide their expertise, identifying effective solutions.

Strategies to Incorporate Family Voice

- **Workflow mapping** – Visualize current processes to identify where family voice is already integrated and where it can be strengthened.
- **Business planning** – Align financial and strategic planning with 2Gen principles and family-centered goals.
- **Mission and vision review** – Revisit your organization's mission and vision. Does it reflect a commitment to families? If not, revise it to guide future programs and policies. Consider utilizing the 2Gen framework to guide updates.
- **Brainstorming sessions** – Invite families to co-create solutions through facilitated sessions that center their ideas and experiences.
- **Service journeys** – Map out steps a family takes to achieve a goal or receive a service. This process can reveal pain points, inefficiencies, or opportunities for new solutions.



IMPLEMENTATION

How can you put your plan into action with families involved at every step?

The implementation phase is where plans become action. It is also where organizations may be tempted to say, “We’ve got it from here!” Resist that impulse — there are still important strategies to keep family voice central throughout the rollout and execution of your project that will ultimately support your outcomes.

Families who helped co-create solutions in earlier phases can now act as valuable partners in the rollout. They can serve as trusted messengers to new clients and the community, help test materials, and provide real-time feedback to ensure the program is working as intended.

Even if you are already in the implementation stage, it is not too late to incorporate family voice. Consider forming a family council to provide real-time feedback or reviewing early data with families to identify where the program may or may not be aligning with your goals.

As you begin Implementation, consider the following:

- **How can families support the rollout of this new initiative?**

Families can act as trusted messengers to increase buy-in and participation. Family testimonials from pilot projects can also help build awareness and offer insight into programming for new participants.

- **Are communications family-friendly and accessible?**

Clear, actionable, and accessible messaging is essential. Families can help test whether messaging is effective and whether the program is reaching the intended audience.

What is the family’s role in this phase?

Families can actively engage in the rollout and help connect with and reach the intended audience.

Strategies to Incorporate Family Voice

- **Family councils** – Create a group of advisors, including current or former program participants, who can provide feedback, share experiences, and advise on implementation. These can be standalone councils or integrated into existing advisory groups.
- **Accessible communication** – Test rollout materials (flyers, emails, texts, etc.) and applications with families to ensure they are clear, culturally relevant, and easy to act on.
- **Prototyping** – Test potential strategies at a small scale either with pilot groups or through iterative rollouts. Use these tests to identify what is working, uncover challenges, and refine your approach before scaling.

FEATURED STRATEGY: FAMILY AMBASSADORS

Family ambassadors are trusted partners, often parents or caregivers who have participated in earlier phases of planning and are now engaged as partners in implementation. They act as connectors between the organization and the families being served, helping to build trust, improve communication, and ensure that implementation efforts are grounded in lived experience.

This strategy empowers families not just to provide feedback, but to lead and support implementation in meaningful ways.

Roles family ambassadors can play:

- **Peer outreach** – Help spread the word about new programs or services in ways that resonate with the community.
- **Feedback facilitators** – Gather insights from other families and bring them back to the organization.
- **Cultural translators** – Ensure that messaging is accessible, inclusive, and relevant to all communities.
- **Trust builders** – Serve as a bridge between families and staff, especially in communities where trust in institutions may be low.

Implementation Tips:

- **Recruit intentionally** – Look for individuals who reflect the diversity of the families you serve and who are enthusiastic about sharing their experiences.
- **Provide training and support** – Equip ambassadors with the tools they need to communicate effectively, represent the organization, and feel confident in their role.
- **Compensate fairly** – Recognize the time, expertise, and emotional labor that ambassadors contribute by offering stipends or other forms of compensation.
- **Stay connected** – Create regular check-ins and feedback loops so ambassadors feel supported and can share what they are hearing from the community.

MONITOR AND ADJUST

Are you on track with your goals?

What adjustments need to be made?

In the monitor and adjust phase, your program or policy is in motion, but the work is not done. Incorporating family voice at this phase is about staying responsive by continuously engaging families and using their feedback to guide improvements.

Rather than waiting until the end of a service cycle to evaluate outcomes, this phase emphasizes ongoing reflection and adaptation. Families can help identify what is working, what is unclear, and what needs to change. Their insights ensure that your efforts remain aligned with real needs and experiences, keeping those most affected at the center of decision-making.

As you track progress, consider the following:

- **Where are we succeeding, and do families agree?**

When tracking program metrics and identifying successes, check with families to ensure their experiences reflect those successes. If there is a disconnect, consider incorporating new metrics that better reflect user-defined outcomes.

- **Where are we not meeting our goals?**

If you have identified process challenges or pain points, engage families in a deeper conversation to explore what adjustments could be made. Even small changes can improve the overall experience and effectiveness.

What is the family's role in this phase?

Families can provide ongoing feedback and help identify areas for improvement.



“Georgia families deserve the opportunity to thrive together by improving their family well-being and achieving financial success for current and future generations.”

- Amy M. Jacobs, DECAL Commissioner



Strategies to Incorporate Family Voice

- **Real-time feedback tools** – Simple tools like QR codes, text surveys, or digital suggestion boxes can collect quick feedback from families during service delivery.
- **Data sharing with family councils** – Share program data with your family council and invite them to identify trends, strengths, and areas for improvement.
- **Observations** – Conduct targeted observations with a focus on family experience, not just staff performance. Consider what it feels like to navigate the program from the participant’s perspective.
- **Surveys** – Use surveys to assess satisfaction and effectiveness from both families and staff perspectives. If possible, collect data at multiple points (such as baseline and follow-up) to track changes over time. Surveys can offer data across multiple areas to inform any adjustments needed to the program.

“We value each family’s voice by partnering alongside them to provide caring and effective services while they work towards achieving their goals and independence.”

- Mary P Havick, Department of Human Services
Division of Family & Children Services Deputy Commissioner

EVALUATE AND ITERATE

How did we do? What else needs to be done?

The evaluate and iterate phase is your opportunity to reflect on the impact of your program or policy and determine what comes next. This step includes assessing both the outcomes for families in your program and the effectiveness of your family voice strategies.

This phase aligns with the 2Gen principle of measuring outcomes for both children and the adults in their lives. Consider whether your metrics reflect the full family experience and whether they capture both quantitative and qualitative impact.

Evaluation is also an opportunity to celebrate successes, identify areas for growth, and plan for future improvements. When reporting results, focus on strengths and solutions, not just challenges. Most importantly, close the loop with families. Let them see how their voices influenced the work and invite them to help shape what comes next.

Evaluation should go beyond measuring program outputs.

It should also ask the following:

- **Did we meaningfully engage families throughout the process?**

Reflect on whether family input was meaningfully incorporated at each stage. Review the strategies used to engage families and identify opportunities for improvement, such as ensuring representation across family types, demographics, or geography.

- **Did their feedback shape the final outcomes?**

Families should be able to see how their input influenced the final product. Even if not all recommendations were feasible to implement, the underlying experiences shared still matter. Consider hosting a debrief or presentation to show how feedback was used.

- **Are we seeing improvements in whole-family well-being?**

Evaluation should consider the entire household — children, caregivers, and other family members — and how the intervention impacted their overall well-being. A 2Gen approach emphasizes that supporting the family unit leads to better outcomes for everyone.

What is the family's role in this phase?

Families can share successes, provide final feedback, and help shape future goals.

Strategies to Incorporate Family Voice

- **Identify the right metrics** – In addition to metrics that may be important for funding or compliance, include metrics that are 2Gen focused and linked to clear outcomes. Some examples include retention, program completion, test scores, or family well-being indicators. Metrics should reflect both individual and family-level progress.
- **Focus groups** – Conduct focus groups with parents and caregivers to gather rich, qualitative feedback. These conversations can reveal deeper insights into the program’s impact and areas for improvement.
- **Heat maps** – Use geographic mapping to visualize service access, needs, or outcomes over time. These maps can help identify whether changes in program delivery have improved access across communities.
- **Involve families in presentations** – As the experts in their own experience, families could be invited to share evaluation results through testimonials or co-presentations to leadership and stakeholders. This reinforces their role as partners and helps to humanize the data.
- **Feedback to families** – Share evaluation findings with the families who participated. Let them know how their input shaped the work and what changes are being made as a result.



TIPS FOR BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Advisory councils are a powerful way to engage families as partners in shaping programs and policies. These councils bring together individuals with lived experience who have directly interacted with your agency's services to provide feedback, share insights, and co-create solutions.

What makes a strong advisory council?

1. **Define the focus.** Advisory councils can support the development, implementation, or evaluation of a specific program or policy or provide input across multiple areas. Consider forming councils by issue area (e.g., housing, workforce, childcare) or by region to allow members to advise on several related initiatives. A clear purpose statement can guide recruitment and planning.
2. **Offer training and support.** Council members may not be familiar with agency operations or professional meeting environments. Provide accessible training and orientation to help participants feel confident, informed, and empowered to contribute. Remember to offer materials in accessible formats and multiple languages if needed.
3. **Assign a dedicated leader.** Designate a staff member to coordinate the council. Ideally, this person should have experience with the program and a strong rapport with the community. Familiarity builds trust, especially for families who may be hesitant to share openly with unfamiliar staff. Responsibilities can include scheduling, communication, facilitation, and follow-up.
4. **Recruit the right members.** Work with your council lead to identify participants who reflect the communities you serve and bring a range of experiences and perspectives. Include individuals who have interacted with your programs and had positive experiences as well as those who faced challenges. This helps ensure the council's feedback is well-rounded and more likely to be representative of the community as a whole.
5. **Set clear goals.** Define what kind of work product is expected from the council. Co-create a mix of short- and long-term goals with the council that are meaningful, achievable, and aligned with your agency's mission. Be transparent about how input will be used. Establish a regular meeting schedule and communication plan.
6. **Create a supportive environment.** Foster a culture of respect, inclusion, and shared leadership. Encourage open dialogue and value all contributions.
7. **Offer meaningful incentives.** Family advisory councils help bridge the gap between programs and policies developed for families and programs and policies developed with families. Recognize the time and expertise families bring to the table. Consider offering stipends, meals, transportation, or child care to reduce barriers to participation and show that members' contributions are valuable.

8. **Use and share feedback.** Document council recommendations and share them with leadership to inform decision-making. Involve members in presentations or co-facilitation when appropriate.
9. **Sustain and evolve.** Regularly assess the council’s impact and adjust as needed. Be sure to celebrate successes and recognize the contributions of all members. Consider rotating membership to bring in new voices over time.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

ABOUT 2GEN APPROACHES

Two Generation “2Gen” Approach in Georgia, Voices for Georgia’s Children

https://www.georgiavoices.org/_files/ugd/024d26_ed80df466aa84ebf9e6ee6ef970a48e9.pdf

Offers an overview of the 2Gen approach, supported with Georgia-specific data on child and family well-being.

Two-Generation Approaches to Family Well-Being, Ascend at the Aspen Institute

https://ascend.aspeninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/State_of_2Gen_2021.pdf

Highlights past 2Gen efforts, placing the approach within the context of broader social issues. This report additionally offers a series of recommendations related to areas of concern including health, family outcomes, development, education, the economy, and the labor force.

2Gen Approaches at Program, System, and Policy Levels, US Department of Health and Human Services

<https://acf.gov/two-generation-approach/two-gen-strategies>

Set of 2Gen resources focused on strategies at the program, system, and policy levels. Resources include webinars, initiative information, and examples at local, state, and program levels.

2Gen Collaborative Toolkit: A Place-Based Approach to Supporting Families, Ascend at the Aspen Institute

<https://ascend.aspeninstitute.org/resources/introducing-the-2gen-collaborative-toolkit/>

Guide for leaders to implement 2Gen strategies including practical considerations, guiding questions, and sample tools.

MORE TOOLS FOR CENTERING FAMILY VOICE

Ascending with Parents: A Guide to Centering Parent Voice in Policy and Practice, Ascend at the Aspen Institute

<https://ascend.aspeninstitute.org/resources/ascending-with-parents-a-guide-to-centering-parent-voice-in-policy-and-practice/>

Ascend's guide to centering family voice outlining principles, strategies, and tools that organizations can use to engage parents as partners and center their voice.

Family Engagement CORE Competencies, The National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Vams-E3IYEnxXTCgpYo3aKH64IQT-56u/view>

Details core competencies for family engagement, noting the target audience, the importance of unifying competencies, describing methods, and explaining the overall significance of family engagement.

Colorado's Family Voice Compass

<https://sites.google.com/state.co.us/familyvoicecompass/home>

Offers information and guidance on how to incorporate family voice and resources on building a family voice council.

Community Engagement Toolkit, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

https://drive.google.com/file/d/19bki2D8yuxm_RcxUqwIKH-bLHm8kmQYL/view

Promotes tools and tactics for community engagement from a public health perspective. Offers extra guidance on the role of language in community outreach.

Community Engagement Toolkit, Colorado Department of Transportation

<https://www.codot.gov/programs/bikeped/saferoutes/assets/colorado-community-engagement-toolkit.pdf>

Includes tips, strategies, and tools for promoting inclusive outreach and community participation. Underscores how to leverage partnerships and offers ideas for engagement.





GEORGIA CHILDREN'S CABINET - In 2019, Georgia Governor Brian Kemp issued an executive order appointing the Georgia Children's Cabinet. The mission of the Children's Cabinet is to support access to high-quality early childhood education for Georgia's youngest learners and their families, providers, and teachers through established strategic investments, collaborations, and partnerships to drive Georgia's current and future workforce. The Children's Cabinet provides a place for child-serving agencies and organizations to collaborate, connect, share information, identify and address gaps in services, and better link services.



GEORGIA 2GEN ACADEMY - In 2022, the Georgia Children's Cabinet, in partnership with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia, created the Georgia 2Gen Academy. The Academy strives to develop Georgia leaders to work collaboratively across agencies and organizations utilizing a two-generation (2Gen) approach to improve outcomes for the state's children and families. Over the course of 11 sessions, the 2Gen Academy steers participants through learning, collaboration, and a capstone project focused on implementing a 2Gen approach.



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CARL VINSON INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT - The University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government is committed to promoting excellence in government through technical assistance, training programs, applied research, evaluation, data and technology solutions. As a Public Service and Outreach unit of the University of Georgia, it shares in the university's overarching public service mission of connecting communities with professional knowledge, expertise, and resources to help improve quality of life.

