


2019

MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE

# Save the Date

January 15-18, 2019

**Westin New Orleans Canal Place**

**NEW ORLEANS, LA**







Helping People. Changing Lives.
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PARTNERSHIP
LEARNING COMMUNITIES RESOURCE CENTER

# 2Gen Practice & Opportunity Youth

September 12, 2018 – 2 pm ET/ 1 pm CT/ 12 pm MT/ 11 am PT

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

## THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

*Building Capacity to Increase Impact*

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AMERICA'S POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK

# THE PROMISE OF COMMUNITY ACTION

*Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live.*

*We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.*

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COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

# THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

*Building Capacity to Increase Impact*

***Purpose**: The purpose of the LCRC is to analyze Community Action outcomes and identify effective, promising, and innovative practice models that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty.*

## BUILD CAA CAPACITY TO FIGHT POVERTY!

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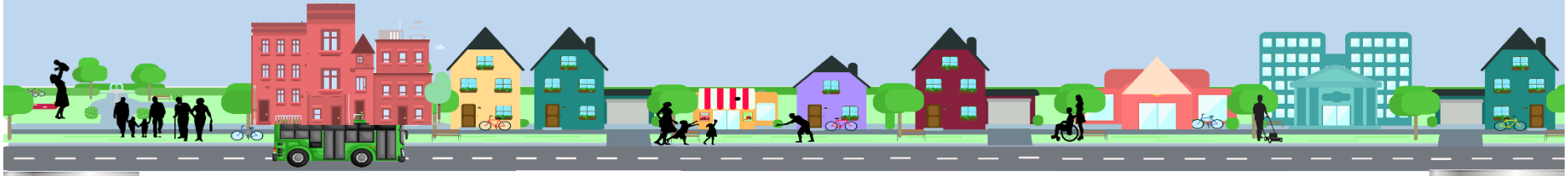
# The National Community Action Network Theory of Change

## Community Action Goals

**Goal 1:** Individuals and families with low incomes are stable and achieve economic security.

**Goal 2:** Communities where people with low incomes live are healthy and offer economic opportunity.

**Goal 3:** People with low incomes are engaged and active in building opportunities in communities.



## Services and Strategies

Employment





Education & Cognitive Development

Income, Infrastructure & Asset Building





Housing

Health/Social Behavioral Development





Civic Engagement & Community Involvement

## Core Principles

- Recognize the complexity of the issues of poverty
- Build local solutions specific to local needs
- Support family stability as a foundation for economic security
- Advocate for systemic change
- Pursue positive individual, family, and community level change
- Maximize involvement of people with low incomes
- Engage local community partners and citizens in solutions
- Leverage state, federal, and community resources

## Performance Management

How well does the network operate?

- Local Organizational Standards
- State and Federal Accountability Measures
- Results Oriented Management and Accountability System

What difference does the network make?

- Individual and Family National Performance Indicators
- Community National Performance Indicators

***A national network of over 1,000 high performing Community Action Agencies, State Associations, State offices, and Federal partners supported by the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) to mobilize communities to fight poverty.***

This publication was created by NASCSP in the performance of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services, Grant Number 90ET0451.

# THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

## Open LCGs

- Health Intersections
- Decreasing Family Homelessness
- Results at the Community Level
- Cultivating Data Centered Organizations

## Intensive LCGs

- **Integrated Services to Improve Impact**
- Financial Empowerment for Families
- **Whole Family Approaches for Economic Mobility from Poverty LCG**

## Community of Practice

- **Whole Family Approaches for Economic Mobility from Poverty COP**

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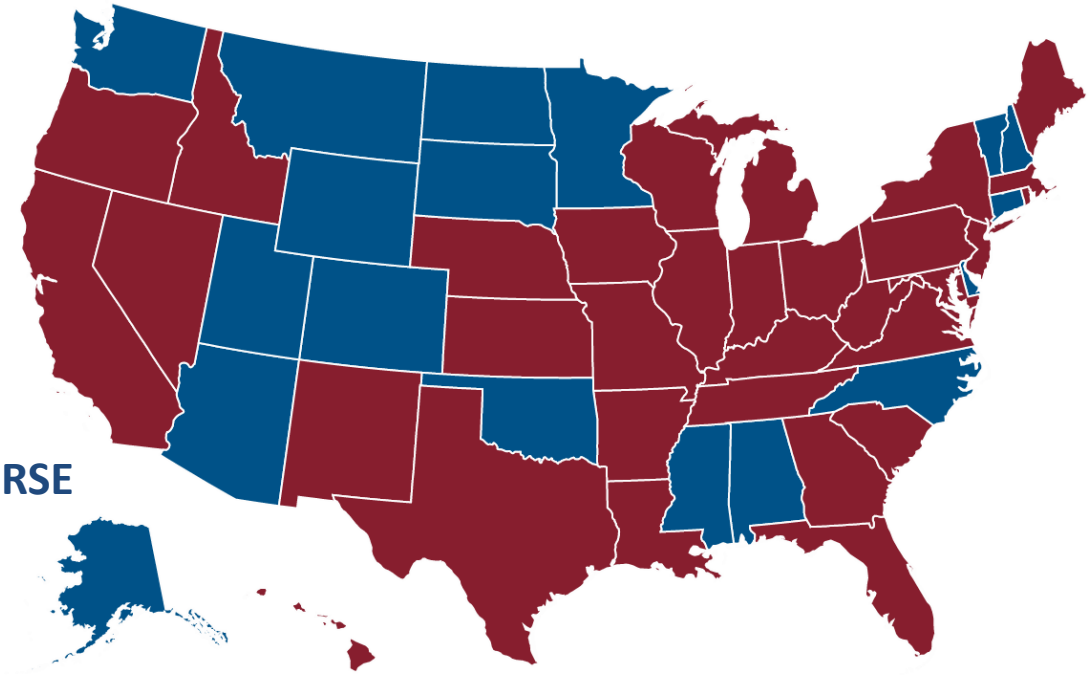
# THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

## All 11 Regions - 33 States - 407 Counties

### are Represented in the Learning Community

FIELD LEADERS

RURAL



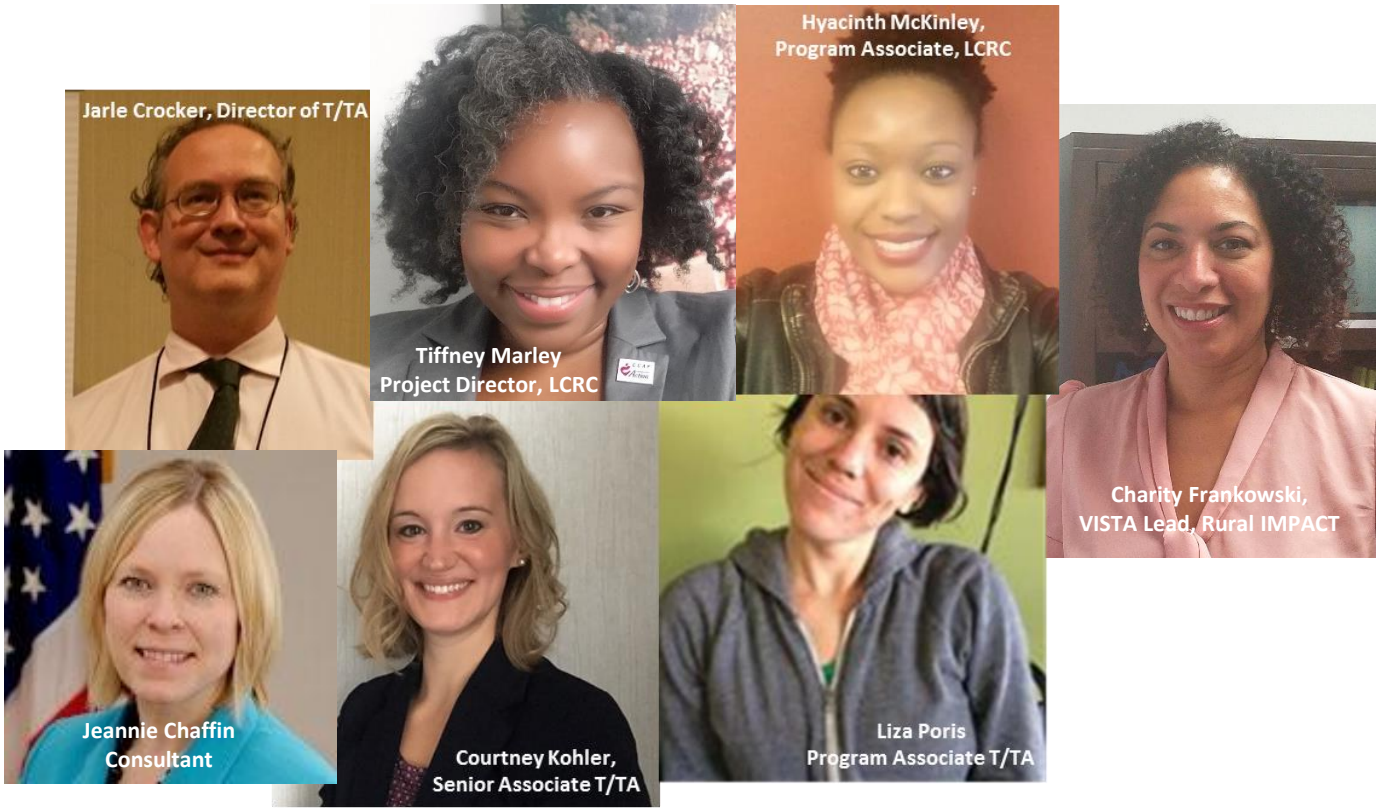
URBAN

CULTURALLY DIVERSE

**Total individuals served: 1,640,775**

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# LCRC TEAM




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we are ICF

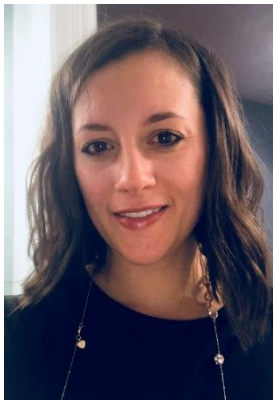
# Two Gen Practice & Opportunity Youth

**Kristin Abner and Courtney Barthle**

A Research to Practice Approach

September 12, 2018

# Presenters



- Kristin Abner, *Manager, Family Self-Sufficiency*



- Courtney Barthle, *Principal, Family Self-Sufficiency*

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# Presentation Roadmap






## Overview and Background

## The Research

- Two-Gen Overview
- Opportunity Youth

## The Practice

- Integrating 2-Gen Approaches for Opportunity Youth
- Tips for Translation and Implementation

## Additional Resources

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# Where in the world are you?

**Let us know where you are joining us from by typing in your location in the chat box!**

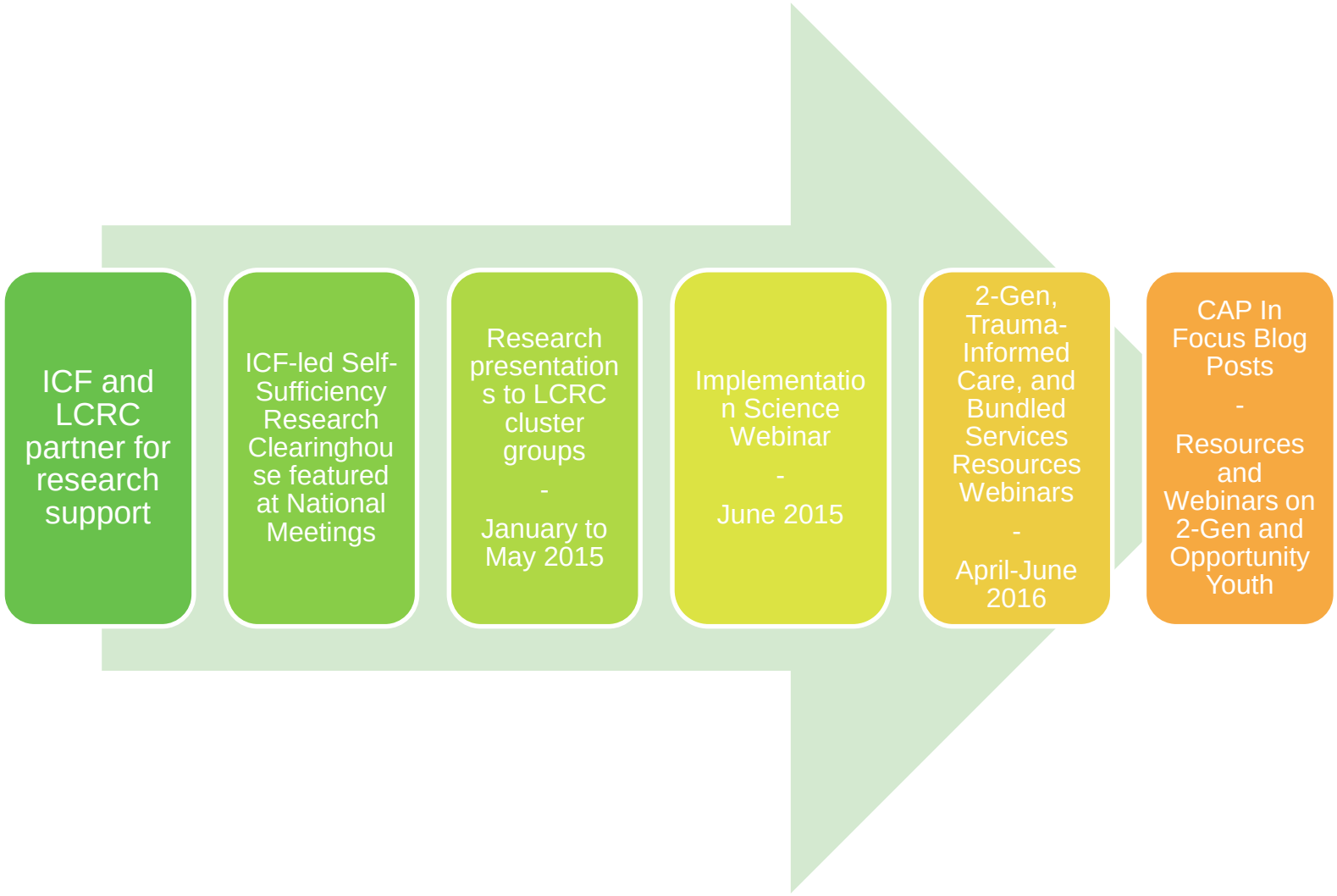


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# Overview and Background

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# Background




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# Learning Objectives

1. Understand state of the research and practice

2. How to use the research and practice in your programming




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# Your Resource Packet

- Two-generation research
- Opportunity youth research
- Promising practices for implementation
- Existing integrative programs
- Looking forward



**PUTTING RESEARCH INTO PRACTICE**

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH AND THE TWO-GENERATION APPROACH

**OVERVIEW**

Recently, there has been an increased focus on combating poverty using two-generational approaches. Research demonstrates that children born into poor families are more likely to experience poverty as adults and, in turn, raise their own children in poverty. Programs have started serving parents and children through two-generation approaches designed to meet both the child development and parental economic security needs of a family to effectively mitigate challenges and support positive outcomes for all its members. Traditionally, the focus for alleviating generational poverty has been on either early childhood education or workforce education and training for parents, while two-generation approaches focus on both sets of needs. Research indicates that by investing in low-income children and parents, educational, financial, and social outcomes for both are improved. However, most two-generation approaches focus on parents and young children, leaving vulnerable adolescents without support.

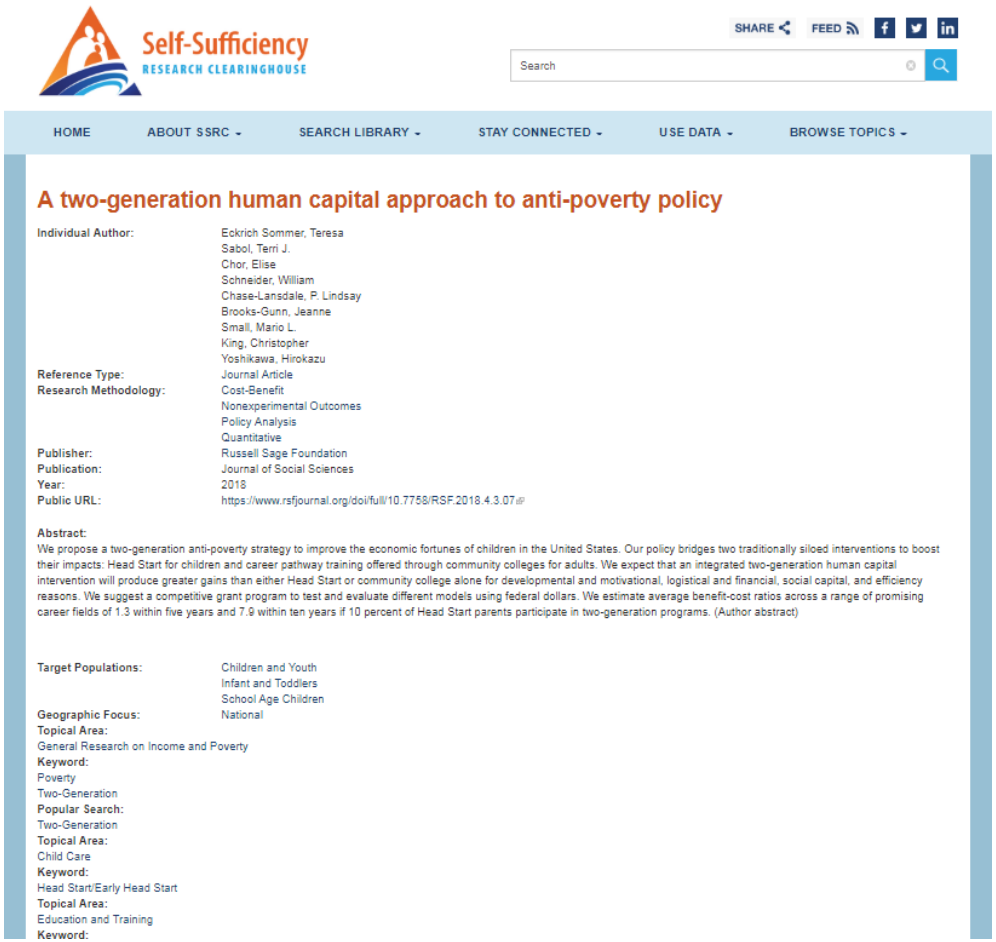
These children, termed "opportunity youth" or "disconnected youth," are the 6.7 million 16 to 24-year olds who are neither working nor in school.[1] They face many obstacles to employment and self-sufficiency and often come from backgrounds of entrenched poverty and instability. Yet, research shows that they represent a substantial economic opportunity. These youth overwhelmingly want to work, gain education and job skills, become economically mobile, and overcome the cycles of poverty that have historically entrenched them and their families. Opportunity youth are an important population to consider the context of two-generation programming interventions because their abilities and opportunities can be strengthened through connection to their families and communities.

ICF has synthesized research and resources below from the field on two-generation approaches for opportunity youth, organized into four categories: Two-Generation Program Need, Opportunity Youth Program Need, Promising Practices for Implementation, and Example Programs.

[1] "Opportunity Youth." (2014). The Corps Network. Retrieved from http://www.corpsnetwork.org/advocacy/opportunity-youth.

1

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# Challenges Facing Today's Families

- Access to affordable, high quality child care with sufficient flexibility to support non-traditional or changing work hours
- Acquiring or maintaining stable employment that pays a sufficient wage to support a family
- High levels of stress in the home due to living in poverty
- Uncoordinated human services and community-based systems



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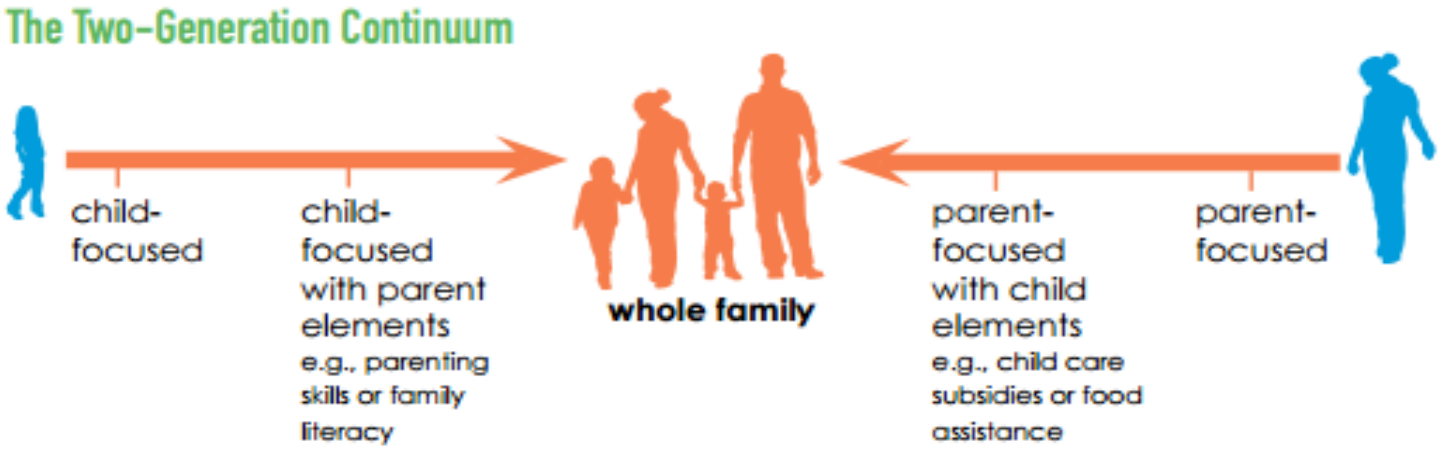

The Research

# Part One: Two Generation



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# What Does it Mean to Have a Two-Gen Approach?




The Aspen ASCEND Two-generation continuum

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# Why a Two-Gen Approach?

- One in five children under the age of 18 and nearly one in four under the age of six were living in families whose incomes fell below the Federal poverty level (DeNavas-Walt & Proctor, 2013).
- The detrimental effects of poverty on children and adults in these families range across developmental, physical, emotional, and cognitive domains (Raver, 2012).
- Emerging research in the neuroscience and child development fields documents the negative consequences early traumas and adverse experiences, including poverty, can have on children's physical and mental health, as well executive functioning skills (Center on the Developing Child, 2011).

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# Why a Two-Gen Approach? (continued)

- Most research around benefits to children when serving custodial parents. But also evidence that bettering the lives of non-custodial fathers will help support children as well (CLASP, 2015)

- 12% of children lives with a mother who has not graduated from high school.

  - Children who had mothers who had not graduated high school compared to those who had ranked lower across family economic resources, reading and math proficiency, school enrollment and completion, and health (Foundation for Child Development, 2014)



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# History of Two-Gen Programming

- 1960s and 1970s - Settlement Houses
- 1980s and 1990s
  - Child development programs began incorporating adult-focused education and employment services
  - Social services programs supporting adults – notably Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) – began offering programming aimed at the children in the family

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# Part Two: Opportunity Youth




"There aren't many jobs for teenagers these days."

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# Who are Opportunity Youth?

- Definition varies but typically youth between 16 and 24 who are not working and not in school.
- In 2014, 6.1% of youth were disconnected from employment or school.
- Disconnected young people are twice as likely to be poor, have parents with low educational attainment or chronic unemployment, have fewer years of education themselves, and were more likely to have children.



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ROAD MAP REGION

# OPPORTUNITY YOUTH

## with DSHS Service Histories

Opportunity Youth face a complex set of current barriers and past difficulties. These youth also have strengths, and there are numerous opportunities for reengagement.

## Speed Bumps

*Past Difficulties*

**70%** are without a high school diploma

**41%** have a history of mental health needs

**1** in **4** have a history of substance use

**41%** have an arrest or conviction history

## Road Blocks

*Current Challenges*

**1** in **3** have children

Nearly **1** in **3** face a current spell of homelessness

**16%** have a disability

## Opportunity!

*Moving Forward*

**44%** have work experience

**1** in **3** have accessed college in the past

**3** in **4** receive Basic Food, a qualifier for the Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET) program



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# Strategies to Engage Opportunity Youth

Re-engagement



Educational Momentum

Connection to Careers





Youth Development

Source: https://aspencommunitysolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/FSG_Collective_Impact_for_Opportunity_Youth_Report.pdf

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# The Practice

# Policy and Political Climate

- Supportive policy environment
  - Bipartisan and public support
  - 2-gen state legislation
    - Connecticut - https://www.cga.ct.gov/coc/two-generation.htm
    - Utah - http://utahchildren.org/election/item/554-a-two-generation-approach
    - Colorado - https://sites.google.com/a/state.co.us/humanservices/accountability
  - Opportunity youth: WIOA legislation




Building Expectations, Delivering Results: Asset-Based Financial Aid and the Future of Higher Education (2013). The University of Kansas School of Social Welfare, Assets & Education Initiative. Cited in *Investing in Hope*, Colorado's ASCEND Two-Generation proposal

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# Funding: Braided and Blended Funding Opportunities

- **Performance Partnership Pilots for Disconnected Youth (P3)**
  - Pilot programs nationwide have more flexibility in using discretionary federal funds, with the hopes of better outcomes for disconnected youth
  - Three rounds (so far)
  - Can apply for future P3 competitions according to certain requirements
  - Program Examples
    - Chicago: Braided Head Start and WIOA funding

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# Program Examples

1. Madison Strategies Group: NextUP
2. AVANCE Houston
3. Housing, Opportunity, and Services Together (HOST)



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# Madison Strategies Group : NextUP

- Participated in an RCT for WorkAdvance (employer driven,
  sector focused training) through the Social Innovation Fund
  and the Mayors Fund to Advance New York City
- Implementation partner with CAP Tulsa on HPOG 2.0 grants
- In early stages of incorporating opportunity youth → practice
- Bringing the conversation to youth to think about their families (or future families) and financial implications
- Using a 2-gen approach is not just an acknowledgement that participants have a child, but it's being intentional about challenges, such as difficulty with child care

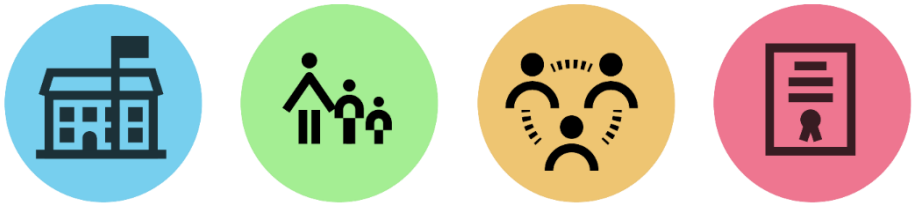
NEXT UP
WHAT'S YOUR NEXT?



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# AVANCE Houston

- Teenage mothers high school program combined with high quality child care via Early Head Start
- Family goal oriented case management
- Seen increased graduation and employment rates and parental confidence in parenting skills



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# Housing, Opportunity, and Services Together (HOST)

- Public Housing Program
- Two Generation Services
  - Workforce and educational support
  - Mental health services
  - Strength-based coaching
  - Community collaboration



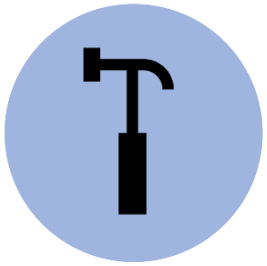

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# Tips for Translation

1. Evidence-Based Practice
2. Fiscal Mapping
3. Study Past Successes



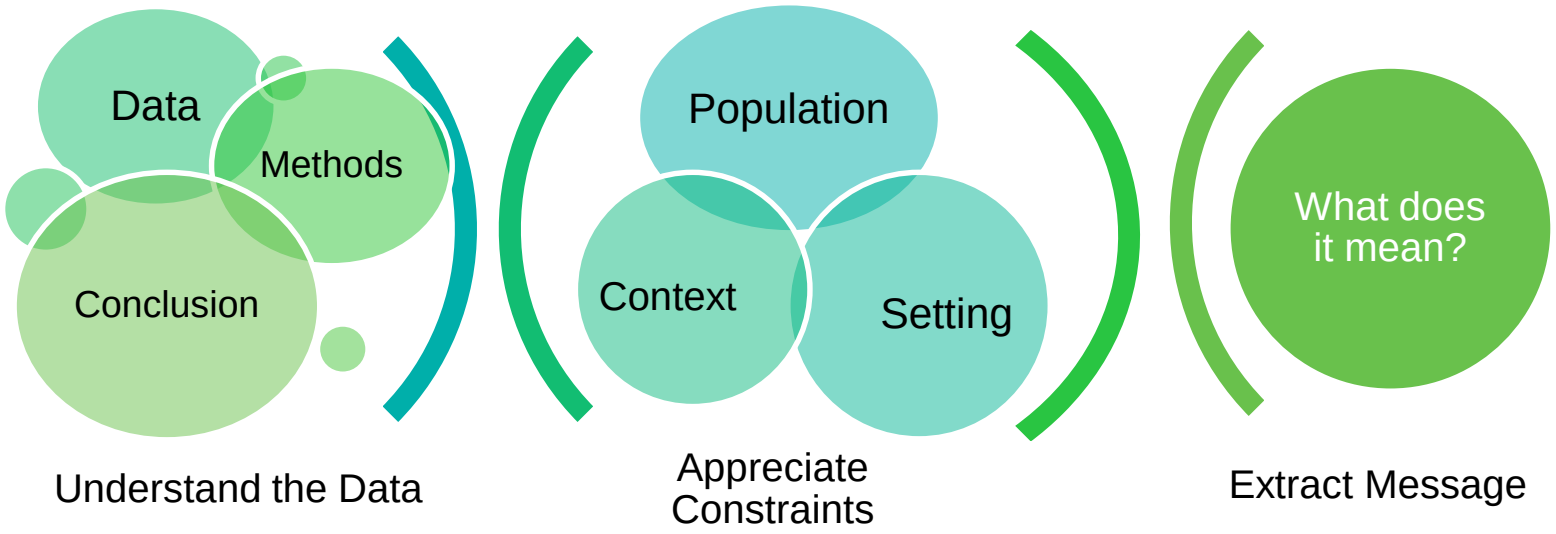
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# Tip 1: Find and Use Research to Inform Your Plan

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# Using Research: Evidence-Based Practice



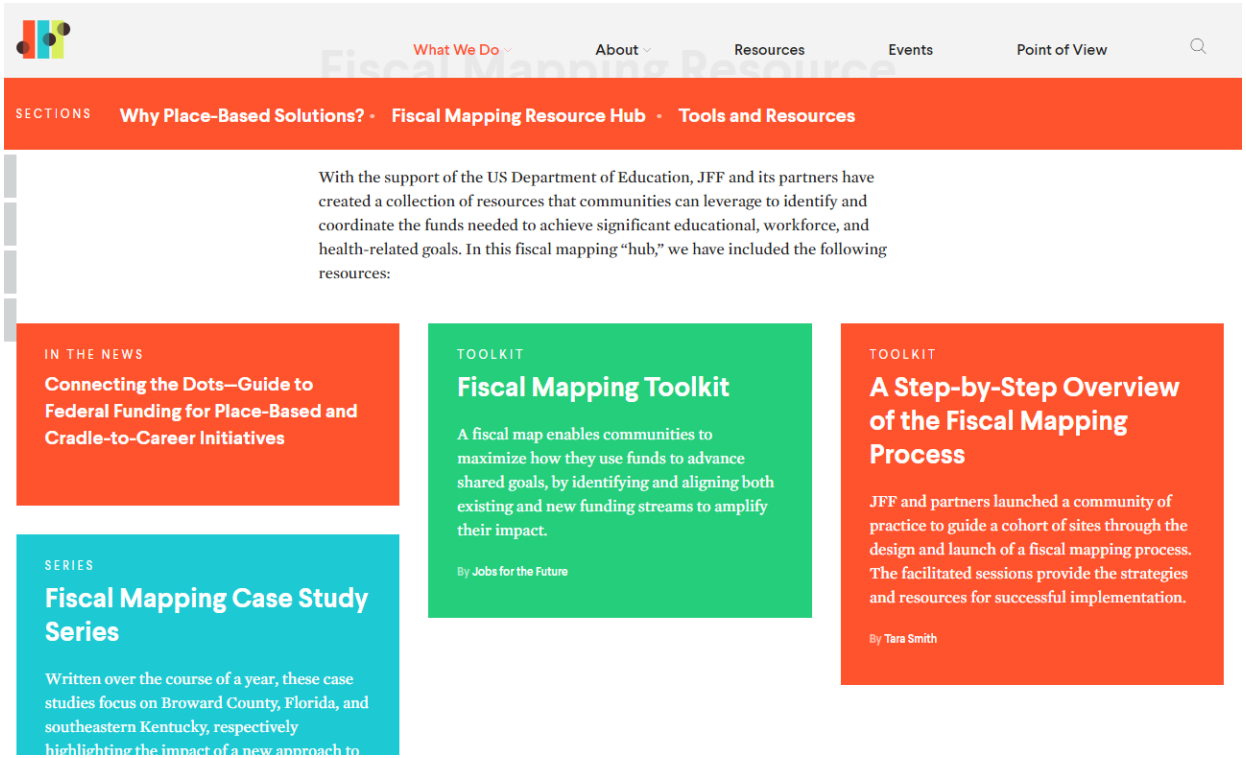

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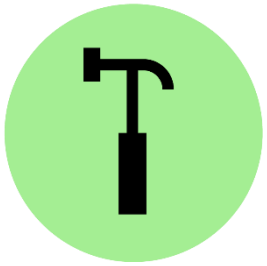
# Tip 2: Use Fiscal Mapping to Be Creative on Funding

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# Fiscal Mapping: Resources from Jobs for the Future




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# Tip 3: Study Successful Two-Gen Approaches

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# Key Considerations



- Start with why
- Listen to families
- Be intentional in all aspects of the program
- Foster innovation….but stand on the shoulders of giants!
- Consider dual outcomes (parent and child) in an integrated strategy
- Align and link systems and funding
- Consider structural inequality in your approach (race; gender)
- Cultivate partnerships for the families you serve

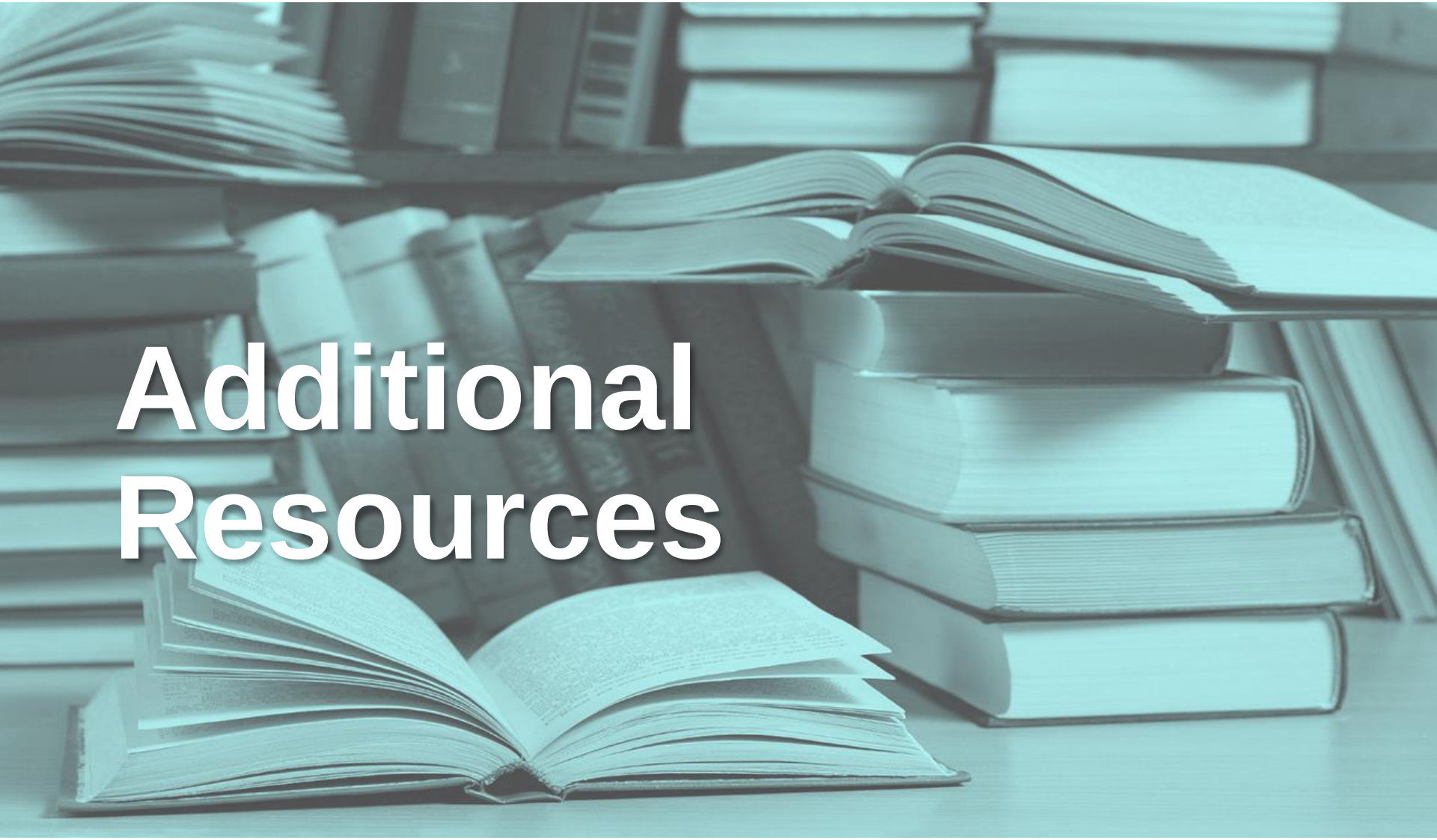
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# How to 2-Gen with Opportunity Youth



- **Integration**
  - Systems
  - Data
  - Requirements
- **Support**
  - Legislative
  - Policy
  - Funding
- **Partnerships**
  - School
  - Workforce
  - Other programs
- **Families**
  - Whole family focus
  - Family directed
- **Evidence**
  - Program evaluation
  - Evidence-based Practice

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Additional
Resources

# The National Center for Student Parent Programs

- **http://collegewithkids.org/**
- Keys to Degrees program for single parent students and their children
- Educational support
- Resource support
- Ability to be replicated if challenges are addressed

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# The Self-Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse: www.opressrc.org




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# What is the SSRC?

- A Virtual Repository of Research on Self-Sufficiency organized by 12 Topics:
  - Asset-Building, Tax Policies and Subsidies
  - Child Care
  - Child Support
  - Community Development and Housing
  - Education and Training
  - Employment
  - Family Formation and Family Structure
  - Food Assistance
  - General Research on Income and Poverty
  - Health
  - TANF Policy, Services and Benefits
  - Transportation




- Includes Data Tools

- Hosts Webinars on Self-Sufficiency Topics

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# How You Can Use the SSRC

- Search for research in the **Library**
- Browse research on **Topical Pages**
- Find events to attend on the **Calendar** to learn more about issues relevant to your work
- Use **products** to learn research terms and methodologies
- Identify data sets to supplement your community needs assessment in the **Data Sets Compendium**

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# Two-Gen Practice & Opportunity Youth: Wrap-Up and Questions



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**Courtney Barthle, Principal**
**Email: Courtney.Barthle@icf.com**

**Kristin Abner, PhD, Manager**
**E-Mail: Kristin.Abner@icf.com**

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# QUESTIONS & COMMENTS



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**Sept 19:** Building Wealth Across Generations

**Sept 26:** Community Engagement and Equity for Collective Impact

*https://communityactionpartnership.com/events/category/webinars/*

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# LCRC Staff Contact Info:


Tiffney Marley, Project Director, LCRC
tmarley@communityactionpartnership.com

Jarle Crocker, Director of Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA)
jcrocker@communityactionpartnership.com

Courtney Kohler, Senior Associate, T/TA
ckohler@communityactionpartnership.com

Hyacinth (Xandy) McKinley, Program Associate, LCRC
hmckinley@communityactionpartnership.com

Liza Poris, Program Associate, T/TA
lporis@communityactionpartnership.com

Charity Frankowski, VISTA Leader
cfrankowski@communityactionpartnership.com

Jeannie Chaffin, Consultant for CA Economic Mobility Initiative
chaffin.jeannie@gmail.com



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