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LEARNING COMMUNITIES RESOURCE CENTER

Mutual Reinforcement for Two-Generation Initiatives: A New Measurement Tool

September 7, 2023
2:00pm-3:00pm ET

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AMERICA'S POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK



Land Acknowledgement

Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted.

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Land Acknowledgement

https://native-land.ca/

- **This meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the _____ People, and I pay my respect to elders both past and present, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations."**
  - Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today.
- **Deliver** your statement in the chat including the land/people relevant to the land that you are occupying during this session. **Learn more** by taking time to learn about the Indigenous history of the land you live on. The Partnership team will share the link to the US Department of Arts and Culture in the chat now. Visit https://usdac.us/nativeland to get started.

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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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Mathematica
Progress Together

OPRE

Mutual Reinforcement for Two-Generation Initiatives

A new measurement tool

Kara Conroy
Scott Baumgartner

September 7, 2023



Today's presenters



Scott Baumgartner
Senior Researcher
Mathematica
NS2G Project Director



Kara Conroy
Senior Researcher
Mathematica
NS2G Measurement Lead

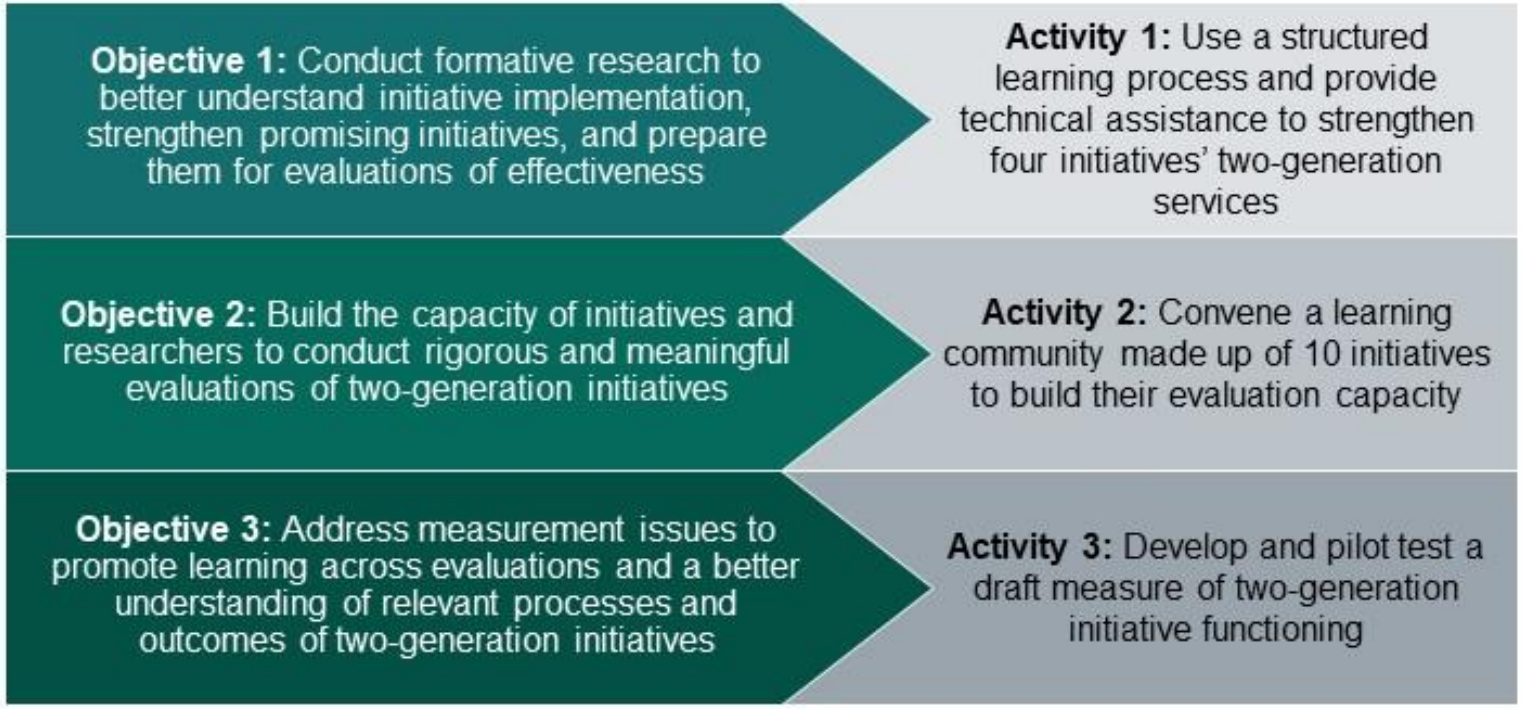
Next Steps for Rigorous Research on Two-Generation Approaches (NS2G)

The NS2G project

- Overall goal of NS2G: build the evidence base for fully integrated, intentional models for two-generation service delivery
- Part of OPRE's investment in coordinated services research and evaluation
  - Portfolio spans child care, Head Start, home visiting, child welfare, and welfare and family self-sufficiency

Use the QR code to explore OPRE's coordinated services research and evaluation portfolio, or visit: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/coordinated-services-research-and-evaluation-portfolio

Objectives and activities in NS2G



Initiatives participating in NS2G

Initiative Name and Location	Learning Community	Formative Evaluations	Measurement Pilot
Aroostook County Action Program (Maine)	X		
Briya Public Charter School (Washington, DC)	X		
Center for Transforming Lives (Texas)	X		
Chicago Commons (Illinois)	X		
Garrett County Community Action Committee (Maryland)	X	X	X
Jeremiah Program (Various)	X		
Northern Kentucky Scholar House (Kentucky)	X	X	X
San Antonio Dual Gen Initiative (Texas)	X	X	X
Two-Gen Austin (Texas)	X		
Valley Settlement (Colorado)	X	X	

What are two-generation initiatives?

- Two-generation initiatives intentionally combine intensive, high quality adult-focused services with intensive, high quality child-focused programs to improve outcomes for children, primary caregivers, and families.
  - **Intentionality:** Purposefully and deliberately linking services with the needs of caregivers, their children, and the family's shared goals in mind
  - **Quality:** Including features associated with improved outcomes for the populations they serve
  - **Intensity:** Sufficient duration and dosage to achieve intended outcomes
- Sometimes referred to as "whole family" approaches

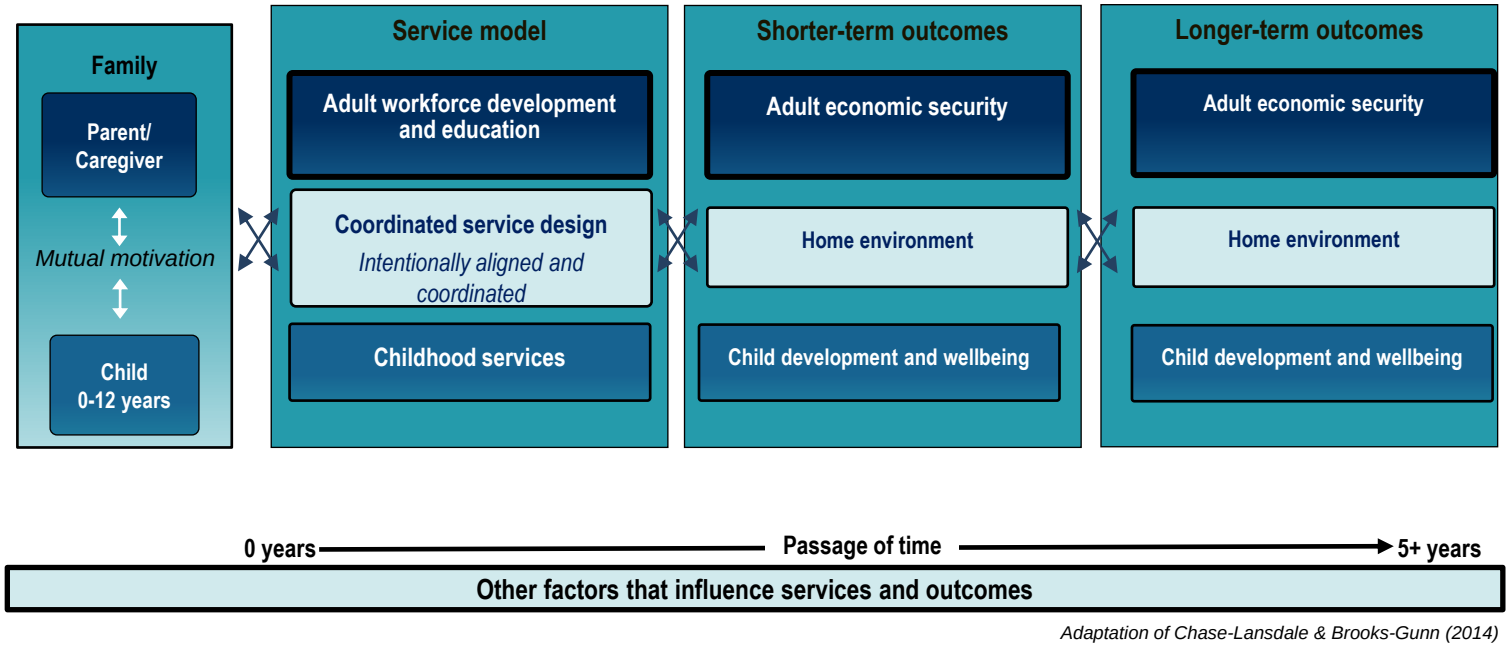
NS2G focused on two-generation initiatives that support child development and improve family economic security.

Examples of adult services
- Workforce development
- Adult education

Examples of child services
- High quality preschool
- Head Start
- Home visiting

Examples of family services
- Housing assistance
- Family coaching

A change model for two-generation initiatives



Adaptation of Chase-Lansdale & Brooks-Gunn (2014)

Use the QR code to learn more, or visit:
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/report/conceptual-frameworks-intentional-approaches-improving-economic-security-and-child-well

Mutual Reinforcement for Two-Generation Initiatives: A New Measurement Tool

What is mutual reinforcement?

Mutual reinforcement occurs when service providers align and build on each other's efforts to serve whole families by adopting a shared vision and working toward common or compatible goals

These efforts are **intentionally coordinated** to make use of each service provider's strengths or expertise.

They can include…

- Designing and **offering services of high quality and appropriate intensity** to caregivers and children in the same families
- Developing and using **shared measures** to assess both caregivers and children in the same families
- Developing a **common theory of change or aligned mission statements** to positively affect both generations within a family

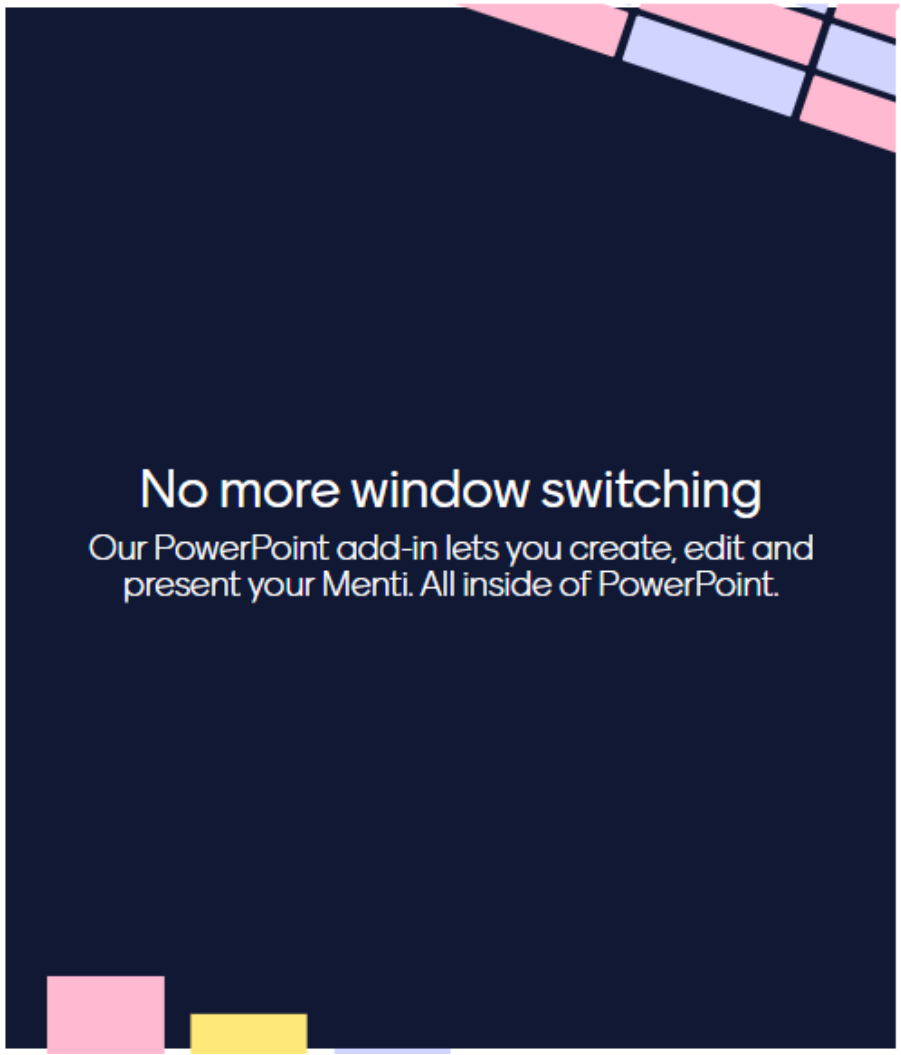
What is the Mutual Reinforcement Measurement Tool?

- 14 sets of survey-style questions generate an overall score and a score for each of the three subscales

- The three subscales capture the extent to which all partners:
  1. Are aligned on vision, mission, and theory of change (Principles)
  2. Share goals for serving whole families, measures or indicators, and have systems in place for sharing data (Infrastructure)
  3. Align and build on each others' areas of strength to offer services of comparable quality, duration, and intensity to caregivers and children in the same families (Service Delivery Strategies)

- **All scores range from 1 to 5**

Note: Higher scores indicate stronger levels of mutual reinforcement. However, **this tool and its scoring method are preliminary.** More testing is needed.



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Quick Demonstration

Suggested steps for completing the tool

Work together! It is really challenging for one person to have all the answers.

Step 1: Organizational reflection

Each partner organization completes the tool.

Staff identify opportunities to strengthen mutual reinforcement with an emphasis on *their organization's contributions* to the initiative.

Staff use responses to Question 1 to determine who should be involved in Step 2.

Step 2: Initiative-wide reflection

Representatives from each partner organization meet to discuss results.

Using the collective results, partners determine improvements they can make to strengthen mutual reinforcement *across the initiative.*



What we heard in the pilot study

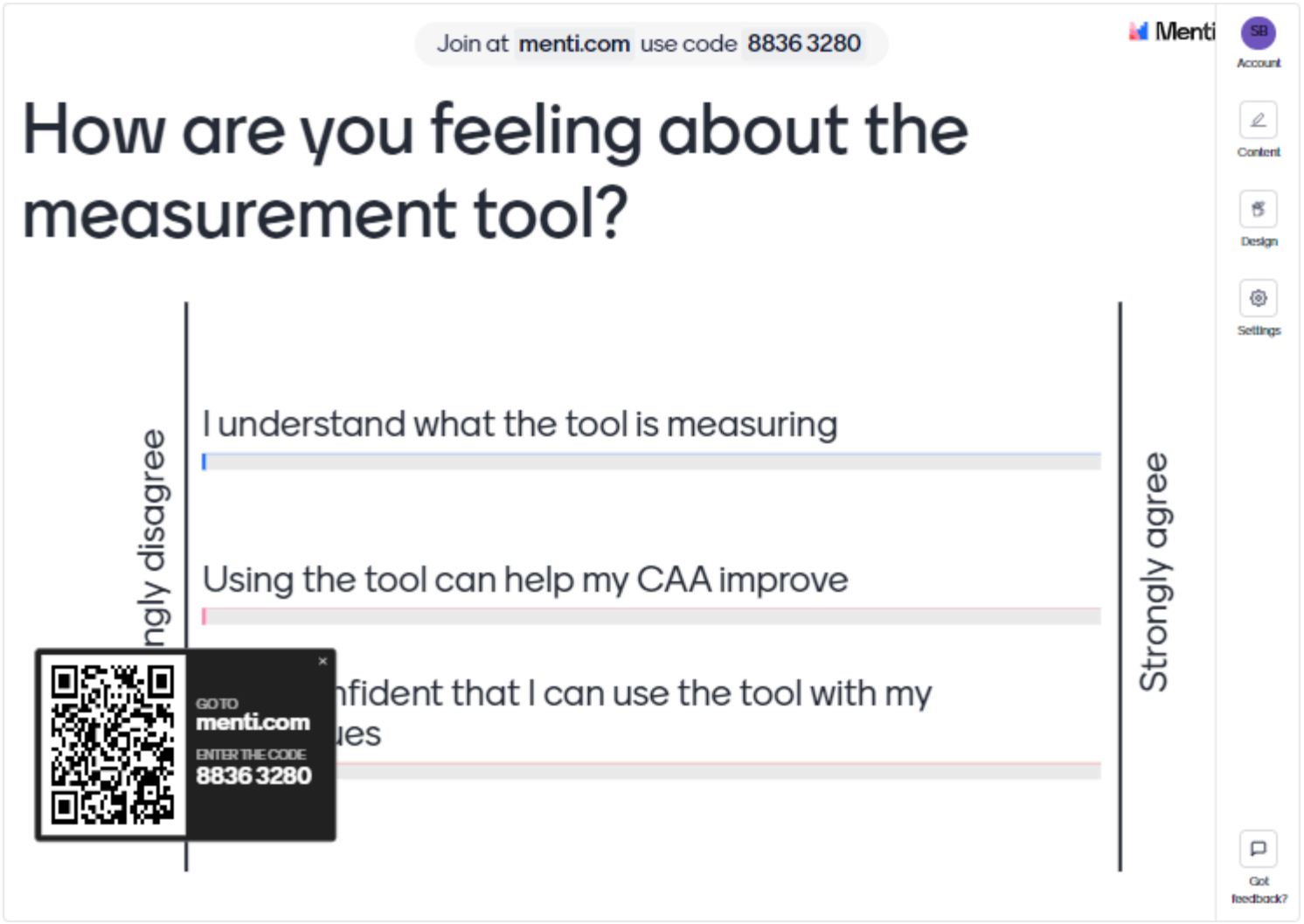
"[This tool] would be useful for us and our partners - we like seeing where **gaps in knowledge or communication** might be, and it's **not a big time ask** to fill this out."

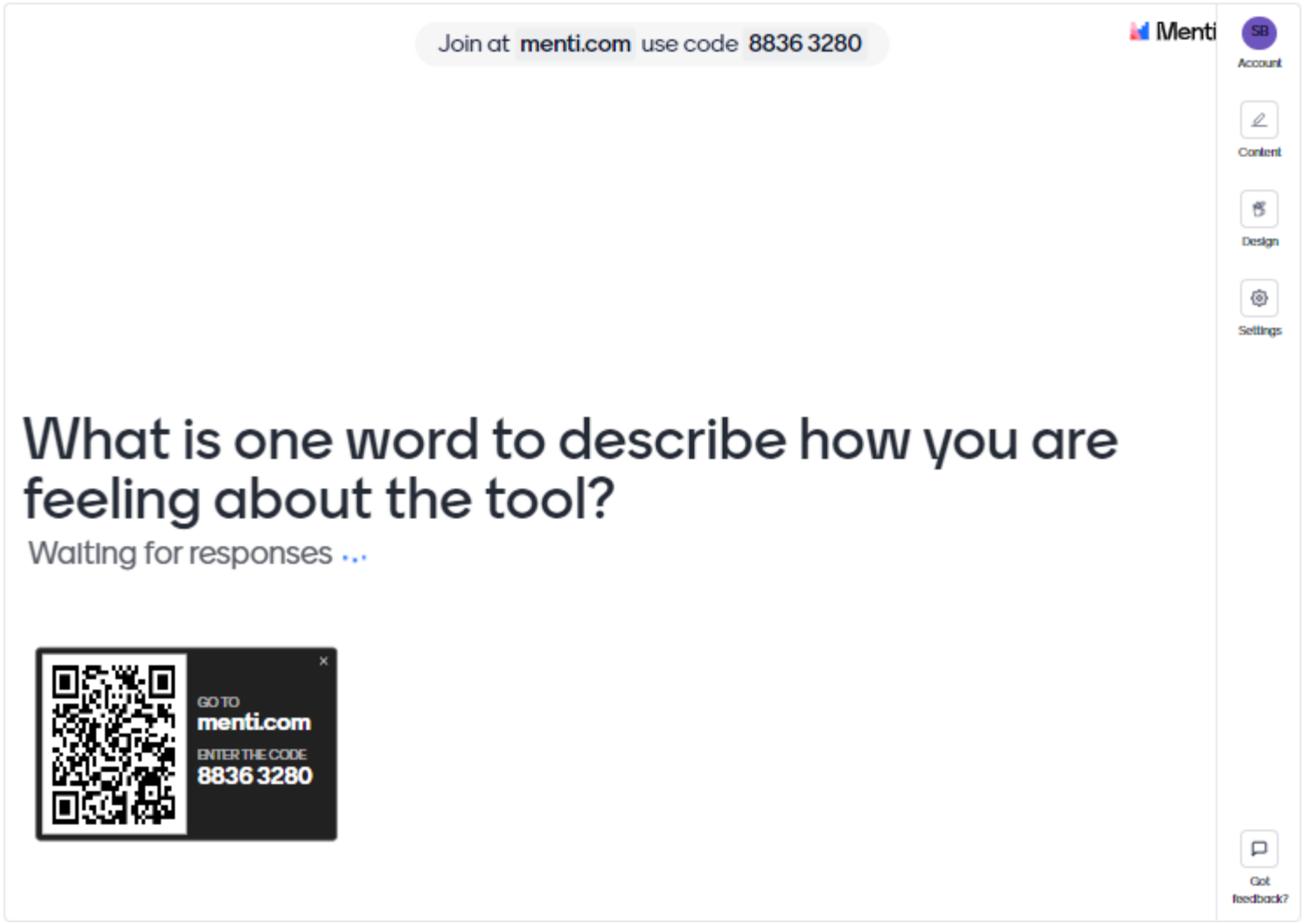
"We do monthly report outs so it would be helpful to say as a collaborative **we started here and now we are here**. It would help us with relationship building and seeing it as something we are doing together, not as a siloed approach."

"[Completing the tool as a group] was really an "aha" moment for us and how we could approach this in a holistic sense. Now we have a monthly meeting set up to discuss data, programs, and reporting together."

Questions?




Join at menti.com use code 8836 3280
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SB
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Settings
How are you feeling about the measurement tool?
I understand what the tool is measuring
Using the tool can help my CAA improve
nfident that I can use the tool with my
ues
ngly disagree
Strongly agree
GO TO
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Settings
What is one word to describe how you are feeling about the tool?
Waiting for responses ...
GO TO
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Got feedback?

NS2G Resources

- Defining a Two-Generation Logic Model
  - Includes logic model template
- Using a Structured Learning Process to Strengthen Two-Generation Service Delivery
  - Includes worksheet template
- Using Rapid Cycle Learning to Build Momentum for Change in Two-Generation Service Delivery
- The Two-Generation Mutual Reinforcement Tool: Development and Pilot Study Findings
  - Includes a digital workbook and demonstration videos
- Strengthening Two-Generation Initiatives that Support Child Development and Improve Family Economic Security (final study report)

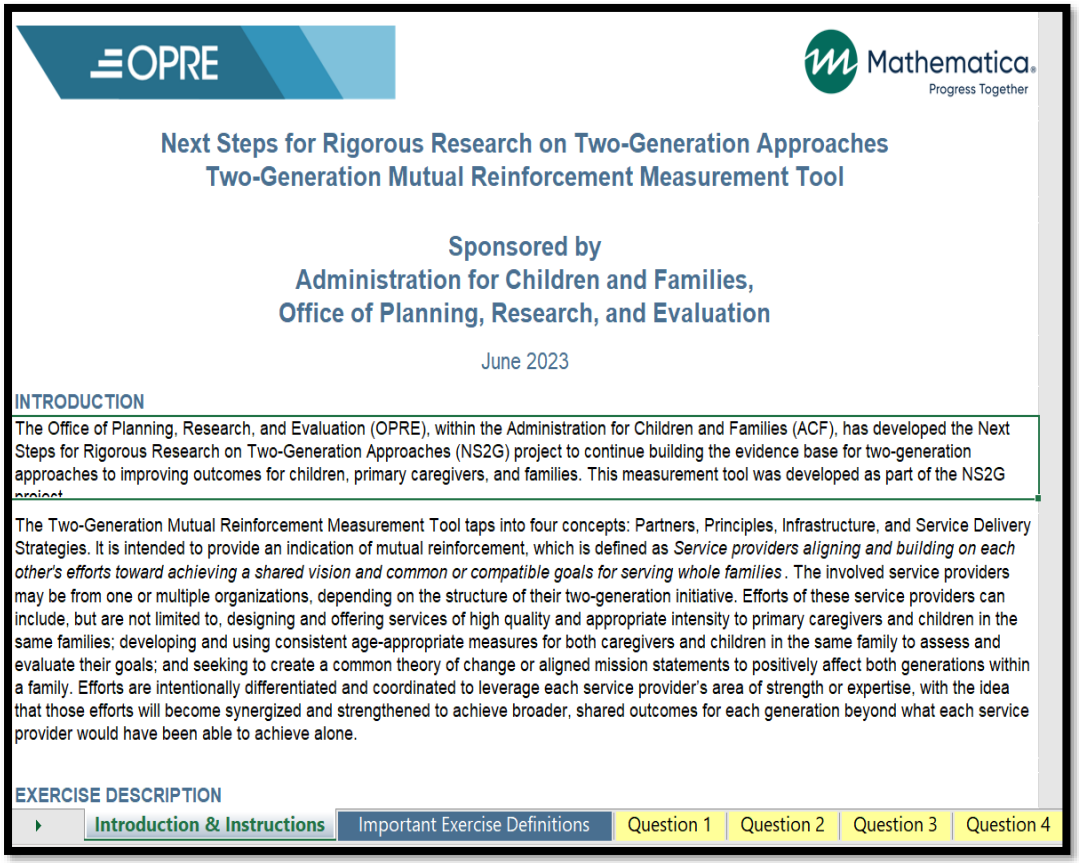


Use the QR code to view all products on the NS2G project page, or visit: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/project/next-steps-rigorous-research-two-generation-approaches-ns2g-2019-2023-0

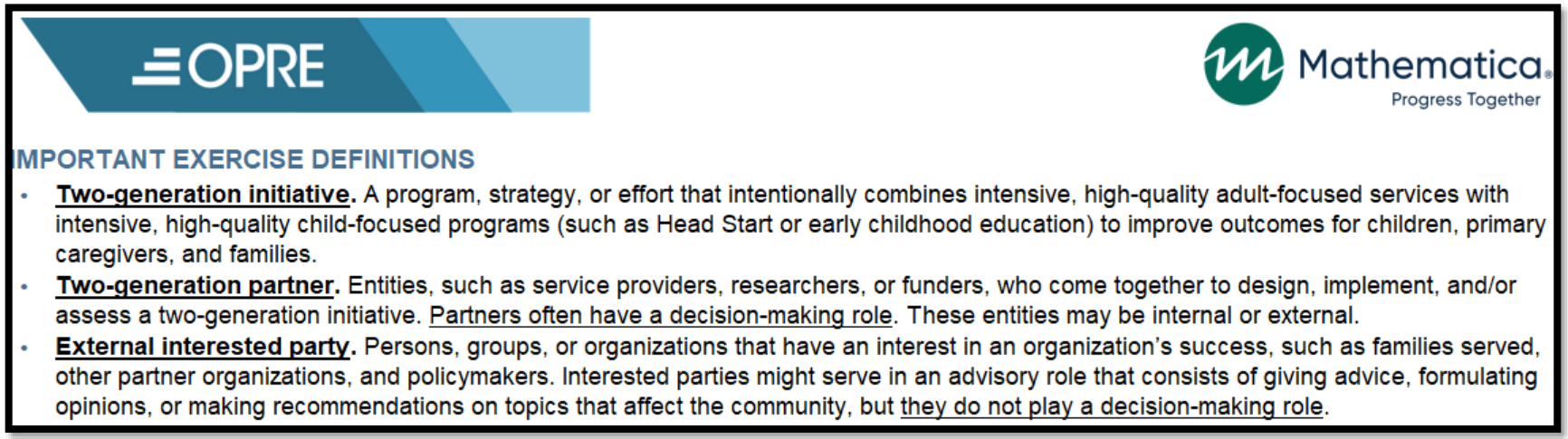
Thank you!

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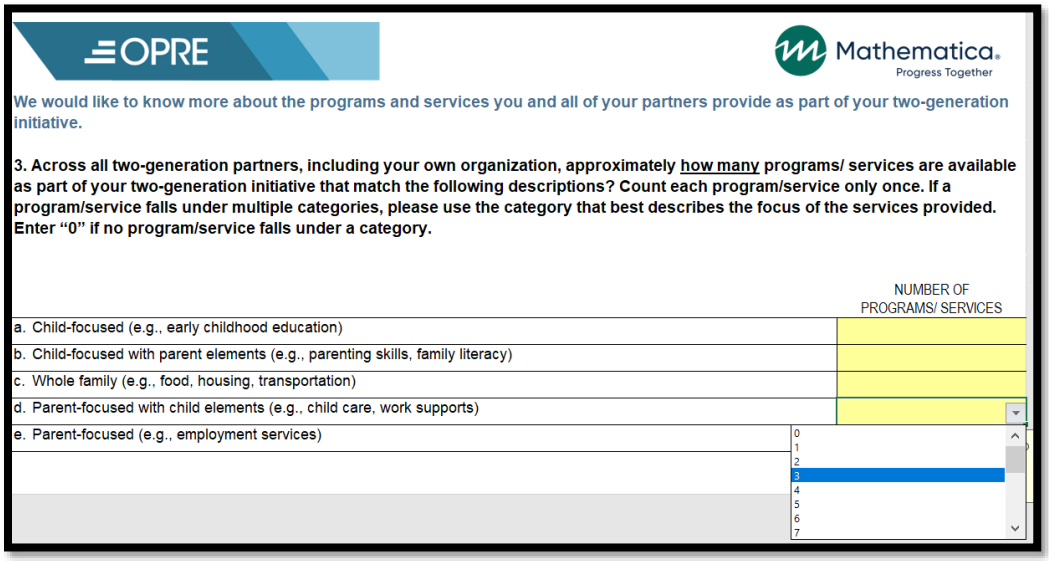
Quick Demonstration



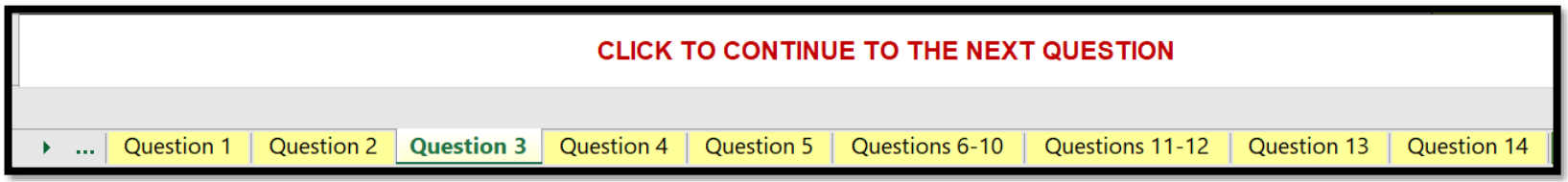
- Introduction
- Instructions
- Print your data
- Wipe your responses

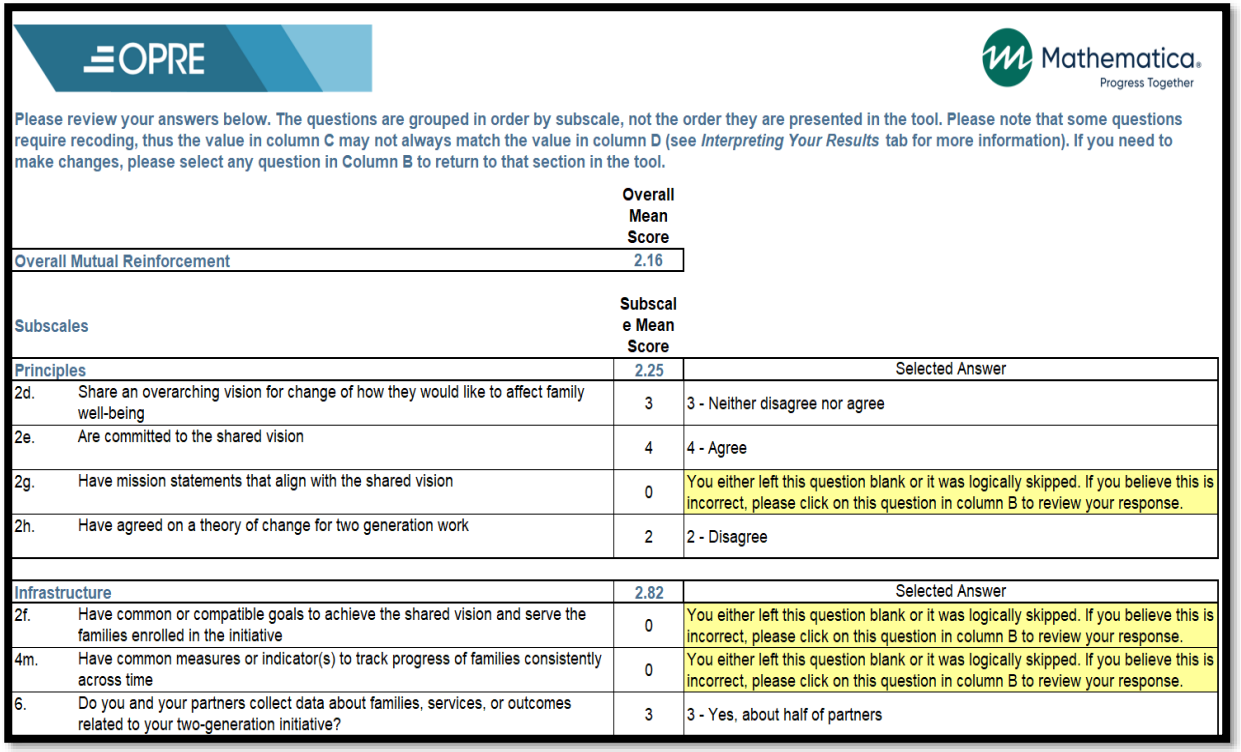


Review important definitions of terms used in the tool.



- Tabs for 14 questions
- Drop-down or fill in the blank
- Navigate via tabs or "Click…"





OPRE

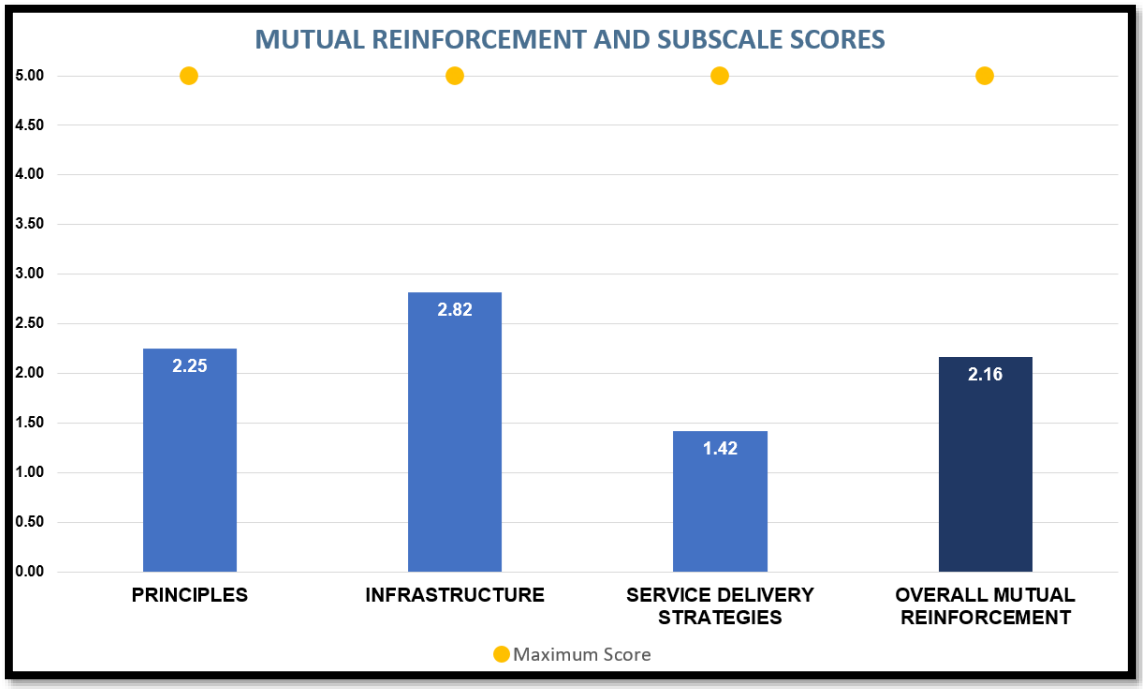
Mathematica
Progress Together

Please review your answers below. The questions are grouped in order by subscale, not the order they are presented in the tool. Please note that some questions require recoding, thus the value in column C may not always match the value in column D (see *Interpreting Your Results* tab for more information). If you need to make changes, please select any question in Column B to return to that section in the tool.

	Overall Mean Score
Overall Mutual Reinforcement	2.16

Subscales		Subscale Mean Score	
Principles		2.25	Selected Answer
2d.	Share an overarching vision for change of how they would like to affect family well-being	3	3 - Neither disagree nor agree
2e.	Are committed to the shared vision	4	4 - Agree
2g.	Have mission statements that align with the shared vision	0	You either left this question blank or it was logically skipped. If you believe this is incorrect, please click on this question in column B to review your response.
2h.	Have agreed on a theory of change for two generation work	2	2 - Disagree
Infrastructure		2.82	Selected Answer
2f.	Have common or compatible goals to achieve the shared vision and serve the families enrolled in the initiative	0	You either left this question blank or it was logically skipped. If you believe this is incorrect, please click on this question in column B to review your response.
4m.	Have common measures or indicator(s) to track progress of families consistently across time	0	You either left this question blank or it was logically skipped. If you believe this is incorrect, please click on this question in column B to review your response.
6.	Do you and your partners collect data about families, services, or outcomes related to your two-generation initiative?	3	3 - Yes, about half of partners

- Results summary table
- Navigate to questions you missed
- Review your scores



- Results summary chart
- Review scores
- Save and track over time



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Denver, Colorado

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WEBINAR CONTENT AREAS:

- **Financial Empowerment**
- **Health Intersections**
- **Strategic Planning**
- **Poverty Trends**
- **Racial Equity**
- **Energy**
- **Data Analysis and Management**
- **Weatherization Leveraging**
- **Whole Family Approaches**
- **Trauma-Informed Care**
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SCAN HERE!



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- Organizational Standards
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FRESH FINDS

THE LATEST ANTI-POVERTY RESOURCES

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Thank you!

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