Appropriations Committee Issues Briefing on Two-Generational Strategies

> Monday, March 23, 2015 Legislative Office Building – Room 2C 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford



#### **Two-Generational Strategy**



## In Connecticut:

5,000 babies are born each year to a parent that has not yet completed high school

8,500 babies are born to a parent that does not have any type of education past high school





## In Connecticut:

### When the mother is not a high school graduate, for children:

52% live in poverty

84% are low-income

58% have a parent not securely employed





# Children's Reading Proficiency by Parental Education (2013)



Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress. Downloaded by the authors from "Custom Data Tables" from National Center for Education Statistics (2013a). Results are by "parental education" which is the highest level of education reported for either parent (National Center for Education Statistics (2013b)).

#### Two Gen Strategy



## **Core Two-Generational Strategies**

Most two-generational models share a common set of principles and structural components:

- \* Focus on low-income families.
- \* Create a portal for entry that is open to both parent and child.
- \* See the family as the unit.
- \* Address learning, work and family strength.
- \* Operate on a principle of service effectiveness and resource efficiency for the family.

## Core Two-Generational Strategies Cont.

Most two-generational models share a common set of principles and structural components:

- \* Offer dignity and authentic commitment to diversity.
- \* Provide ample context for peer to peer learning.
- \* Support both fathers and mothers.
- \* Value the family over standard protocols.

## Parents as Partners for Change

- Ensure that parents help lead two-generational planning.
- \* Study the multiple assets that low-income parents bring.
- \* Utilize parents as core informants.
- \* Tap parents as strong community messengers.
- \* Bring in both fathers and mothers.
- Include the teen parent perspective.





**Policy Ideas and Principles to Advance Two-Generation Efforts**