Supporting Student Parents through a Two-Generation Approach
Our Vision

We envision an America in which a legacy of economic security and educational success passes from one generation to the next.
Two-generation approaches provide opportunities for and meet the needs of children and their parents together.
Core Components of 2Gen Framework

social capital
networks, friends, and neighbors

health & well-being
mental health
toxic stress
access to health care

early childhood education

postsecondary & employment pathways

economic assets
asset building, bundled services and housing
The Aspen Institute was established in 1949 to address the critical issues of our times. Today, income inequality is that issue.

**Ascend at the Aspen Institute** is the national hub for breakthrough ideas and collaborations that move children and their parents toward educational success and economic security. We take a two-generation approach to our work and are committed to racial equity and a gender lens.

**Our strategies:**

**Leadership:** Build a network of diverse leaders through a fellowship program and a national learning network.

**Solutions:** Elevate and invest in programs, policies, and community solutions.

**Resources:** Expand and leverage funding for two-generation efforts in the public and private arenas as well as provide flexible resources.
The Network Effect

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Top 10 for 2Gen

• **10 policies** federal and state policymakers can pursue immediately to help parents and children break out of the cycle of poverty;

• **6 principles** to guide the design and use of two-generation approaches in any sector.

These policies were co-designed with the Ascend Network and the field and have both stakeholder and public support.

• 89% of the American public favors a two-generation approach to help people move out of poverty;

• 86% favor creating partnerships between private, state, and community colleges and universities with government and non-profit organizations to provide services for low-income students who have young children.
Parents will do for their children what they will not do for themselves.