

### Ready, Set, Go: Two-Generation Approaches to Kindergarten Success







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#### CUTTING CHILD POVERTY IN HALF AND MORE:

PANDEMIC-ERA LESSONS FROM CHILD AND FAMILY ADVOCATES AND ORGANIZERS

Olivia Golden and Vivian Tseng Foundation for Child Development June 2024

### **FIVE LESSONS**

- 1. Center families with lived experience
- 2. Expand coalitions to engage families, care workers, and allies
- 3. Build federal-state strategies to achieve equity
- 4. Strengthen coalition infrastructure
- 5. Sustain long-term efforts

Cutting Child Poverty in Half and More: Pandemic-Era Lessons From Child and Family Advocates and Organizers

#### www.fcd-us.org

### **OUR FOCUS**

#### **OUR MISSION**

To improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities around the world.

#### **OUR IMPACT**

United Way uses its global reach and local presence to build stronger, more resilient communities where everyone can thrive. We work to improve the health, education, and economic mobility of every person in every community we serve.







## Our Impact Approach

- We address problems no one organization can solve alone
- We develop integrated solutions that meet the complexities of communities and people's lives
- We get leaders and organizations from all sectors to work together
- We engage millions of people to be part of the change
- We focus on what's most needed and what works locally with global scale via almost 1,000 LUWs in 36 countries

## United Way Strategies - Youth Opportunity

Number of United Ways Reporting: 253

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY STRATEGIES	NUMBER OF UNITED WAYS	PERCENTAGE
Increased access to quality early learning environments	179	70.8%
Provided early literacy supports	206	81.4%
Engaged families to support early childhood development	171	67.6%
Partnered with schools and community-based organizations to support in-school learning	173	68.4%
Provided individualized/group supports for students, especially those academically at-risk	156	63.4%
Engaged families to support development and in-school success	108	43.9%
Partnered with schools to provide whole-school, wraparound supports	111	45.1%
Enabled college/university and career access	81	32.9%



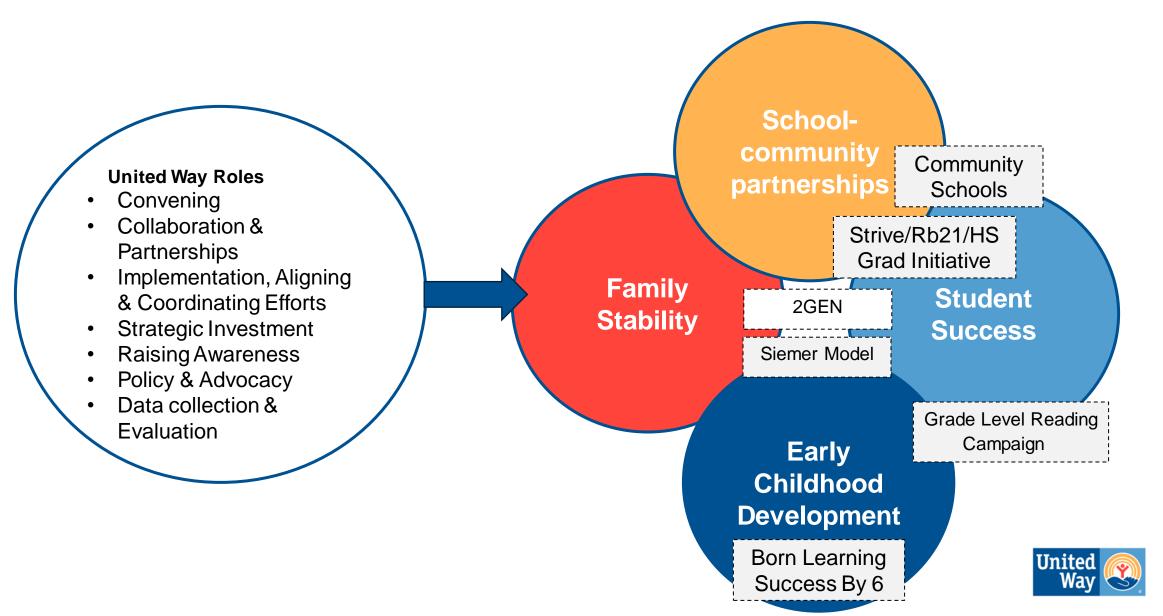
## United Way Strategies – Financial Security

Number of United Ways Reporting: 250

ECONOMIC MOBILITY/FINACIAL SECURITY STRATEGIES	NUMBER OF UNITED WAYS	PERCENTAGE
Increased access to jobs, workforce development, and career advancement opportunities	147	58.8%
Provided access to financial products, services, and income supports (e.g., financial education, coaching, tax preparation, bank accounts, lines of credit)	184	73.6%
Increased access to affordable housing and/or home ownership	116	46.4%
Other	51	20.4%
None	14	5.6%



## United Ways and Integrated Approaches



## **TWO-GENERATION APPROACH IN COLORADO**



2Gen policies and programs hold great promise for longer-term and sustained outcomes for vulnerable families. If Colorado is successful in implementing 2Gen approaches, families will:

Achieve safety, health, and well-being

Cultivate child development from age 0-18

Build family supports and social/community networks



Have their basic needs reliably met

Achieve economic security and a path out of poverty through meaningful work

Prepare for educational success from pre-K to postsecondary learning

## **GROWING NEEDS**



- Colorado's licensed child care centers, family care homes, and preschools have capacity to serve only two-thirds of the children estimated to need care, based on labor force participation among parents.
- In 2022, Colorado's average cost of center-based child care for a toddler was \$16,333 -14% of the median income for a married couple
  - 41% of the median income for a single mother
- A 2022 survey of Colorado child care providers found that 61% of programs surveyed reported they were experiencing a staffing shortage -
  - 35% reported having a longer waitlist
  - 31% reported serving fewer children as a result





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Mile High United Way



Who We Are

### United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley Our Mission: Reduce Poverty

- > Over 70 years of service to the Chattahoochee Valley.
- Focus: Economic Mobility, Educational Equity, & Health Access
- Dynamic network of partners working toward shared community goals.
- Goal: Reduce by half the region's 20% poverty rate in 10 years.
- Vision: A collaborative, thriving region where every person has equitable access to opportunities for growth and success.



**Community Schools United** is a cross-cutting, equity-based strategy committed to transforming schools to be centers for creating neighborhoods where the strategy, schools, students, families, and community thrive as a unit to achieve student success.

Community Schools work to address each school's unique opportunities, assets, and priorities, all to create positive, sustainable, and transformational impact.

#### 2Gen Approaches for Kindergarten Readiness

- High-Quality Early Childhood Education Programs
- Community Outreach Efforts
- Active Parent, Family, & Community Engagement
- Parent Education & Training
- Integrated Student & Family Services & Supports
- Collaborative Leadership & Practice
- Workforce Development



### CGLR + United Way Worldwide + Ascend 2Gen Series

Join us again after today's session to continue the conversation about **2-generation approaches** and strategies that are working to successfully get young students **to and through kindergarten.** 

Keep an eye on your in-boxes for more information about specific topics and exciting speakers along with the link to register. Please save the dates!

- Tuesday, September 24, 2024 12:30–2 p.m. ET
- Tuesday, December 3, 2024 12:30–2 p.m. ET







# Connect and Engage!



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