

Approved Meeting Minutes
2Gen Commission on Family Economic Security
October 21, 2021
2PM to 3:30PM Virtual Meeting

Present: Secretary Padilla, Christina Church (staff), Sen. Adelaide Eckardt, Gloria Brown Burnett, Stuart Campbell, Erin Roth, Jade Gingrich, Betsy Tolentino, Del. Geraldine Valentino-Smith, Dr. Bryan Newton.

Guests: Dr. Erica Hernandez, Joe Jones, Taylor Blades, Amberly Holcomb, Grace Pedersen, Greg James, Augustin Ntabaganyimana.

Absent: Sylvia Lawson, Del. Mike Griffith, Katharine Tate, Dr. Shelly Choo, Neveen Kurtom, Bob Stephens.

Secretary Padilla welcomed the group. Introductions were made and first-time attendees were welcomed. Jade Gingrich was welcomed as an appointed member of the Commission.

Announcements were offered. Erin Roth shared that National Apprenticeship Week would take place around the November meeting. Jade Gingrich shared that National Disability Employment Awareness month is in October and that the Department of Disabilities has held a number of events. Joe Jones shared about a recent event with the Robin Hood Foundation and shared information about leadership and funding changes with the goal of alleviating poverty. Christina Church shared that the final draft of the annual report was submitted timely and the link to the DLS website will be shared when the report has been posted.

The Two-Generation Officer presented on statewide 2Gen approaches in Connecticut, Colorado, Hawaii, Tennessee, and Washington. The slides will be shared with the Commission. The Commission discussed these approaches in comparison to ours and whether we might wish to add or adapt our own approach in light of what we have learned. Erin Roth requested additional information about Colorado's "Flat Tire Fund." Several members expressed interest in Hawaii's strategy of hiring a policy director to review and update statewide policies impacting families. The group responded favorably to several states' practices including parents with lived experience in their advisory boards. It was also noted that some of the Commission are parents with lived experience, but were not appointed specifically for that reason. The group discussed the feasibility of paying parents for their time. More research will be done on this topic. The group will discuss in December whether they want a bill to add additional members to this Commission.

Augustin Ntabaganyimana of the Department of Human Services' Family Investment Administration presented on strategies to promote economic stability.

Secretary Padilla asked that during the next meeting, the Commissioners could add their own agencies' strategies for promoting self-sufficiency and identify areas of intersection where programs could coordinate. Secretary Padilla offered words of closing.