

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

2Gen Commission on Family Economic Security

April 29, 2021

2PM to 3:30PM Virtual Meeting

Present: Secretary Padilla, Christina Church (staff), Dr. Shelly Choo, Bob Stephens, Neveen Kurtom, Sen. Adelaide Eckardt, Del. Geraldine Valentino-Smith, Del. Mike Griffith, Dr. Bryan Newton, Gloria Brown Burnett.

Guests: Jade Gingerich (for Secretary Beatty), Sanam Kalhoro (for Stuart Campbell), Greg James, Dr. Erica Hernandez, Dr. Pamela Brown, Jessica Wheeler.

Absent: Erin Roth, Sylvia Lawson, Katharine Tate, Betsy Tolentino.

Secretary Padilla welcomed the group. First-time attendees were introduced.

It was announced that meeting dates for the rest of the year have been set and a webpage is being created for the Commission.

The minutes of the March meeting were tabled due to lack of quorum.

Secretary Padilla presented on “Putting the Pieces Together.” The group gave approval to the definition of 2Gen to be used moving forward. Bob Stephens noted that a simple way to describe 2Gen is to add “and children” to every discussion that involves parents and vice versa.

Christina Church shared Commissioners’ feedback on the survey of Results and Indicators. The group reached consensus that the preferred outcomes of the 2Gen approach were: 1) Families are Economically Stable; 2) Babies Born Healthy; 3) Youth have Opportunities for Employment and Education; and 4) Communities are Safe for Children, Youth, and Families. The group also reached consensus on a set of Indicators corresponding with each Result.

Dr. Choo stated that disparity measures are important to include. Jade Gingerich noted that the language around “healthy babies” was not inclusive of people with disabilities and asked if an alternative could be considered. It was noted that this question has come up in other interagency meetings and the group will see if a more inclusive phrase was adopted elsewhere.

Secretary Padilla presented on the principles of 2Gen. Del. Valentino-Smith asked if the group was missing the “lightning bolt” or big change to systems. Several Commission

members and guests spoke to the 2Gen principles and how they represent substantial change to how work is currently performed, particularly with equity and blending funding. Several Commission members and guests spoke about the importance of defining “family” broadly, because families include more than just parents and children. Secretary Padilla mentioned fictive kin, fathers, caregivers, and older adults as being represented by our collective 2Gen approach.

Dr. Pamela Brown presented on a 2Gen Homelessness Prevention project in Anne Arundel County’s Brooklyn Park. Del. Valentino-Smith asked whether housing capacity was a barrier to the project. Dr. Brown stated that in her experience, putting energy into preventing homelessness was most effective for families. Secretary Padilla noted how much of the presentation and discussion at the state level is mirroring conversations happening with the federal government and shared that she had recently met with the regional administrator for ACF and that the secretary would be willing to share the Commission’s policy recommendations and challenges with this federal partner.

Secretary Padilla offered words of closing and the date of the next meeting was shared.