

# 2Gen Parent Success Impact Report 2020-2021



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## **2Gen Defined**

Since 2013, Community Foundation of Sarasota County (CFSC) has implemented a two-generational (2Gen) approach to investing in educational programs to benefit low-income children in north Sarasota County, while also providing comprehensive supports for their parents.

These "Parent Success" strategies have centered around assisting them with attaining college degrees or industry-recognized certifications, and/or the foundational skills to pursue such credentials. This is accomplished by leveraging community partnerships, expanding access to scholarships, and embedding a CFSC-funded *Parent Education Navigator* in the school district.



CFSC's 2Gen work is based on its long-standing partnership with Ascend at the Aspen Institute, which developed the model above to explain its recommended strategy of building family well-being by intentionally and simultaneously working with children and the adults in their lives. According to Ascend, a parent's level of educational attainment is a strong predictor of a child's success.

# **2Gen By the Numbers** 2020-2021



332 Total Parents Served

- 150 Local 2Gen Parents
- 182 Statewide 2Gen Parents



**217** Enrolled in College



115 In Foundational Programs



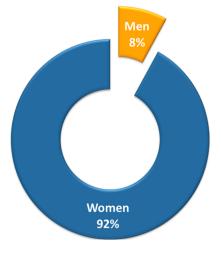
Key 2Gen College & Career **Partnership Programs** 

# **Parent Demographics**

#### **Race/Ethnicity**

### Other 6% White Hispanic **35**% 31% **Black** 28%

#### Gender



Parent Advisory Council Launch

Roberts Community College Fund Sarasota County School District Partnership

SCF Parent Initiative Launch Eight Key 2Gen Investments 2020-2021

Women's Resource Center Stipend Program

Horizon's Preschool Pilot Wrap Up

Literary Council ESOL Program

UnidosNow Parent Leadership Program



# **Parent Advisory Council**

- Launched in fall of 2020 to capture 2Gen parents' feedback and inform CFSC's 2Gen investments and program frameworks.
- Parents from the School District Partnership and the Horizon's Preschool Pilot were invited to quarterly Zoom calls.
- Attendees given \$50 gift card as appreciation for time.
- 15 total participants; 9 average number per meeting.
- All participants are women; Two-thirds are single.
- These mothers shared their feedback and built their social network.
- One joined CFSC's Equity & Access Grant Committee.
- Four participated in The Bay Park Conservancy's Community Focus Group.

#### **Council Meeting Objectives**

#### **Parent Focus:**

Goals, Personal Post-Secondary Experiences, Impact of 2Gen Program

#### **Grant Making Focus:**

Parent Input to Applications,
Parent Input to Awards
Process

#### **Children Focus:**

How to Enhance Supports for Children, Key Obstacles to Children's Academic Success, Tracking Options

# 2Gen Investment Focus:

Gaps in Support, Benefit Cliffs, Key Challenges RE: Transportation & Childcare

#### **Parent Quote**

I earned my GED and CNA and then LPN. We had to wake up very early to go to my sister-in-law who took them to school. It was hard, but worth it. My oldest now says he wants to be a doctor. They know that academically we have to try to be better and it takes a lot of work.









# Sarasota County School District Partnership

- 8th year of CFSC-funded program providing 2Gen scholarships to parents at Tuttle, Alta Vista, Gocio, and Emma E. Booker Title I Elementary Schools.
- 79% of participants live in the high poverty region of north Sarasota County with the zip codes 34234 or 34237.
- 194 parents enrolled in college since the onset of the program.
- 33 parents enrolled in college this year, 11 in CNA and 22 in other programs such as EMT, RN, LPN, Bachelor's and Associate's degrees.
- Of the 33 enrolled, 10 Graduated, 17 are In-Process, and six Dropped.
- 28 additional parents received career counseling for a total of 61 parents served by the CFSC-funded *Parent Education Navigator* social worker.
- Of the parents supported in 2020-21: 64% are Black; 23% are Hispanic/Latinx.

#### **2Gen Impact Stats for the 194 College Enrollees Since 2013**



Program

Completion Rate



Received Wage

85%



\$7,100/yr.
Avg. Wage
Increase







# Women's Resource Center Stipend Program

- Provides funding support for 2Gen parents enrolled in college.
- 18 women served in the Stipend Program this 2020-2021 year.
- A dedicated Case Manager works with parents on budgeting and savings plans.
- Funds assist with college costs such as background checks, entrance exams, application fees, and fingerprinting.
- Emergency funds also available for things like car insurance, utility costs, work uniforms, childcare, court fees, etc.
- The Case Manager also connects parents to other financial resources such as Season of Sharing, CARES Act funding, and LIHEAP.
- Additional services offered include career coaching, mental health counseling, webinars, support groups, free clothing, etc.
- One parent chosen to be on a national Parent Advisory Panel for a 2Gen initiative at Ascend of the Aspen Institute. Click this <u>LINK</u> to listen to her podcast as part of Ascend's "1 in 5" series.

#### **2Gen Model of Support**

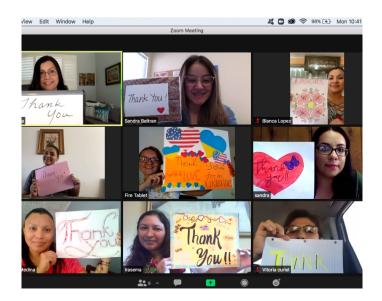






# Literary Council of Sarasota ESOL Program

- Provides online English Language Learner classes during school year in four 10week cycles at 2Gen Title I target schools.
- A total of 20 mostly Hispanic/Latinx parents participated in the program from Gocio, Tuttle, and Emma E. Booker elementary schools.
- Two morning and evening 90-minute sessions provided each week.
- Goal is English language proficiency combined with confidence and knowledge of how to navigate a variety of societal systems.
- In addition to instructor, a bilingual/bicultural Family Mentor connects parents to resources and helps with any challenges.
- During the pandemic, many were assisted with accessing *Season of Sharing* funds.
- 10 families were given Thanksgiving & holiday dinners this year in collaboration with All Faiths Food Bank.
- Free laptops were provided to some of the parents in collaboration with *Sarasota County Technical Users Group.*
- Additional community partners offered presentations, such as Women's Resource Center, Suncoast Campaign for Grade Level Reading - This Book is Cool program, and 2-1-1.



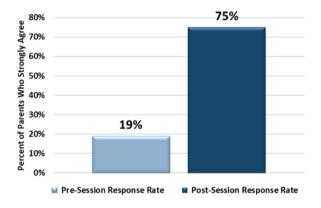




# UnidosNow Parent Leadership Program

- Empowers and engages immigrant parents to become leaders.
- Provides workshops and support network to help them improve their English, learn life skills, access resources, and understand the U.S. education system.
- 57 parents participated in programming this year.
- Open to any parent. ~90% of are Hispanic/Latinx; others come from countries such Brazil, Jordan, Ukraine, Japan.
- Many sessions are hosted by parents to develop their leadership skills.
- An Ambassador Program was created during COVID-19 with parents going into the community to distribute masks, sanitizers, vaccine information, etc.
- A key goal is to build confidence. Survey results below show a 56% point, or fourfold increase, after a session about school resources.

#### "I feel confident that I'm familiar with most of the resources at my student's school."



#### **Parent Quote**

I consider myself an empowered woman and thanks to that, I want to teach other mothers that together we can do good things for our children and for our community. We are not only housewives; we can achieve things for ourselves.



Click this
LINK to hear
Parent
Ambassador
Adriana's
testimonial.





## **Horizons Preschool Pilot**

- Finalized 3-Year pilot program with Horizons Unlimited Christian Academy (HUCA) preschool in north Sarasota.
- 2Gen pilot combined high-quality early education for all HUCA students, with targeted family supports for 11 Pre-K families.
- Grant funding supported the preschool through:
  - Summer learning program
  - Facility and curriculum enhancements
  - Teacher professional development
  - Pathways for parents to purse post-secondary education
- 100% of parents reported feeling more empowered to overcome barriers, and that they had increased motivation to access resources.
- 8 of the 11 parents enrolled in college, with five graduates to date and three still in-process.
- Academic data indicates that HUCA students entered Kindergarten at a higher rate of readiness than the comparative population of all Sarasota County School District students.
- Each of the 11 parents were surprised with \$1,000 to establish 529 College Savings Plans for their children.
- To read the full pilot report, called 'Investing in Whole Families," click HERE.



Click this LINK to hear Shauniece's testimonial.



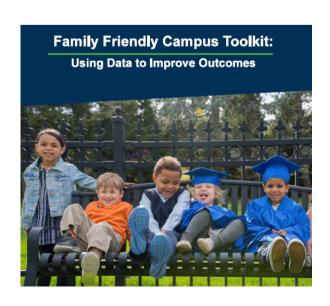


## **SCF Parent Initiative**

- State College of Florida (SCF) launched a *Parent Initiative* in 2020 to identify strategies to better support students who are parents.
- The Parent Initiative Team is made up of SCF staff with a CFSC representative invited to participate.
- Goal is to identify needs and gaps in services for parents.
- Project is part of the Aspen Institute's "Postsecondary Success for Parents Initiative," which hosts regular peer learnings for a select group of community colleges across the United States.
- SCF President Dr. Carol Probstfeld invited to be on Ascend's inaugural Leadership Circle for Parents, made up of 23 college presidents.
- SCF team developed and administered a parent survey, with 180 respondents from current SCF students who are parents.
- 89% of survey respondents are female.
- Over one-third are single parents; 54% are first-generation students. Click
   HERE to read the full survey report.
- A key barrier identified is the availability and/or cost of quality childcare.
- Focus Groups are currently being conducted to gather more input.
- Plans are underway to create a Parent Advocate position modeled after CFSC's
   Parent Education Navigator position at the Sarasota County School District.
- Click the cover below to read more about parent-centered strategies to make college campus's more 2Gen/ family friendly.

#### **Parent Quote**

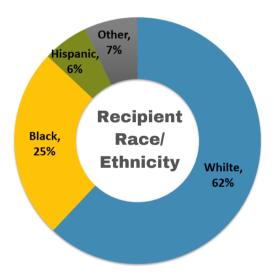
It took me so long to return to school because of lack of sufficient childcare. But sometimes things come up, so accessibility to a backup childcare or even full time would be extremely helpful.





# **Roberts Community College Fund**

- Partnership with seven rural community colleges in Florida to connect them to 2Gen strategies and support made possible through CFSC's Edward K.
   Roberts Fund.
- Project is part of a national trend to better understand and support college students with children.
- CFSC provided 182 scholarships to students who are parents.
- 90% of recipients are female; half are single mothers.
- The average age of students is 30 years old and 75% attend college part-time.
- More than one-third are enrolled in nursing programs.



#### **Parent Quote**

I am a single mom to my one-year-old son. Studying and raising a baby alone, while working part-time as a student worker has not been easy.... I wasn't sure I would have the financial means to continue my education, but you have made it possible, and I can't thank you enough.

#### Click this **Link** to see a video from North Florida College.





# **Conclusion**

While the pandemic brought numerous challenges to our community this past year, the eight programs summarized on the previous pages all adapted to the COVID-19 restrictions and continued to positively impact the families we serve through our 2Gen investment strategies. They each reflect CFSC's commitment to a long-term, 'Whole Family' philosophy of support that lifts parents up towards educational success and economic security. This 2Gen Parent Success work directly affects community-level outcomes as well, and helps move the needle on core indicators in our region such as:



#### **Education**

- Post-secondary Retention & Completion Rates
- Enrollment Rates in Adult Basic Education (e.g., ESOL, GED), Workforce Training, and College Programs
- Community College Scholarship Investments



#### Workforce

- Unemployment Rates
- Average Wages
- Median Household Income



#### **Economic Vitality**

- Federal Poverty Rates, including by households with children, and the number of ALICE Households
- K-12 Free & Reduced Lunch Percentages
- GDP per Capita







# This report was developed by Community Foundation of Sarasota Consultant Deborah Chapman

