



OUR  HOUSE

## **Two-Generation Approach and Trauma-Informed Care Organizational and Programmatic Considerations**

# **Our House**

**7-acre campus, “one-stop shop”**

**Serve 1,600 people/year**

**Serve 200 adults and 300 children each day**

**Housing for 110 people each night**

**Licensed, quality-rated children’s programs**

**Workforce programs**

1,200 served in Career Center

502 adults employed in full-time work

314 local employers









**OUR  HOUSE**

**Out-of-School Time Program**





















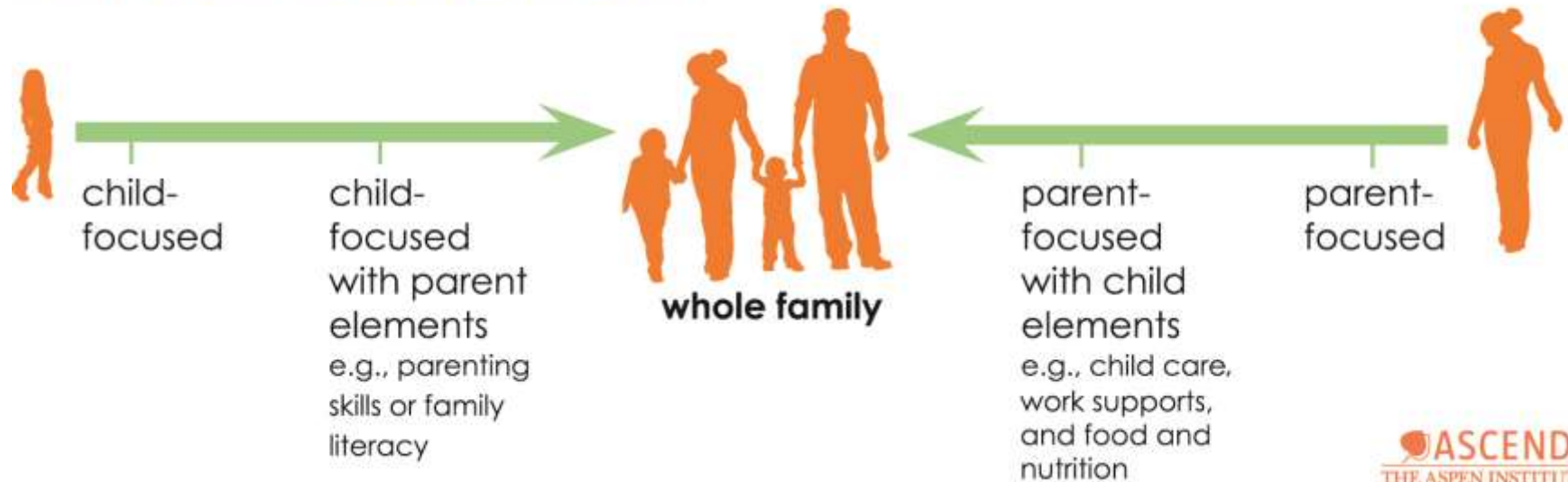
# A Definition

Two-generation strategies intentionally and systematically connect adult/child investments for larger, longer lasting impacts on family economic success.

-Dr. Christopher King  
University of Texas

---

## The Two-Generation Continuum





# Why it Works

Activates highest motivation of parents and children, who provide the core “support network” for each other.

Creates sustainable, reinforcing positive dynamic that lasts beyond the “intervention”.

# Key Characteristics

**Flexible**

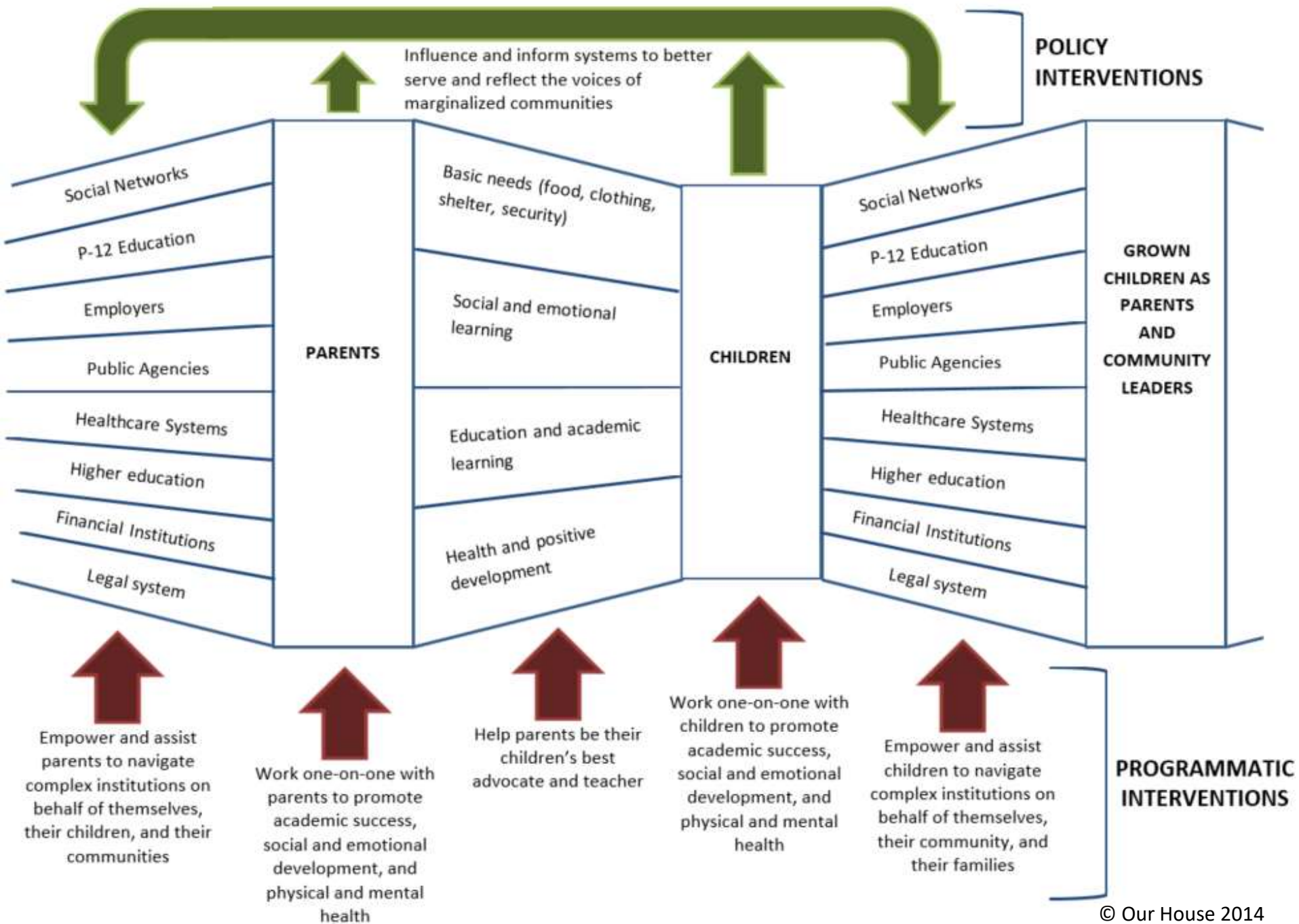
**Holistic**

**Long-term**

**Learning**

**Practice What You Preach**





# How Do We Do It?

## Two-generation case management and partnership building

Systemic thinking

Service philosophy that is strength-based, trauma-informed, solution-focused, and family-centered.

Considers the decision's impact on each family member when developing the case plan

Honest expectations for clients, team, partners

Communication with partners: relationships are key

# Career Center as One-Stop-Shop

- “No wrong point of entry”
- Transportation Assistance
- Benefits Navigation
- Job Training
- Occupational Training
- Adult Education
- Financial Empowerment
- Case Management





# “Be Your Child’s Best Advocate”

Equipping parents with the skills to successfully interact with systems on behalf of their children and their family.

Acknowledging parents’ leadership/expertise, which is more empowering, motivating, and sustainable.

Sustainability: equipping parents with the skills they need to tackle whatever life throws their way.

# Access to your programs

Efficiency is important. Low-income parents don't have much spare time.

Make sure your program schedules accommodate parents.

Provide child care. Provide a meal.

# Practice What You Preach:

In your own programs, model the importance of empowerment by:

Operating quality programs—and communicating this to your clients.

Listening to your clients—provide for a for constructive feedback (surveys, focus groups, program evaluations).





# Hiring the Right People



Flexibility, creativity,  
positivity.

Ability to work different  
schedules that  
accommodate clients.

Ability to get along with  
children and adults.

# Maintaining a two-generation culture

Regular meetings and other interaction between staff working with children and adults.

Shared training and vocabulary.

Support program staff when they encounter challenges/opportunities: partnerships, policies, EAP and more.

Be prepared to spend money and make changes.