



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, each day, Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) employees and partners work toward the collective goal of Building a Thriving Tennessee through the Two-Generation (2Gen) Approach to creating generational cycles of success for children and their families; and

WHEREAS, poverty can impact a family's overall well-being and its ability to thrive economically, educationally, and socially. Roughly 16 percent of Tennesseans are living in poverty, and, of that group, nearly 22 percent are children; and

WHEREAS, the 2Gen approach, adopted by TDHS in 2015, embraces partnerships that build on collaborations with parents, non-profit organizations, community, federal, national, state, and local partners to promote 2Gen practices in order to address intergenerational poverty; and

WHEREAS, while Tennessee's economy has improved and has seen unprecedented low unemployment rates, many Tennesseans still face poverty. In fact, Tennessee currently ranks 40th in the nation for citizens living below the poverty line, making Tennessee one of the most hard-stricken states in the country; and

WHEREAS, adopting the 2Gen approach has allowed TDHS to further build on families' strengths and focus on providing intentional whole-family supports, services, and opportunities in the areas of education, economic supports, social capital, and health and well-being to help create generational cycles of success; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this proclamation is celebrating Tennessee's progress toward addressing poverty using the 2Gen approach to advance whole-family success; and

WHEREAS, TDHS partnered with national thought-leader and partner Ascend at the Aspen Institute to commemorate Tennessee's 2Gen journey through a nationally released case study; and

WHEREAS, we believe that when we have an intentional focus on meaningfully improving the lives of each and every Tennessean we interact with, we are helping to build a stronger household, neighborhood, community, and state – a stronger and more thriving Tennessee;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 1, 2018 as

"Building A Thriving Tennessee Through 2Gen" Day

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-second day of May, 2018.

Handwritten signature of Bill Haslam in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Hight in blue ink.

Secretary of State