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DECAL awards 2019 Two-Generation Innovation Grants

*Funding will Help Communities Implement Programs that Promote
Family Economic Security*

ATLANTA, Ga., (May 17, 2019) – Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) today announced that Georgia Northwestern Technical College (Whitfield/Murray Campus), Southern Crescent Technical College (Spalding County), Central Georgia Technical College, and Quality Care for Children on behalf of Two-Gen Clayton have been awarded 2019 Two-Generation Innovation Grants (TGIG).

DECAL awards two types of the TGIG that can be used for different purposes: Capacity Building Grants and Implementation Funding Grants. Both types of grants support effective strategies that advance a two-generation approach to creating economic self-sufficiency by connecting children from low-income families with high quality early learning, while helping their parents attain education, training, and, ultimately, good paying jobs.

“Congratulations to the four deserving winners for their willingness to launch innovative programs in their communities to help families become economically self-sustaining,” said DECAL Commissioner Amy M. Jacobs. “We are committed to supporting them and to continue promoting this two-gen model that strengthens families in Georgia.”

Georgia Northwestern Technical College (Whitfield/Murray Campus) and Southern Crescent Technical College (Spalding County) were each awarded a Capacity Building Grant of up to \$15,000 to fund a one-year project that began March 1, 2019, exploring two-gen policy change and programming in their areas.

Central Georgia Technical College and Quality Care for Children were each awarded an Implementation Funding Grant of up to \$35,000 for a one-year project operating in 2019. The funds will help connect the parents and families of young children in the early learning system, such as those benefitting from CAPS, Quality Rated Subsidy Grants, Head Start, or Georgia's Pre-K Program, with workforce training or postsecondary education.

“I congratulate these four organizations for working to make a positive impact on children’s ability to access high quality early learning, as well as on their parents’ ability to obtain good-paying jobs that will help them provide for their families,” said Governor Brian P. Kemp. “I commend our state’s higher education, workforce, and early learning agencies for working together to partner with communities across Georgia on these two-generation strategies.”

About Bright from the Start

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning is responsible for meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia’s children and their families. It administers the nationally recognized Georgia’s Pre-K Program, licenses child care centers and home-based child care, administers Georgia's Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program, federal nutrition programs, and manages *Quality Rated*, Georgia’s community powered child care rating system.

The department also houses the Head Start State Collaboration Office, distributes federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and works collaboratively with Georgia child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state to enhance early care and education. For more information, go to www.decal.ga.gov.