

# I AM ALICE

## MEET ALICE

ALICE is a United Way acronym describing individuals and families who are **Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**.

**ALICE households refer to individuals and families** with income above the Federal Poverty Level but below the basic cost-of-living threshold.

**The Federal Poverty Level (FPL)** is \$12,140 for a single adult and \$25,100 for a family of four (2018).

**The FPL was developed in 1965** and is no longer a realistic measure of financial hardship for U.S. households. Its methodology has not been updated since 1974.

**The bare minimum Household Survival Budget**, though higher than the federal poverty level, does not allow for any savings, leaving a household vulnerable to unexpected expenses and one step away from falling into crisis.

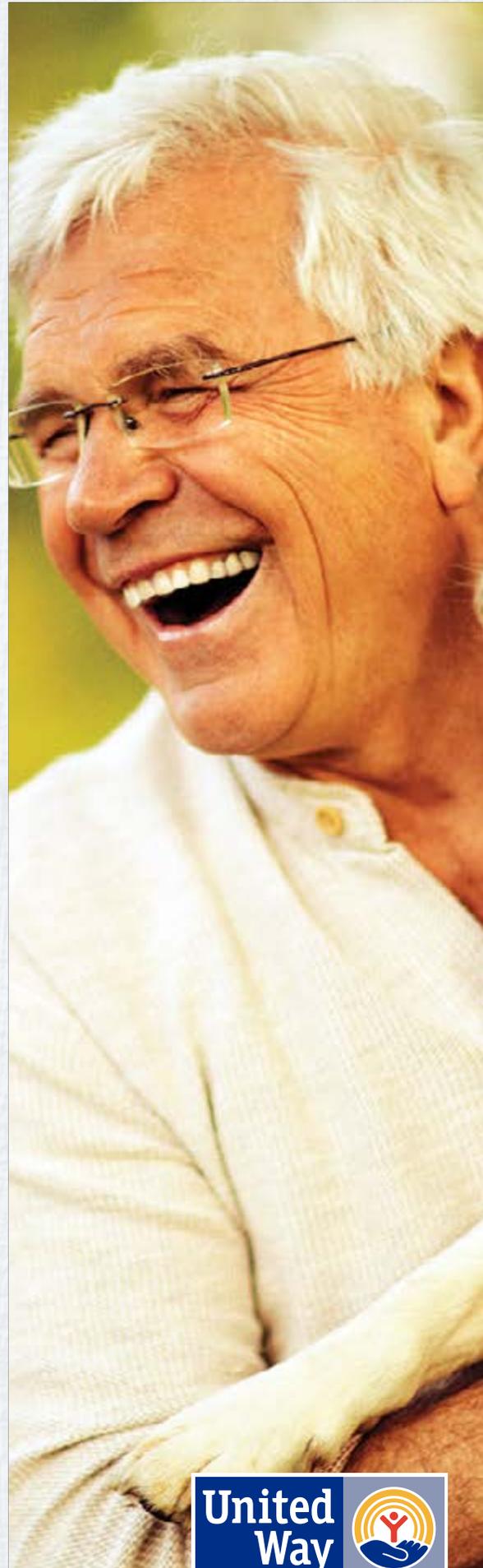
## YOU KNOW ALICE

The future success of our community is directly tied to the financial stability of **ALICE** households. When **ALICE** suffers and is forced to make difficult choices, we are all impacted.

**ALICE** is the young mom who suddenly finds herself a single parent. She is the recent college graduate with high student loans, having trouble finding affordable housing.

**ALICE** is your child's favorite preschool teacher. Your trusted mechanic. Your elderly neighbor's home health aide. The administrative assistant in your office.

And given the right (or wrong) circumstances, **ALICE** could be you.



## ALICE IN VIRGINIA

ALICE households can be found in every county and city in Virginia – urban, suburban, rural – they include women and men, young and old, of all races and ethnicities. And there is no typical configuration - they are single adults, households with children and those without, and households with a family member who has a disability.

**Virginia, nearly 40% of households struggle** to afford basic household necessities. 11% are Federal Poverty Level and another 28% qualify as ALICE.

**Nearly a third of senior households** (32%) in Virginia qualify as ALICE.

**And 37 percent of families with children** in Virginia are below the ALICE threshold.

**Households below the ALICE threshold** earn income to meet only 45% of their needs. Another 20% comes from public and non-profit support. There remains a 35% gap for all households in Virginia to reach the ALICE threshold.

## ALICE IN SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS

More than 1 in 3 households in South Hampton Roads qualifies as an ALICE household.

City/County	Total Households	% ALICE Households
Virginia Beach	169,097	33%
Norfolk	87,819	40%
Chesapeake	83,593	32%
Portsmouth	36,654	45%
Suffolk	32,232	33%
Isle of Wight	13,769	25%
SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS	423,164	35%



## DEFINITIONS:

### Federal Poverty Level (FPL):

A measure of income and the indicator used by the federal government to determine who is eligible for federal subsidies and aid.

### Household Survival Budget:

Calculates the actual cost of basic necessities (housing, child care, food, transportation, and health care) in Virginia, adjusted for different counties and household types.

### ALICE Threshold:

The bare minimum needed to live and work in the modern economy, though not necessarily a safe or healthy level.

## YOU CAN HELP ALICE!

### GIVE.

#### Invest in the lives of ALICEs in our community!

They are striving toward permanent self-sufficiency and need help to bridge the gaps. Your one-time or monthly investment in United Way can help reduce the number of ALICE households in South Hampton Roads. To give now, click here.

### ADVOCATE.

#### Join the conversation!

Your knowledge is power. Share what you've learned about ALICE with your family, friends and colleagues. To read the VIRGINIA ALICE Report, click here.

### VOLUNTEER.

#### Become part of the solution!

Become a leadership giver to get involved with a United Way affinity group for ongoing networking and volunteer opportunities, where you'll dive deeper into the issues affecting ALICE and participate in service activities to make a real-time difference for ALICEs in our region. To take the next step, click here.