We LIVE UNITED, for Ebony
Ebony Parker* continually struggles to make ends meet. A single mom, she works hard, and yet always feels one step behind. Just as life seemed to be looking up, she found out she needed to have knee surgery. Anxiety set in when she realized the surgery would keep her out of work for weeks.

Though she's been working at her current job for years, as an hourly employee, she doesn't get vacation or sick time. And between daycare, food and rent, Ebony can't afford to miss a paycheck.

Ebony is also a participant in Aspire, a Mobility Mentoring-Informed Partnership. As part of this initiative, she works with a mentor weekly, goal setting and talking through challenges, gaining the support she needs to become self-sufficient.

With the help of her mentor, she navigated the challenge, secured paid leave and funding to cover expenses while recovering, increased her self-confidence and continues to work for the life she wants. Through the Aspire partnership, United Way helps women like Ebony on their path to self-sufficiency.

* Name changed to protect privacy

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