

Financial Stability is now

# FINANCIAL SECURITY

Together, we can foster financial security and strength.

As Heart of Arkansas United Way looks to better measure and communicate our impact, we've updated our language. Our Financial Security impact area encompasses what was formerly our Financial Stability focus area - but our priorities haven't changed.

Heart of Arkansas United Way's Financial Security partners have a specific focus on programs to provide a pathway toward long-term financial stability and economic mobility for those living below the ALICE threshold (ALICE + below FPL). These grants are not intended to meet the immediate basic needs of ALICE individuals and families.

Efforts may include:

- Training and adult education to enable individuals to find employment or increase income.
- Asset building, including homeownership or building savings.
- Homelessness prevention and response (services to help people find or keep safe and affordable housing).
- Financial education.
- Re-entry programs and services.

## Focused on ALICE

28% of hardworking Arkansas are ALICE: **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mployed. ALICE households have incomes which exceed the Federal Poverty Level, but are not high enough to cover their basic needs. An additional 16% of Arkansans live below the Federal Poverty Level.

**We rely on ALICE, and yet ALICE is too often making critical sacrifices to make ends meet.**

United Way Community Investment grants in Financial Security are focused on helping individuals and families living below the ALICE threshold to thrive. For more information about ALICE families in our state, see the sidebar.

## Research and Resources

Want to learn more? Check out the resources we use to guide our strategy and decision making.

### United For ALICE

[unitedforalice.org](http://unitedforalice.org)

United For ALICE has a wealth of resources that help us understand ALICE in our community. A few that are particularly helpful:

- The ALICE Cost of Basics Tool demonstrates the wage required to meet our community's household survival budget - over \$15/hour for a single adult with no children in Pulaski, Saline, and Lonoke Counties.
- The Consequences Report speaks to the difficult decisions that ALICE families make daily, and how those choices impact all areas of their lives.
- The Arkansas report within the Research Center offers local data about the families living below the ALICE threshold, including those living below the Federal Poverty Line.

### ALICE in Arkansas

[aliceinar.org](http://aliceinar.org)

ALICE in Arkansas features additional statistics as well as personal stories that dispel myths about ALICE individuals and families.

### Research of your own!

We'd love to learn about the research and data you're using to guide your strategy! If your organization is conducting its own research to demonstrate your program's impact, or utilizing other respected sources, please share that with us in your application.