# **ALICE<sup>®</sup> Advocacy and Public Policy**



**Boot CampTraining** 

United Way of Pennsylvania United www.uwp.org



# Agenda







# What We're Discussing

- ALICE and Advocacy
- UWP's ALICE Advocacy Agenda
- Advocacy Agenda Rollout
- UW Advocates and Next Steps





# **ALICE and Advocacy**



United Way of Pennsylvania United



### **ALICE and Advocacy Go Hand-in-Hand**

- New measure of financial stability
- Calls out various areas where strong policy can be impactful
- UWs are leaders of the ALICE report and community leaders
  - Knowledge of the issues
  - Connections and trust within the community
  - Nonpartisan voice for all

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• Pivotal point with a chance for bipartisan opportunities







# UWP's ALICE Advocacy Agenda

Policies to move ALICE on a path to financial stability



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# ALICE Advocacy Agenda

- Some new issue areas that UWP has not engaged in prior to ALICE ex. Transportation and workforce
- Many of the same advocacy points we have been discussing with new data and another POV
- Advocacy in conjunction with UWP's primary policy priorities
- Opportunities for cross-sector advocacy and engagement

#### Issue Areas

- 1. PA 2-1-1
- 2. Child care
- 3. Workforce development
- 4. Transportation
- 5. Housing





# PA 2-1-1

Connecting ALICE with resources





### ALICE Advocacy Agenda: PA 2-1-1

- 1.2 million PA households live above the FPL, but earn less than the ALICE survival budget
  - 26% of Pennsylvanians
  - Household survival budget state average
    - Single Adult: \$20,760
    - Family of 4: \$59,340
- The national inflation rate from 2007-2017 was 22%, but the cost of the bare minimum family budget increased by 33%, and the bare minimum single adult budget by 26%

#### **UWP Supports**

- Exploring ways to increase efficiency in state and local government through contracts to provide services currently offered
- Leveraging PA 2-1-1 data to address SDOH and build resource coordination platforms
- Providing data for health and human service planning
- Work with state agencies to define shared goals to save taxpayer dollars to connect people with services at the right time





# Accessible and Affordable Child Care, Pre-K and Head Start





### ALICE Advocacy Agenda: Child Care

- 32 percent of Pennsylvania families with children are ALICE. In many of these households, all available parents must work.
- The Pennsylvanians who are most likely to be ALICE are those who are single heads of a household.
- Child care costs increased 27 percent - 5 percent more than the rate of inflation – from 2007 to 2017.

UWP Supports:

- Assuring children have access to reliable, high quality and affordable child care, Pre-K and Head Start
- Increased funding for Child Care Services to serve children on the child care waitlist and for at-risk children
- Investments from the Commonwealth to improve infant/toddler child care subsidy tiered reimbursement rates for STAR 3 & 4 providers
- Ensuring workforce development initiatives include opportunities for child care workers
- Increase state and federal funding for the CCDBG





# Workforce Development

A workforce that works for ALICE





### **ALICE Advocacy Agenda: Workforce Development**

- 68% of PA households have at least one worker
- 10 million jobs in PA
  - 59% pay less than \$20 per hour
  - Over 5 million jobs pay between \$10 and \$15 per hour
- ALICE holds jobs that build and repair our infrastructure and care for the workforce
- Cost of living outpaces wages in every county

UWP Supports:

- State and federal EITC that support working families
- Job training and career development policies which align to address impending workforce shortages
- Workforce development initiatives that help provide jobs with family-sustaining wages
- Partnerships with the private, nonprofit, and public sector to find solutions to the barriers to employment
- Innovative approaches to connect PA's youth to career readiness opportunities



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# **Reliable and Accessible Transportation**



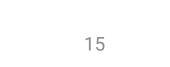


### **ALICE Advocacy Agenda: Transportation**

- Transportation is vital to get to work and take care of necessary household obligations
- Transportation costs represent 12% of a HSV for a family of 4 and 18% for a single adult
- Transportation costs for a car is far greater than public transportation

UWP Supports:

- Policies that support improvements to PA's mass-transit problems, including more flexible and convenient routes and route schedules.
- Effective solutions to address the lack of transportation in PA's rural counties, such as increasing the availability of ride sharing.
- Fair and equal transportation opportunities for individuals with disabilities.
- Public-private partnerships to create innovative, locally-driven solutions to address transportation barriers to employment.



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# Accessible and Affordable Housing Options





### **ALICE Advocacy Agenda: Housing**

- Housing is an essential need, yet challenging for ALICE
- Housing costs represent 17% of the household survival budget for a family 4 and 34% for a single adult

UWP Supports:

- Improving Pennsylvania's affordable housing options in rural and urban areas for ALICE individuals and families.
- Expanding housing tax credits that benefit the ALICE population.
- Policies that support home ownership, including first time homeowners, and assist housingburdened renters with housing costs.
- Policies that work to address
   homelessness in our communities



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# **ALICE Advocacy Agenda Rollout**





### **Advocacy Agenda Rollout**

- UWP started previewing ALICE and the advocacy agenda with legislative leaders
- Member talking points and advocacy one-pagers to accompany the legislative agenda
- Working to secure a bipartisan meeting with legislative leaders in early fall



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# **ALICE Advocacy Next Steps**





# **ALICE Advocacy Next Steps**

- Awareness and education
- Story collection
- Amplify the message
- Work it into community events, campaign messages, town halls, or local legislative meetings
- Participate in UWP's CTA's and follow our policy updates
- Join us for Hill Day in 2020 to help advocate for ALICE







### **ALICE Council of Partners**

Purpose: Facilitate collaboration on advocacy strategies with a specific focus on the path to financial stability for ALICE families.

Members:

- A local organization must partner in improving outcomes related to health, education and financial stability, and be committed to collaborative efforts with local United Ways and other partners.
- A statewide organization must engage in public policy advocacy on behalf of health, education
  or financial stability and adopt positions consistent with UWP's in areas that both organizations
  advocate.
- $\cdot$  A local, regional or statewide business must be committed to advancing the health, education or financial stability of its employees and the community.

\*\*Please note- if a local organization application is received, we will provide the local United Way with the application to weigh in before it is formally accepted by UWP



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### **Upcoming ALICE Trainings**

### **Exclusive ALICE Project Preview Webinar for Community Partners** June 14 @ 1pm w. \$25 fee

#### **ALICE Report State Launch**

June 18 @ 10am Harrisburg State Capitol Complex Main Rotunda



