

ALICE[®] Advocacy and Public Policy



Boot Camp Training

United Way of Pennsylvania
www.uwp.org



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Agenda



What We're Discussing

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



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ALICE and Advocacy



United Way of Pennsylvania





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
- Pivotal point with a chance for bipartisan opportunities



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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

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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

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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.

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 of 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 housing-burdened 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.
- 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

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