HOLISTIC APPROACH TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CAN HELP STRUGGLING MARYLAND HOUSEHOLDS

Longstanding systemic and institutional inequities have resulted in significant economic, education, housing, and health disparities among those in poverty, the working poor, and people of color. ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households and those of people in poverty require comprehensive support so that they can get by—and get ahead.

THE NEED

Intersecting challenges put people at risk of financial crisis

- unexpected medical bill
- major car repair
- rent increase
- job loss

ALICE in Maryland - Pre Pandemic

Households Below ALICE Threshold: 39%
Households Above ALICE Threshold: 61%

Maryland ALICE Survival Budget
Family of 4: $87,000/year

$15/hour job = $31,200/year

Maryland families struggling to feed their children:

- 24% Above ALICE Threshold
- 44% Below ALICE Threshold

Source: ALICE in Focus; Children in Financial Hardship, Maryland, 2022

UNITED WAY RESPONSE

United Way addresses multiple household stability challenges through a continuum of services that quickly benefit families and individuals, including:

**ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT**

- GED instruction
- Job readiness training
- Career mentoring
- CNA/GNA program
- WorkWays employer/employee support program
- Apprenticeships
- Financial literacy programs

**EDUCATION**

United Way Family Centers in Poppleton, Brooklyn, and Columbia:

- Provide early childhood education for infants and toddlers
- Help parents start or stay in jobs
- Bolster local economies

On Track 4 Success

- High school dropout prevention program

**HEALTH**

We improve the well-being of our neighbors by:

- Providing healthy food and meals
- Supporting healthier shopping options and easier access to nutritious food in food deserts
- Expanding access to health services
- Partnering with mental health service providers to support those we serve

**HOUSING**

STEP (Strategic Targeted Eviction Prevention) Program
Family Stability program
Relocation Program
Partnerships with property managers to reduce rents and waive security deposits

Learn more in our white paper, Advocating for Holistic Health and Human Services for Stronger Lives and Communities at uwcm.org/reports.