



UNITED WAY
Mid & South
Jefferson County

A.L.I.C.E.

ASSET LIMITED, INCOME CONSTRAINED, AND EMPLOYED

ASSESS NEEDS | DEVELOP STRATEGIES | INVEST RESOURCES | COLLABORATE | CREATE IMPACT

Application Requirements

Eligibility & Selection Criteria

Applicants must provide services within the United Way of Mid & South Jefferson jurisdiction (zip codes) 77619, 77627, 77640, 77641, 77642, 77643, 77651, 77655 & cities included Groves, Nederland, Port Arthur, Port Neches, and Sabine Pass

Understanding A.L.I.C.E.

United Way's Commitment to Thriving Communities:

United Way mobilizes communities to action so all individuals and families can thrive. Many nonprofits traditionally use the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) to determine eligibility for services. However, the FPL is an outdated metric and does not accurately capture the financial struggles faced by many households across the country. To better assess the challenges people face, United Way MSJC uses the Texas ALICE Report.

About the ALICE Project: The ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Project provides a more accurate and comprehensive tool for understanding the financial hardships of working families who do not qualify for assistance based on Federal Poverty income levels. The ALICE Report moves beyond stereotypes and judgments about “the poor” and instead uses data to inform programmatic and policy solutions for struggling households and communities.

Levels of ALICE: The ALICE database identifies income levels necessary for survival, poverty, and stability based on local community conditions. Families who qualify for ALICE assistance fall within the poverty or survival income range or show a substantial change from stability to one of these levels.

Grant Timeline

- Application Release
Aug 1, 2025
- Applications Due
Aug 22, 2025
- Grants Announced
Oct 1, 2025
- Intermediate or four
Month Report Due
Feb 2, 2026
- Final Report Due
April 1, 2026



Grant Focus

Moving forward, one of our key focus areas is to support working families to thrive. This grant opportunity is designed specifically for those families identified as Asset Limited, Income Constrained, and Employed (ALICE). These families typically live paycheck to paycheck and are only one emergency (e.g., a flat tire or illness) away from financial disaster. However, they do not qualify for most assistance programs that rely on Federal Poverty income levels.

United Way MSJC Impact Areas

United Way MSJC is dedicated to supporting local programs that assist families facing challenges in the following areas:

- Healthy Communities
- Youth Opportunities
- Financial Stability
- Community Resiliency

Grant Funding Request Limitations

Grant Request Range: \$5,000 - \$20,000.

Application Requirement & Process

- Applicants must be a currently funded partner through the Community Investment Grants.
- Applications will be reviewed only if the packet submitted is completed and all requested documentation is included at time of submission. The committee will not review incomplete applications.
- Applications without required forms (i.e. United Way budget forms) or incomplete forms are considered incomplete and will not be reviewed.

Application Expectations

- Applications should explain how funds will be utilized to extend services to those individuals and families that fall in the poverty and struggling levels of ALICE.
- The goal of the ALICE grant is to provide funds for organizations to offer assistance to those families that fall above the FPL but that struggle to make ends meet, the working poor.
- Funding is limited to extending the direct services and support of families/individuals that are ALICE. The following project request types will not be considered: facility improvements, building, staff training, office supplies, or maintenance issues.
- At least 85% of clients served must fall within the poverty or struggling levels of ALICE.
- Organizations must develop a tracking system to verify ALICE expectations of service are being met.

Reporting Requirements

- Reporting is required halfway through the project and at completion.
- Reporting must be submitted through the online portal, link provided following grant announcement.