

HAVE YOU MET ALICE?

A STUDY OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IN EASTERN IDAHO



ALICE is an acronym:

- A: Asset,
- L: Limited,
- I: Income
- C: Constrained,
- E: Employed



aka Idaho's "Working Poor"

ALICE is a hardworking member of your community. They are employed, but don't make enough to cover basic necessities.

30,675

households in Eastern Idaho are at or below ALICE thresholds

ALICE makes *too much*, but not enough.

IN IDAHO:

FPL (Family of 4) - \$30,000

Survival Budget (Family of 4 with 2 in childcare/preschool) - \$65,832

Variance - \$35,832

Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

vs

Household Survival Budget

(the bare minimum cost to live and work in Idaho's modern economy)

ALICE makes *too much* to qualify for food assistance, but not enough to feed their family.

ALICE makes *too much* to qualify for childcare subsidies so they can go to work, but doesn't make enough to afford childcare on their own.

ALICE cannot always pay the bills, has little or nothing in savings, and is forced to make tough choices, like paying for child care or paying the rent.



Idaho's economy is booming, but ALICE is being left behind.

% of households at or below ALICE are growing at rate faster than total households across the state.

\$400

in unexpected emergency expenses can push these families over the edge

Who is ALICE?

- a child care worker
- your parent on Social Security
- the cashier at your supermarket
- an elementary school teacher
- the salesperson at your big box store
- your waitress

- a home health aide
- your neighbor
- the person next to you in the church pew
- an office clerk
- your friend
- the bookkeeper at your office

IDAHO RUNS ON ALICE

The United Way ALICE Report for Idaho is commissioned and paid for by the United Ways of Idaho. Data collection is done by Rutgers University and is updated every two years.

More info, including full ALICE report and methodology, are available at unitedwayif.org.



United Way of Idaho Falls and Bonneville County