



United Way  
of Hunterdon County

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## **Struggling Workers Can Apply For COVID-19 ALICE Recovery Funds**

***ALICE families in six NJ counties can apply for emergency financial assistance at [UnitedWayNNJ.org/ALICErecovery](http://UnitedWayNNJ.org/ALICErecovery)***

**MORRISTOWN** – Low- and moderate-income workers in northern New Jersey who have experienced a loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic can apply online for emergency financial assistance beginning today at [UnitedWayNNJ.org/ALICErecovery](http://UnitedWayNNJ.org/ALICErecovery).

The ALICE Recovery Fund (#ALICErecovery) was established by United Way of Northern New Jersey in partnership with United Way of Hunterdon County to address emerging needs of ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households and those in poverty in response to the pandemic.

“At United Way, we are committed to getting financial assistance into the hands of our most vulnerable ALICE neighbors — many of whom are on the front lines of this crisis as our supermarket workers, home health aides, office cleaning staff, and child care teachers,” said United Way of Northern New Jersey CEO Kiran Gaudio.

“While helpful, the federal stimulus funding will not cover the basics for ALICE families in our high cost state and United Way is dedicated to protecting the financial, physical and mental health of these essential workers. We are hoping for additional support from the community, we want to help as many people and families as possible,” said United Way of Hunterdon County CEO Bonnie Duncan.

Eligible households will receive a minimum financial award of \$500. The Fund is strictly limited to assisting residents of Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Suburban Essex, Sussex, and Warren counties. (Suburban Essex includes the Caldwells, Cedar Grove, Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Livingston, Millburn-Short Hills, Montclair, Roseland, and Verona)

Applicants will need to provide documentation that their household income qualifies as falling below the ALICE Threshold prior to the pandemic. In addition, applicants must show a loss of income due to the pandemic, beginning February 1, 2020. The income guidelines are as follows:

- Single adults must have had an annual income below \$35,560 without dependents or no more than \$88,128 with two or more dependents.
- Two adult households must have had an annual income below \$52,444 without dependents or no more than \$103,836 with two or more dependents.

“United Way’s ALICE research shows that nearly 30 percent of households in the communities served by this Fund struggled to afford the basics even before COVID-19 hit, and we expect more will become ALICE because of the magnitude of this pandemic,” Gaudio said.

“ALICE households have been hit hard by this pandemic as many of these workers did not earn enough to have established savings and did not have basic employee protections — such as an annual salary, adequate health care coverage and access to other benefits to help them withstand this prolonged crisis,” Duncan added.

The Fund was launched with a generous seed donation from the New York Jets. Top philanthropic community leaders ExxonMobil and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation have also joined the effort, recognizing the importance of supporting local ALICE families.

As the need is great, United Way asks that anyone who can afford to donate, perhaps sharing part of your stimulus check if you are still able to work, please consider making a tax-deductible gift to the Fund. The more we raise, the more we can assist ALICE families. Donations can be made to the ALICE Recovery Fund online at [UnitedWayNNJ.org/ALICErecovery](https://www.UnitedWayNNJ.org/ALICErecovery).

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### **About United Way of Northern New Jersey and United Way of Hunterdon County**

The ALICE Recovery Fund was established by United Way of Northern New Jersey in partnership with United Way of Hunterdon County to address emerging needs of ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households and those in poverty in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Both United Ways are individual nonprofit organizations fighting to improve life for families and individuals who are ALICE or in poverty. We believe that when those who are struggling to afford the basics can succeed, all communities win. By focusing on Education, Financial Stability, and Health, we are helping ALICE now and in the long term. Each United Way does this through its initiatives that fill gaps in services, community partnerships, public policy work, and volunteer efforts.

United Way of Northern New Jersey serves Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren counties as well as portions of suburban Essex County including the Caldwells, Cedar Grove, Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Livingston, Millburn-Short Hills, Montclair, Roseland, and Verona. To learn more, call 973.993.1160 or visit [www.UnitedWayNNJ.org](http://www.UnitedWayNNJ.org).

United Way of Hunterdon County serves Hunterdon County. To learn more, call 908.782.3414 or visit [www.uwhunterdon.org](http://www.uwhunterdon.org).