



United Way of
Greater Charlottesville

ENVISION

HELPING ALL FAMILIES THRIVE

Albemarle County Board of Supervisors 2024 Update

Wednesday, September 4, 2:30pm



Overview

01

United Way
Vision & Impact

02

Crisis in Early
Childhood Education

03

Our Early Ed Focus in
Albemarle County

04

Financial Resiliency
Task Force

05

Family Investment
Program & Driving
Lives Forward

06

Small Business
Grantmaking



United Way Vision & Impact

A strong, equitable community where everyone can thrive



Financial Stability

We collaborate with an ecosystem of service providers supporting ALICE families to ensure progress toward financial stability.



School Readiness

We increase equitable access to high-quality early care and education for all children ages 0-4 so they are school-ready upon reaching kindergarten.



Connected Community

We provide ongoing, as well as urgent, community convenings to ensure informed, collaborative systems-building toward shared community goals.

2024 Example Impact

Crisis in Early Childhood Education

Shortfall in Slots

Available for children <200% FPL

	Ages 0-2	Ages 3-4	Total
Albemarle	929	304	1,233
Charlottesville	572	3	575
Total	1,501	307	1,808

Relinquishment of Head Start Grant

- 205 additional low-income children were without a childcare placement as of April 1, 2024
- United Way provided \$45,000 in bonuses to encourage teacher retention
- United Way recommended to lead submission of new grant application by community workgroup





Ready Region Blue Ridge & Mixed Delivery

Building a more equitable system for early learning in 21 cities & counties

- 514 placements throughout region in FY24
 - 42 children from Albemarle County
- 134 classrooms in Albemarle County received CLASS observations during the 2023-24 school year:
 - 75 Private Centers
 - 23 Albemarle County Public Schools
 - 2 Family Day Homes





Coordinated Enrollment

Providing a single point-of-entry for Head Start,
County/City Public Schools, Mixed Delivery

go2grow

- Childcare enrollment platform with access to free/reduced cost programs
 - Grew from a common application launched by UWGC in 2019
- 1,819 families served in Albemarle/Charlottesville (doubled since FY21)
- Now managing sister platform in Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta

Early Learner Scholarships

40+ years of high-quality childcare placements for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers

- True cost of care for infants and toddlers in our area = \$22,000 to \$24,000
 - 10 families served in Albemarle County in FY24
 - 72% single-parent homes
- 75% of 1,233-slot shortfall in Albemarle County is for infant and toddler care
- \$161,000 annual contractual investment from Albemarle County



ALICE Scenario

- **Family:** Single with 2 kids (18 months & 4 years)
- **Job:** Case manager at Charlottesville nonprofit
- **Housing:** Rental near Esmont



You qualify for a childcare subsidy through the state of Virginia, but with 2 kids and rising costs, childcare is increasingly difficult for you to afford. You find out the car you drive to work every day needs a new transmission – and the quote is \$3,000. Do you:

1. Keep both kids in childcare, take Ubers into work for the time being, and figure out the car repair as soon as you can, or...
2. Get the car fixed, but take your 18 month old out of childcare. Instead, you drive them to your mom's house (30 minutes away in Buckingham) and talk to work about a reduction in hours so you can pick your 18 month old up before your mom goes into work at 3pm on weekdays.

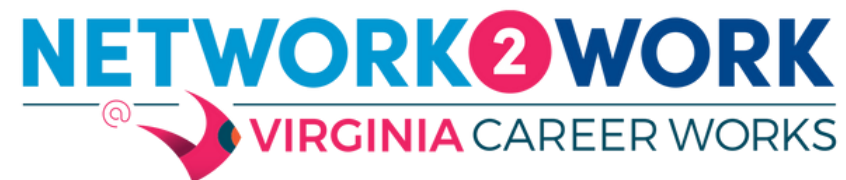
What is ALICE?

- Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed
- We define ALICE households using Federal Poverty Level (FPL):
 - Minimum of 150% of FPL = \$46,800 for a family of 4
 - Maximum of 300% of FPL = \$93,600 for a family of 4
- ALICE families work hard, but make less what's needed for basic cost of living in our area.
- United Way programs are designed to help lift these families to a minimum household budget that allows for savings and increased flexibility to manage emergencies.

Financial Resiliency Task Force

A network of nonprofits working together to reduce poverty in
Albemarle County

- Median income for initial cohort of 55 families = \$31,800
- Top Referrals: Childcare & Early Education, Transportation, Financial Coaching, Housing/Homeownership
- Submitted for F25 funding via ABRT



United Way of
Greater Charlottesville



PIEDMONT HOUSING ALLIANCE



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Greater Charlottesville
Charlottesville | Albemarle | Greene | Louisa



Family Investment Program

Helping families decrease bad debt, raise household income/investments, and purchase their first homes

- 18 families purchased homes in FY24
 - 10 were in Albemarle County
- Partner: Habitat for Humanity



Driving Lives Forward

Providing reliable transportation while building credit

Typical Client

- Single mother
- Hourly wage position
- Unable to afford auto loan/insurance
- Finds it difficult to access public transportation

FY25

Program Expansion

- Increasing downpayment assistance
- Extending loan terms
- New funds to support auto insurance
- Providing access to fleet of donated vehicles for short-term use
- Adding a vehicle repair program in partnership with Network2Work





Small Business Grantmaking



Pipeline of Support

- \$5,000 grants to SUSTAIN businesses via partnership with Chamber MBA
- \$10,000 grants to EXPAND businesses via partnership with County & City EDAs
- Additional marketing support via:
 - United Way Black Business Guide
 - ENVISION Radio



2 Years of EDA Grants

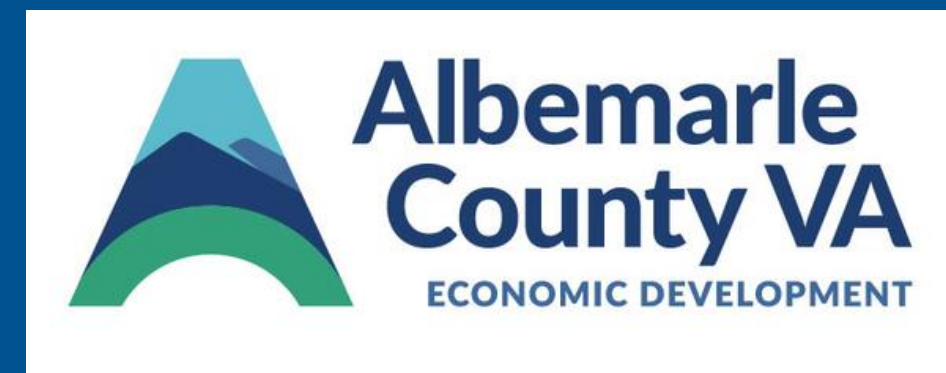
- 24 grantees from food/bev, transportation, professional services, & more
- \$100,000 investments from both City & County EDAs for initial period;
\$85,000 from Wells Fargo Foundation



Success Story

Allen's Scottish Shortbread

- Doubled net income over grant period
- Grant enabled second FT hire





United Way of
Greater Charlottesville

ENVISION

HELPING ALL FAMILIES THRIVE

Thank you for your support and investment in our work!



434.284.1321 (cell)



rrespeto@unitedwaycville.org

