

UNLOCKING SOLUTIONS

2025 Policy Agenda



United Way



United Way of Coastal and Western Connecticut

LOCAL IMPACT

CREATE A FULLY REFUNDABLE CONNECTICUT CHILD TAX CREDIT

- Benefits 550,000 children and 75% of families.
- Returns money to families which **allows them to buy essential items** that other programs don't cover.
- Provides a positive **return on investment** that boosts our economy.
- Every \$1 invested in child tax credits generates \$1.25 in spending, a powerful boost to our economy (Moody's Analytics).

STRENGTHEN 211 TO MEET INCREASING DEMAND

- There has been a **300% increase** in requests since 2019 (excludes COVID).
- Flat funding of our Informational and Referral services contract with the Department of Social Services since 2010 has reduced critical staffing capacity.
- There is a direct connection between staffing levels, wait times and the number of residents 211 can serve – for example, our 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is appropriately funded and answers 95% of calls in less than 10 seconds.
- Appropriate funding would allow us to serve an **additional 1,700 callers** every week with additional call center specialists.



CT CHILD TAX CREDIT ELIGIBILITY & IMPACT BY TOWN

Town	% of Families	# of Families	Total Refund
Bridgeport	92%	13173	15,017,220
Darien	14%	470	535,800
Easton	37%	309	352,260
Fairfield	42%	2876	3,278,640
Monroe	51%	1089	1,241,460
New Canaan	17%	473	539,220
Norwalk	73%	6515	7,427,100
Stratford	77%	3546	4,042,440
Trumbull	53%	2570	2,929,800
Weston	27%	411	468,540
Westport	20%	704	802,560
Wilton	19%	476	542,640
Bethel	69%	1625	1,852,500
Bridgewater	60%	79	90,060
Brookfield	48%	1012	1,153,680
Danbury	85%	7698	8,775,720
Kent	72%	138	157,320
New Fairfield	64%	927	1,056,780
New Milford	81%	2547	2,903,580
Newtown	46%	1355	1,544,700
Redding	58%	600	684,000
Ridgefield	39%	1335	1,521,900
Roxbury	72%	132	150,480
Sherman	53%	145	165,300
Stamford	71%	9678	11,032,920
Warren	31%	36	41,040
Washington	84%	446	508,440

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2024 TOP 211 SERVICE REQUESTS : UNITED WAY OF COASTAL AND WESTERN CONNECTICUT

Service Request	Total
Housing & Shelter	30,346
Mental Health & Addictions	28,138
Food	7,483
Healthcare & COVID-19	5,297
Employment & Income	4,999

Total for top requests 89,524

If you have questions or would like to discuss, please contact:
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Connecticut United Ways

ALICE DATA

329,563 ALICE HOUSEHOLDS BELOW THE ALICE THRESHOLD

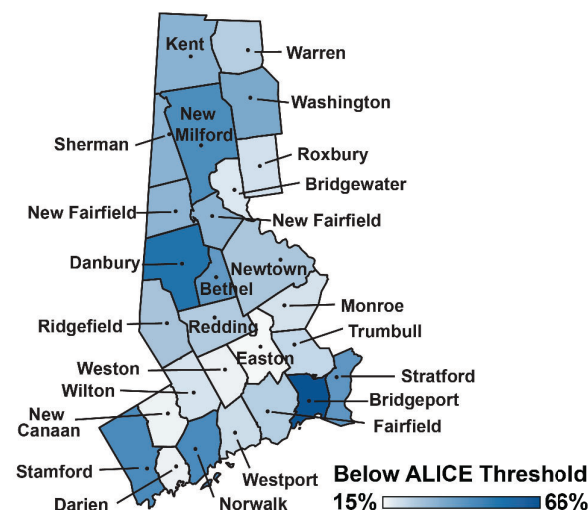
ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) is a national, data-driven research initiative that reveals a hidden crisis in our communities.

Traditional poverty measures don't capture the full extent of financial hardship in our communities.

Housing, child care and food are out of reach for too many Connecticut families. Connecticut United Ways work alongside ALICE families and community partners to advocate for proven solutions that make life more affordable.



2022 ALICE SURVIVAL BUDGET				
CATEGORY	1 ADULT	1 ADULT, 1 INFANT	2 ADULTS, 1 PRE-K	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRE-K
Housing - Rent	\$1,053	\$1,221	\$1,514	\$1,491
Housing - Utilities	\$163	\$258	\$287	\$310
Child Care		\$1,458	\$1,354	\$2,812
Food	\$575	\$848	\$1,338	\$1,566
Transportation	\$424	\$558	\$918	\$1,074
Health Care	\$195	\$430	\$651	\$693
Technology	\$86	\$86	\$116	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$250	\$486	\$618	\$806
Tax Payments	\$518	\$1,331	\$1,358	\$1,897
Monthly Total	\$3,264	\$6,676	\$8,154	\$10,765
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$39,168	\$80,112	\$97,848	\$129,180
Hourly Wage	\$20	\$40	\$49	\$65



Based on available data for the Western and Metro Council of Governments



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