

## Working Families Summit: Meeting Community Challenges

[ALICE \(Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed\) families](#) face unique challenges in Fairfax County. The Human Services Council invites representatives from HHS boards, authorities, and commissions, community-based organizations, businesses, and philanthropic organizations to participate in the **Working Families Summit** to address these challenges.

The Working Families Summit will be held on **Saturday, February 1, 2025, 8:30 a.m.-noon** at the Gerry Hyland Government Center (8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria). Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

Register here by January 27: <https://bit.ly/workingfamiliesummit2025>

For more information or to request an ADA accommodation, language interpreter, or child care, contact Jill Clark at [jill.clark@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:jill.clark@fairfaxcounty.gov).

At the Working Families Summit, participants will:

- Analyze county data and community insights to assess needs, successes, and service gaps for working families.
- Build partnerships across sectors to reduce barriers and improve access for working families.
- Use collective expertise to prioritize challenges and solutions for sustainable support for ALICE families.

The Working Families Summit will feature presentations, a data walk, and small-group discussions to create a shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities for working families. Together, participants will identify priorities and develop strategies that drive impactful and lasting system-level change.

Significant federal, state, and local funding is invested in programs like Community Development Block Grants, Head Start, SNAP, Women, Infants & Children (WIC), and Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) address homelessness, food insecurity, and poverty for the lowest-income families. Eligibility for these public assistance programs is tied to a percentage of the Federal Poverty Level. The 23% of families living in the gap between qualifying for public assistance qualification and earning a living wage is the [ALICE population](#).

The [Fairfax County Economic Mobility Pilot](#) highlights how close many ALICE families are to economic disaster. At an October 2024 public hearing, the Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee heard numerous residents testify to the challenges they face as they characterized themselves as the working poor.

The Human Services Council and its partners recognize that the future of these families – and especially the future of our children — depends on our willingness to recognize that despite the current effort, all too many working families increasingly cannot afford to live in our high-cost community, let alone gain access to needed services.